

MEDIA RELEASE

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Honorary Doctorates presented in Malaysia and Indonesia

The University of Tasmania will today present an Honorary Doctorate to internationally renowned Malaysian architect **Jimmy Lim** in recognition of his contribution to sustainable architecture.

UTAS Vice-Chancellor Professor Daryl Le Grew will present Mr Lim with a Degree of Doctor of Science, honoris causa, in a ceremony today Thursday (April 17) at the Hotel Imperial, Kuala Lumpur.

An Honorary Doctorate will also be presented to distinguished Indonesian industry and education leader **Jonathon Parapak** in Jakarta this Saturday (April 19) in a ceremony at the Universitas Pelita Harapan.

Speaking before today's ceremony in Kuala Lumpur, Professor Le Grew said Mr Lim and the UTAS School of Architecture and Design shared a common interest in education and practice oriented towards an architecture that respects culture, climate and wider aspects of the environment.

"Jimmy Lim has been a 'fearless fighter' for sustainability long before its importance was understood and, equally as important, he has produced work of the highest design quality," Professor Le Grew said.

"Jimmy has had an impact on architecture and the quality of urban development that extends beyond national boundaries and, through his work, demonstrated that Malaysia could have an architecture that was distinctive, regional, modern and responsive to local climatic and cultural conditions.

"These are the values that we would hope our own students would have by the time they leave UTAS and, in that sense, there could be no better role model for our students, including our international students," Professor Le Grew said.

Through its growing links with Malaysia, UTAS has attracted a significant and continuing stream of Malaysian students to study architecture in Tasmania.

Mr Parapak is a UTAS alumni, having arrived in Tasmania in 1962 to study a Bachelor of Engineering degree and later entering a Master of Engineering Science program from which he graduated in 1969. His wife, Anne Atkinson, grew up in Burnie, and two of their three daughters went on to study at UTAS.

Mr Parapak's varied and eminent career covers both the public and private sectors, including leading roles in the Indonesian telecommunications industry and in education. He has also held several senior government appointments and is a former elected member of the People's Consultative Assembly of the Republic of Indonesia. Professor Le Grew said Mr Parapak was committed to building teaching and research links between Universitas Pelita Harapan and UTAS.

"He has worked tirelessly as an ambassador for Australia and Australian universities, helping them to achieve a high profile in Indonesia, and contributing in a positive and meaningful way to linkages between the two countries.

"His industry achievements, his educational leadership and his commitment to building peaceful and prosperous communities make him a worthy candidate for an Honorary Doctorate from UTAS," he said.

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