

SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARDS 2006
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (INDIVIDUAL)

DR YEO YEE CHIA



“Science and technology offers immense opportunities for exercising our creativity and innovativeness. Turning the promise of science and technology into new possibilities and useful applications improves lives and makes the world a better place to live in. Join us on this exciting and challenging journey in science and technology!”

Dr Yeo Yee Chia is well known as an expert in the field of Nanoelectronics. His remarkable innovation of high speed transistors by tweaking the atomic spacing in silicon has led to a large boost in the performance of electronic devices. His research findings have been widely recognised, evident by the invitations to train regional engineers and to speak at numerous international conferences and lectures.

Dr Yeo’s passion for research started as a student researcher in the British Telecommunications Laboratories in the United Kingdom. He was awarded his first U.S. patent in 2002 for research on the “Method of Forming a Transistor with a Strained Channel”. Since then, 29 more U.S. patents have been awarded in 2004 and 2005 for his inventions, with a total of 306 patents filed in the U.S., Taiwan, China, Japan and Singapore.



After obtaining a First Class Honours degree and the Lee Kuan Yew Gold Medal for being the best Electrical Engineering graduate at the National University of Singapore (NUS) in 1996, he went to the University of California, Berkeley, on a NUS Overseas Graduate Scholarship. During his postgraduate years, he contributed to several important technological breakthroughs, including the

world's first dual metal-gate transistors and the world's first strained ultra-thin body transistors.

As an educator, Dr Yeo shares his enthusiasm in science with young people by linking forefront technology research with education through project-based learning. To date, he has conducted regular training sessions for more than 490 engineers in the Singapore semiconductor industry. This year, he organised the First Annual Workshop on Nanoelectronics to facilitate interaction and research collaborations for some 150 students, professors and researchers from universities and A*STAR research institutes. In addition, he gives his time to mentor students under his charge and to spur them in the field of engineering.



For his scientific excellence, leadership and dedication to inspire and empower youths, Dr Yeo Yee Chia is conferred the Singapore Youth Award 2006.