

Professor Benjamin Wan-sang WAH

Professor Benjamin Wan-sang Wah is the Franklin W. Woeltge Endowed Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA. He also serves as Director of the Advanced Digital Sciences Center in Singapore, a US\$50 million research center established by the University of Illinois in Singapore in collaboration with the Singapore government's Agency for Science, Technology and Research. In 1998–1999, Professor Wah was Professor of Computer Science and Engineering at The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and in that year received an Exemplary Teaching Award; and from 1999 to 2003, he served as Adjunct Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at CUHK.

Professor Wah was born in Hong Kong and graduated from Queen Elizabeth School. He received his BS and MS in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from Columbia University, USA, then furthered his studies at the University of California, Berkeley, obtaining an MS in Computer Science and a PhD in Engineering. Professor Wah began his teaching career as Assistant Professor in Purdue University in 1979. He later joined the University of Illinois in 1985, which he has served until now. Professor Wah is an expert in non-linear programming, multimedia signal processing and artificial intelligence. He has published numerous research articles in top professional journals such as *Artificial Intelligence*, *IEEE Trans. in Computers*, *IEEE Trans. on Knowledge and Data Engineering*, *IEEE Trans. on Multimedia*, *IEEE Trans. on Parallel and Distributed Technology* and *IEEE Trans. on Software Engineering*. He is also the author of two books, and Editor-in-Chief of Wiley's *Encyclopedia of Computer Science and Engineering*, and has contributed to many edited books and book chapters. He has served on many journal editorial boards. Professor Wah has received numerous honours and awards for his distinguished academic and professional achievements, including the IEEE Computer Society Tsutomu Kanai Award, the IEEE Computer Society W. Wallace McDowell Award, the IEEE Computer Society Richard E. Merwin Distinguished Service Award, the Pan Wen Yuan Foundation Outstanding Research Award, the Web Intelligence Consortium Outstanding Contribution Award and the IEEE Third Millennium Medal. He has been bestowed fellowships of IEEE, the Association for Computing Machinery, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He also holds many Endowed Professorships and Honorary Professorships in leading universities in the United States of America and in Asia.

Professor Wah was President-Elect and President of IEEE Computer Society during the years 2000–2001. He has been a member of the Research Grants Council of Hong Kong since July 2005 and Chairman of its Engineering Panel since 2006.