Dr. Dharma deSilva wins Global Leadership Award

Professor (Dr.) Fred Luthans congratulates Professor Dr. Dharma deSilva as he receives the Pan-Pacific Academy’s highest honour, the “Distinguished Global Leadership Award” for advancing global management education & practice.

Professor (Dr.) Dharma deSilva. Rudd Foundation Distinguished Fellow, Director CIBA-USED/BIE Grants. Chair World Trade Council of Wichita at Barton School of Business, Wichita State was bestowed with the highest honour of the Academy the Distinguished Global Leadership Award at the 32nd Annual Pan Pacific Business Association ceremony in Hanoi, Vietnam for his outstanding contributions to the advancement of global management education and practice. Dr. Sang Lee, Chair introduced Dr. deSilva and the citation read by Dr. Clay Whybark highlighted accomplishments ranging from pioneering the integrated management education model at Bachelor’s and MBA/MPA levels in Sri Lanka in mid-1960’s as founding dean. The inauguration of Management education coincided with the Stanford Executive Development team’s visit to Sri Lanka with Dr. James Howell co-author of the first Business Education seminal Report when Dr. deSilva served as an organizer of a series of seminars with Ford Foundation Stranford project. Stanford teams and seminar alumni served as the Advisory Council on Management Education to tailor the management education model to Sri Lanka.

In USA, Dr deSilva chaired the Jt- Committee of the Academy of International Business (AIB) and Academy of Management (AoM) on Internationalization of the Business Curricula. In this capacity he conducted Symposia at the AIB & AoM annual sessions focusing on the landmark McKibbin & Porter AACSB Report on “Management Education Drift or Trust into the 21st Century” and continued historic workshops on AACSB’s core and functional area/majors sponsored by US Dept. of Education BIE grants that he directed for several years with AACSB and counterpart Directors of USED CIBERs and BIEs at national level. The US Dept of Education Project (2006) he directed was elected in 2014 to be among the 25 best paractics in the 25 year history of USED funded projects. This historic project’s innovation brought 28 textbook authors/experts to conduct 10 AACSB Business-School ‘core’ and functional area/major workshops, co-sponsored by USED funded 21 CIBERs & BIEs. in a twin 4 day EU-25 plus B-School Curricula Symposium/Workshops.

His work with USED-AACSB (USA) enabled Dr. deSilva to join the AACSB Asia Chief Dr. Eileen Peacock, as Fulbright Senior Specialist during 2013 and 2014 for AACSB consultations/seminars in Sri Lanka following similar work in Taiwan, China, Vietnam, Thaland, Malaysia. Japan, Korea, FHW Berlin. & Canberra U. In Sri Lanka as a Senior Advisor to the Ministry of Higher Education and Fulbright Senior Specialist, he worked with the UGC and AACSB to organize two major Management Education Quality Enrichment & Accreditation seminars for all 14 MOHE-UGC universities that enabled several universities to gain AACSB membership and join the roster of world’s leading universities.

At Wichita State his founding Center for International Business Advancement (CIBA) in a unique strategic alliance with the business community, founded the World Trade Council Wichita, engaged trained students, resulting in the conduct of over 500 country/company trade events and over 150 international trade seminars. To his credit as Chair, the Council has won coveted US President's E and EStar Awards and remains only council operating on a US campus to win bothawards. His scholarly work includes over 100 articles and paper presentations. His research papers presented at annual Pan Pacific Conferences & Academies have been expanded and published as (1) Management Education Reforms to meet 21st Century Business Needs (PIM-JoM); (2) Management Education and Employability Skills Business Needs More than a Quality Major (Position Paper translated into Japanese and Chinese and a shorter version published in FT Ceylon Today (July 2014); (3) Management Education. Skills & Globalization:Business Strategey, Exporting & Marketing Practice in a New World Order (Lake House 2014); (4) Development of Global Supply & Services Management Education, Professional Training and Research (Concept Paper for WSU’ Innovation Campus) and is associated with Dr. Gamini Gunawardane’s proposal for a National Institute of Services Management with Colombo University Faculty and Business Advisory Group, as an extension and follow-up of AACSB seminars; (5) The Mosaic of Entrepreneurs, plus SME’s +POEs and SOEs in Trade, FDI and Economic Growth of G-20 EMCS, (Pan-Pacific XXXII Annual Conference , Vietnam, June 2015); and (6) Globalization & Management Education Modules to Meet New AACSB Standards and Managing & Marketing in the Competitive New World Economy of Significance to Sri Lanka; are among the themes of lectures/seminars he has been invited to give in Sri Lanka for universities and professional agencies.