

## EDITOR'S CORNER

Professionals work hard for the sake of advancement of the field and, of course, to receive compensation for a good living. It is also nice, once in a while, to receive recognitions for outstanding services to the profession and the community. I have been fortunate to have received some awards through the years. Most recently, I was given the 2001 Waksman Outstanding Educator Award by the Society for Industrial Microbiology (SIM). It was indeed a high honor; since Dr. S. Waksman discovered Streptomycin, a broad spectrum antibiotic, that has saved countless lives. The following is an announcement of the award presented at the Annual Meeting of SIM in St. Louis on July 31, 2001.

DANIEL Y.C. FUNG

### **Society for Industrial Microbiology 2001 Waksman Outstanding Educator Award Winner — Daniel Y.C. Fung**

Daniel Y.C. Fung is an educator, researcher, and tireless worker in promoting Food Microbiology, Food Fermentation, Applied Microbiology and, especially, Rapid Methods and Automation in Microbiology, throughout the world in the past 30 years. He received his B.A. (1965) in Biological Sciences from the International Christian University in Tokyo, Japan; M.S. in Public Health (1967) from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill; and Ph.D. (1969) in Food Microbiology from Iowa State University. In 1969 he started his career at Pennsylvania State University as an Assistant Professor of Microbiology and then as Assistant Director of Administration. He then moved to Kansas State University (KSU) in 1977 and became the Chair of the Food Science Graduate Program in 1979, a position he held until 1987. Currently, he is a Professor of Food Science in the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry at KSU. During his long career he has taught about 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students in classroom and laboratory settings. He truly enjoys close interactions with students both in and out of the lecture halls. "Enthusiasm" is the word most used in describing Fung's teaching. He constantly improves his lecture and laboratory materials and keeps himself, as well as, his students current in all the newest developments in applied microbiology.

He is perhaps best known for his international workshop on Rapid Methods and Automation in Microbiology. He initiated the workshop in 1980 as a university course at KSU. He opened the course to an international audience in 1981 and had sixteen participants. The number of participants increased steadily to about 50 to 60 participants in recent years. In 2000, during the 20th Gala

Anniversary Celebration 185 scientists from approximately 20 countries and 25 states came to the event. A gold medallion was struck for the occasion. The workshop has more than 2,000 alumni scattered around the world. In addition to the workshop at KSU; Fung travels the world over to present two to three day workshops in countries such as Singapore, Taiwan, Mexico, Brazil, Hungary, Hong Kong, Zimbabwe, Thailand, Argentina, Chile, Colombia, France, Norway and Canada. In April 2001, he traveled to Wuhan, China and conducted the first rapid methods workshop in China. More than 200 people from all over China attended the symposium and workshop program. For his untiring efforts in technology transfer he was given the International Award by the Institute of Food Technologists in 1997.

As a researcher, Fung excels in rapid detection methods for foodborne pathogens and their toxins, control of foodborne pathogens in meat, meat products and other commodities and effect of starter cultures in the control of foodborne pathogens in fermented foods. He is a prolific writer with more than 600 publications to his credit in the form of refereed journal articles, books and book chapters, proceeding articles, meeting abstracts, and popular articles. He is the Editor of the *Journal of Rapid Methods and Automation in Microbiology* and Associate Editor of *Anaerobes*, as well as, a reviewer of many professional journals. In addition to classroom teaching he works with a large group of graduate students. He has graduated about 80 M.S. and Ph.D. students as a major professor. Many of these students are now in important positions in academia, government, and the food industry around the globe.

Fung is also very much involved with professional societal activities. He has served as committee member, committee chair, secretary/treasurer, and even president of a number of societies such as Institute of Food Technologists, American Society for Microbiology, Chinese American Food Society and Chinese American Microbiology Society. He has received many awards and recognitions. He has special fond memories as being an invited lecturer at the Pasteur Institute in Paris during the 100th year commemoration of Pasteur's death in 1995. Fung is truly a dedicated educator in applied microbiology and is greatly honored to receive the 2001 Waksman Outstanding Educator Award given by the Society for Industrial Microbiology.