Mr Mah Weng Kwai

Mr Mah Weng Kwai, the first President of the Sydney University Graduates of Malaysia Alumni (SUGMA), was made an Honorary Fellow of the University at a graduation ceremony held on 30 April 1994 in the Great Hall.

Report

Mr Mah, a senior member of the Malaysian legal profession, graduated from the University in 1985 with a Master of Laws degree and the Gustav and Emma Bandy postgraduate prize for Jurisprudence.

In 1989 when the late Professor John Ward, then Vice-Chancellor, visited Kuala Lumpur, Mr Mah and other alumni proposed the formation of an alumni association for the University's Malaysian graduates. Elected as secretary, Mr Mah drew up SUGMA’s constitution and registered the association on 31 March 1991.

The acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Derek Anderson, said at graduation that during the important inaugural period of SUGMA, Mr Mah's leadership created a focus for the association in furthering the aims of the University's outreach program in Malaysia and in establishing the University as a university of choice for Malaysian students.

'Major achievements of his term of office include the management of arrangements for two Sydney graduation ceremonies in Kuala Lumpur, including the inaugural ceremony in 1992 at which he delivered the occasional address,' said Professor Anderson.

Mr Mah has been responsible for the promotion of fully-funded scholarships developed jointly by SUGMA and the University. 'These scholarships have done much to cement the reputation of the University in Malaysia as the senior Australian institution,' said Professor Anderson. 'Mr Mah retains his close association with the University as a member of the SUGMA Committee, as a member of the Scholarship Sub-committee and as a continuing source of advice for the University in Malaysia.'

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