



NADCHATRAM MEDALIST 2016

Citation

DR. CHEN CHEE DHANG

Dr. Chen Chee Dhang graduated with Bachelor of Science (Biotechnology) from University Malaysia Sabah in 2003. Later, he obtained both his Master of Science (Medical Entomology) and Doctor of Philosophy (Forensic Entomology) from University of Malaya in 2006 and 2012, respectively.

Dr. Chen's career in medical entomology research spans 13 years marked by extraordinary devotion to excellence in research and education at the Unit of Medical Entomology Unit, Institute for Medical Research (2004 – 2008), followed by Institute of Biological Sciences, University of Malaya (2009 – present). He has demonstrated consistent and remarkable professional growth in a highly specialised field of crucial importance to the understanding of important insect vectors and forensic entomology.

Dr. Chen has planned and coordinated many research, including in the region, such as Nepal, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam and Sri Lanka. His meticulous planning always ensures successful and properly executed research. He uses these researches as an opportunity to continuously train the students/staff, hence highly motivating these research teams to build high performance manpower capacity for UM and the nation. For example, his research team has reported a total of 30 new species of black flies from Asia since 2012.

Dr. Chen is a team player, willing to share his knowledge and initiative to provide guidance to staff in research activities, and take times to provide training and mentor both undergraduate and postgraduate students in their research projects. To date, Dr. Chen has successfully supervised to completion 31 undergraduates projects and 5 postgraduates (1 Ph.D. and 4 M.Sc.). Currently, he is supervising 2 Ph.D. and 3 M.Sc. students.

Dr. Chen is a prolific researcher and publishes many papers. Currently, Dr. Chen has authored 85 publications (51 ISI-indexed journals, 13 Scopus-indexed journals and 21 non-indexed referred journal) in international and local journals, and 24 scientific proceedings. He also presented 171 papers at the local and international arena. In addition to his academic & technical endeavours, he has served as a consultant for various insecticides manufacturing companies in Malaysia, Singapore and Japan. His consultation works yielded 41 technical reports.

Despite of Dr. Chen's young age, the recognition of his expertise is demonstrated with numerous awards, notably among these are the Bronze and Silver Medals for UM Research Expo in 2009 and 2010, respectively, and the University of Malaya Excellent Award for three consecutive years from 2014 to 2016. The contribution of Dr. Chen in research of medical entomology has been well recognized by naming a new species of black fly after him, namely *Simulium cheedhangii*.

His accomplishments are most worthy of the acclaim of the Malaysian Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine by presentation of the prestigious Nadchatram Medal for 2016.