



Photo: Fennell Photography

One -on- One

Trinity Today meets
**Dr Stanley Quek, M.B.,
M.A. (1970), newly
elected Pro-Chancellor of
the University of Dublin.**

Role of the Pro-Chancellor

Appointment to the office of Chancellor or Pro-Chancellor is the highest accolade the University can bestow. Over the centuries, the role of the Pro-Chancellor has been to act on behalf of the Chancellor during periods of absences from the University. Trinity's six Pro-Chancellors have all the powers and privileges of the Chancellor when acting in place of the Chancellor, such as when awarding degrees of the University of Dublin, but they also hold office in their own right.

Describe your route from Singapore to Trinity.

My family had emigrated from Singapore to London in early 1960. I took my O and A levels in a grammar school in Highgate. I applied to study Medicine in Trinity on a kind recommendation from a family friend who happened to be giving a lecture at Trinity in 1967. I was delighted to be accepted into the first medical year on my A levels, and have not looked back since!

Are you in touch with many friends from your time in college?

I really enjoyed the five years I spent in Trinity and made many friends from Ireland and all over the world. Our last class reunion, our 45th anniversary, was attended by many of my classmates, and it was as if it was yesterday! Most had either retired or were about to, and many were grandparents. I had kept up with quite a few of them – some I see regularly and others at class reunions and special events. It's wonderful when you think it's more than half a century since we were all students dissecting and taking notes from great teachers at medical school.

How many countries are you currently working across?

My work as a property developer and investor takes me to seven countries monthly. It's exciting to be in so many countries regularly and to be involved with so many cultures and climates. It's important to keep busy and active.

“I am humbled and honoured to be elected a Pro-Chancellor of my alma mater and I hope to contribute more to making Trinity A TRULY GREAT GLOBAL UNIVERSITY.”

How has your connection to Trinity developed over the years?

I have been involved with Trinity since graduation with my work with the Trinity Association and then with recruiting Singaporean students to study Medicine in Trinity since the early 1980s. I have worked with four Provosts and many of the Deans of Medicine and am now sitting on the Provost's Council and Campaign Cabinet. It's all been very exciting, especially when you see how Trinity has grown to become the foremost university in Ireland and its vision to become a significant global university.

What advice would you give to a Trinity student today?

Study hard, make lots of friends, enjoy the campus and all that it offers. Do not forget what Trinity has offered you – an excellent education and your first step into the commercial world. Remember Trinity into your future.

What are your special interest projects within Trinity's Inspiring Generations fundraising campaign?

Trinity inspired me in my education, in setting me up in my career, and in my love for both Ireland and the University itself. I am inspired to give back to the Trinity St. James's Cancer Institute and the Old Library. In doing that, I'm giving to St. James's where I trained and giving back to Ireland as well.