

Professor Wang Shu-huan

Honorary Fellow of HKCOS 2008

Wang Shu-huan, Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, is the pioneer of modern hand surgery in China.

A native of Beijing, Professor Wang was born December 1924 and graduated from the Faculty of Medicine of Peking University in 1950. After graduation he worked briefly at the Beijing Renmin Hospital and then developed a life long colorful career at the Jishuitan Hospital, serving as Director of Hand Surgery, Professor, Vice-Director of the



Research Institute of Orthopaedic Traumatology, President of the Hospital and now retired as Honorary-President.

In 1959, Professor Wang established the first Department of Hand Surgery in China at the Jishuitan Hospital and served as its first Director. The Department has since become the most prestigious training ground for many outstanding hand surgeons in modern China, including many surgeons from Hong Kong. In 1995 Professor Wang received an official delegation of the Hong Kong Society for Surgery of the Hand, and arranged the group to visit other major orthopaedic centers in Beijing.

Professor Wang has been the Chairman of the Orthopaedic Society of the Chinese Medical Association from 1985 to 1994. He was instrumental in the formation of the hand surgery group in 1984. In 1994, the group was formally established as the Hand Surgery Society of the Chinese Medical Association, and Professor Wang served as its first Chairman.

Professor Wang was among the very first people in China to study and develop microsurgery. As early as 1963, he carried out experiments on rabbit ear on microsurgical repair of vessels smaller than 1 mm diameter; and led the development of microsurgical instruments and sutures. The technique was successfully applied to clinical replantation of the digits in 1965. In 1970, he designed an arterialized flap

with the greater omentum and the abdominal skin, and transplanted the flap to repair a large defect of the skull. With the development of this new surgical technique; he was awarded the National Award in Technology Advancement (Class 3).

A devoted promoter of hand surgery and a keen teacher, Professor Wang published the first Chinese textbook on Hand Surgery in 1978, which has been reprinted many times, and a second edition was published in 1999. This book has become the standard reference text for Hand Surgery in China. Professor Wang also served in the executive editorial board of the Chinese Journal of Orthopaedics, vice-Editor-in-chief of the Chinese Journal of Surgery, and Editor-in-chief of the Journal of Hand Surgery in 1985, which was later advanced as the Chinese Journal of Hand Surgery in 1993, with Prof Wang serving as its first Chief Editor. More recently Prof Wang published the first computerized proforma for assessment of hand functions in China which provided an objective and reliable way to document and compare clinical results.

The enormous and persistent effort of Prof Wang in the advancement of hand surgery has led to his election as Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering in 1997, and awarded the Ho Leung Ho Lee Prize in 2000. Prof Wang Shuhuan, a dedicated surgeon, a pioneer of hand surgery and a leader in the medical profession.

Mr President, I would like to present to you Prof. Wang Shu-huan for the Honorary Fellowship of the Hong Kong College of Orthopaedic Surgeons.