Chimay Anumba Inducted into the Royal Academy of Engineering

Dr. Chimay Anumba, Professor and Head of the Department of Architectural Engineering at Penn State, was inducted into the Royal Academy of Engineering, the United Kingdom’s National Academy of Engineering on November 5, 2012. The ceremony, which was held at Drapers Hall in London, was presided over by Sir John Parker, President of the Royal Academy. In the absence of His Royal Highness, Prince Philip (Duke of Edinburgh), Lord Browne of Madingley – Immediate Past President of the Royal Academy was the Guest of Honor. (See below for pictures from the ceremony)

Election to Fellowship of The Royal Academy is by invitation only and is one of the highest professional distinctions accorded to an engineer. Fellows are distinguished by the title 'Fellow of The Royal Academy of Engineering' and the designatory letters 'FREng'

Dr. Anumba signs the Roll of Fellows at the ceremony

Dr Anumba was recognized for ‘developing advanced informatics systems to solve knotty problems in design and construction’ and for his ‘prominent leadership role in transforming industry-based research’ in the construction industry.

Anumba’s research focuses on the development of innovative and intelligent systems and tools to support concurrent lifecycle design and construction. He has also developed novel methods and applications to facilitate distributed collaboration, context-aware information and services delivery, and knowledge management within construction project teams. He has over 400 scientific publications (including more than 150 journal papers and 15 books) in these and related fields.

Professor Anumba graduated at 18, with a first class honors degree from the University of Jos, Nigeria and obtained his Ph.D. from The University of Leeds (UK) in 1989. He worked in industry as an Engineer/Senior Engineer and became a chartered/professional engineer in 1992. Returning to academia in 1993, he held positions in UK universities, becoming a full professor at Loughborough University (UK) in 2000. He has supervised 40 doctoral graduates and mentored more than 20 postdoctoral scholars – some of these are now full professors at universities around the world.
A past Chair of the European Group for Intelligent Computing in Engineering, Anumba has undertaken advisory work for the UK government and acted as a consultant to several blue-chip firms. He is Editor-in-Chief of the ‘Buildings’ journal, Co-Editor of the journal ‘Information Technology in Construction (ITCon)’, Specialty Editor of the ‘ASCE Journal of Computing in Civil Engineering’, and sits on the editorial board of several other journals.

Anumba was awarded the ‘higher doctorate’ degree of Doctor of Science, D.Sc. (no US equivalent but comparable to Distinguished Professor status) by Loughborough University (UK) in 2006. In January 2007, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by Delft University of Technology (The Netherlands) for outstanding contributions to building and construction engineering.

Other honors include: The Royal Academy of Engineering’s Engineering Foresight Award (1999), The Gatsby Innovation Fellowship (2001), The Royal Academy of Engineering’s Distinguished Visiting Fellowship (2012) and more than 10 Visiting Professor/Scholar appointments at top universities on 4 continents (including MIT, Stanford and Tsinghua). Anumba also holds Fellowships of the following professional societies: The Institution of Civil Engineers, The Institution of Structural Engineers, The Chartered Institute of Building, and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Dr. Anumba joined Penn State in January 2008 as Professor and Head of the Department of Architectural Engineering.

Dr. Anumba is congratulated by Sir John Parker, GBE, FREng (President, Royal Academy of Engineering, left) and Lord Browne of Madingley, FREng, FRS (Immediate Past President, Royal Academy of Engineering, right).
Professor Anumba is congratulated by Professor Ronald McCaffer, FREeng (Professor Emeritus, Loughborough University, left) and his brother, professor Dilichukwu Anumba (Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Sheffield, right).

Dr. Anumba with some of the other new Fellows of the Royal Academy: Mr. Suranga Chandratillake (Founder, President and Chief Strategy Officer, Blinkx plc, left) and Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson (President, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, middle).