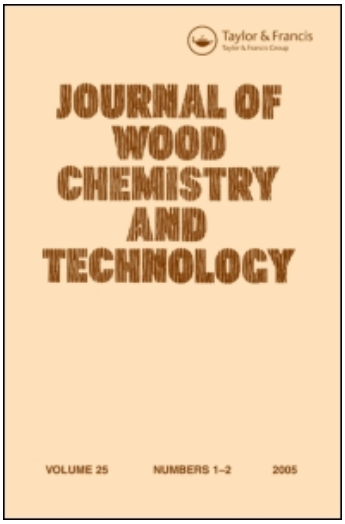

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Professor Hou-min Chang 2007 ISWFPC Notable Achievement Award

John F. Kadla[a]; Hasan Jameel[b]
[a] University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada [b] North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA

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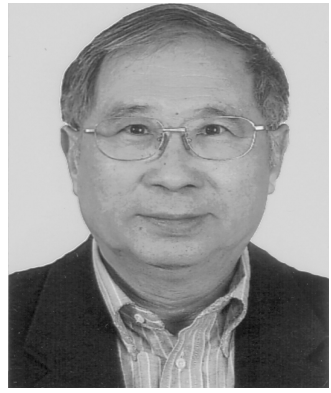

Professor Hou-min Chang is the 2007 ISWFPC Notable Achievement Award recipient. This issue, compiled by his colleagues, honors the achievements of his more than 40-year career in the field of wood chemistry and technology.

Dr. Hou-min Chang has been a professor in the Department of Wood and Paper Science at North Carolina (NC) State University for 40 years. He earned a bachelor's degree in Forestry from the National Taiwan University in 1962. He immigrated to the United States in 1963 and obtained a master's degree in Organic Chemistry in 1966, and a doctorate degree in Wood Chemistry in 1968 from the University of Washington. Upon the completion of his doctorate degree, he went to NC State University as a post-doctoral fellow and became the faculty of as an assistant professor in 1970. In 1973, Dr. Chang was promoted to associate professor, and in 1977 to full professor. In 1990, Professor Chang was appointed the Reuben B. Robertson Professor of Pulp and Paper Science at NC State University, which he held until his retirement in 2005. Dr. Chang served as a visiting professor at the University of Tokyo in 1981 and at Kyoto University in 1998. He has been serving as a special professor at Nanjing Forestry University in China since 2006.

Dr. Chang has made outstanding contributions to research and development in the pulp and paper field as a researcher, leader, educator and associate of the industry. Professors Chang's research includes the chemistry of oxygen delignification and bleaching reactions, the characterization of residual lignin in kraft pulp and its linkage to polysaccharides, and the utilization of biotechnology and advanced analytical techniques for the characterization of wood and its constituent components. He led pioneering research on lignin biodegradation and assisted in the development of the MyCoR process for decolorizing kraft bleach plant effluents. Dr. Chang's contributions to the areas of lignin chemistry, chemical processing of wood, pulping and bleaching and pollution abatement are recognized worldwide for their excellence. He holds 8 US patents, is editor of three texts, authored 15 book chapters and over 120 peer-reviewed articles.

Dr. Chang was elected to the Fellow of the International Academy of Wood Science in 1982. In 1992, he was awarded the TAPPI Research and Development Division Award. He received the Outstanding Research Award in 1985 and the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award in 1993 and 1994 from the NC State Alumni Association. In 1999, he was named a TAPPI Fellow, a prestigious title awarded to those who have contributed exceptional meritorious service to the Technical Association or the Pulp and Paper industry. Dr. Chang is a member of TAPPI, the American Chemical Society, Sigma Xi, Xi Sigma Pi and Phi Kappa Phi.

In his professorship at NC State University, Dr. Chang has tirelessly given his time and support to students at the undergraduate, graduate and doctorate levels. He facilitates the annual international work internship with Nippon Paper in Tokyo, Japan for undergraduate students. He has demonstrated his commitment to education and to the field of wood, fibre and pulping chemistry through the establishment of the Dr. Hou-min Chang Endowed Scholarship in 1995. Students find Dr. Chang anxious to assist them in their academic endeavors for achievement and integrity. He has graduated over 75 masters/ PhD graduate students and mentored more than 40 visiting scholars and postdoctoral fellows; many that have in turn made substantial contributions to the industry through research and as industry leaders. He maintained an active teaching portfolio, lecturing on topics ranging from pulp and paper technology to advanced lignin chemistry. He always made time for his undergraduate and graduate students. Students could always stop by his office to ask for assistance in their studies or research. Talking to him, students sensed his love of wood chemistry and his dedication to passing this passion onto them.

Professor Hou-min Chang has had an enormous impact on the field of wood chemistry and technology. He is an eminent scientist and teacher, as well as a true friend to all of his students, co-workers, and many colleagues throughout the world. Although retired, he continues to remain active and we look forward to his continuing contributions to the field. It is with great pleasure that we dedicate this issue of the Journal of Wood Chemistry and Technology to Professor Chang, the 2007 ISWFPC Notable Achievement Award winner.