

# Whatever Happened to Vincent Shen

Then	Capsule Summary	Now
	<p>Born in: Tianjin, China            Grew Up in: Taipei, Taiwan            High School: The Affiliated High School of Taiwan Normal University            Undergraduate Degree: BS Electrical Engineering, National Taiwan University, 1964            Graduate Degrees: Princeton University MA, 1967; PhD EE, 1969            On Purdue faculty: February 1969 to August 1985            Lived/Worked in: Hsinchu, Taiwan; Austin, TX; Hong Kong, China (current residence)</p>	
<p><b>Purdue Highlights</b></p>	<p><b>Professional and Personal Highlights</b></p>	
<p>Vincent joined Purdue as Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering in February, 1969. That was the only academic appointment available to him at that time, since it was rare for people to complete the PhD requirements in the middle of an academic year. In order to learn Computer Science, he volunteered to teach every course offered by the CS department during the first years, except those in the numerical analysis area (sorry to the students who took my courses in the early 1970's ☺). He dropped the joint appointment with EE after three years due to the strained relationship between the two department heads at the time, and due to the expected extra work needed to pass both tenure committees.</p> <p>Vincent's PhD research area was the design of swithing circuits. That was no longer of interest due to the advent of IC's, where saving a few gates would no longer be essential. He changed his research</p>	<p>Vincent left Purdue to join the Micro-electronics and Computer Technology Corp. (MCC; Austin, TX), a research consortium supported by 20 major US computer companies, in 1985. He worked on problems related to large-scale software systems development. He later directed the company's Software Technology Program, which had about 60 professionals and support personnel.</p> <p>Vincent joined the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) in 1990 as Founding Head of the Computer Science Department and served in that position until 1995. He also served as Director of HKUST's Sino Software Research Center from 1992 to 1995, during which time he founded Hong Kong Supernet Limited, the first licensed commercial Internet service provider in Hong Kong. Supernet was the largest service provider in Hong Kong when it was sold in 1996 and became Pacific Internet. For this work and the influence it had on the development of Hong Kong's Internet industry he received the Fok Ying Tung Special Contribution Award in 1998. He was appointed Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at HKUST in 1996. He returned to teaching and research at the department in 1997. In 1999 he co-founded the Internet MPAS Limited (later renamed eCyberPay.com Limited) which developed a micro-payment technology to facilitate electronic commerce transactions of small amounts on the Web. The company was later acquired by the Vertex Group, then a listed company in Hong Kong. From 2000 to 2003 Vincent was seconded by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to serve as its first Science Advisor, focusing on supporting the development of information technology and electronics industries in Hong Kong through the Innovation and Technology Commission. He retired from HKUST at the end of June, 2010.</p> <p>Vincent has served on the editorial boards of IEEE Software, IEEE Computer ,</p>	

<p>area first to operating systems (bin-packing), then to software engineering (starting with Halstead's Software Science).</p> <p>Vincent accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior in 1972 through participation at the Purdue Chinese Christian Fellowship, which has changed (and is still changing) his life.</p> <p>Vincent is forever grateful for the Purdue years since during that period he established his life goals, established a family, and established his professional career.</p>	<p>and IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering. He was appointed an Expert to assist the Commission of Inquiry on the New Airport in 1998 in their six-month investigation on the causes of the chaos right after the new Hong Kong International Airport opened in July.</p> <p>Vincent established the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) Office in Hong Kong, focusing on Web internationalization issues. He was General Co-Chairman of the Tenth International World Wide Web Conference (WWW10) which was held in Hong Kong in May, 2001.</p> <p>Vincent was a member of the International World Wide Web Conference Steering Committee (IW3C2, from 2000 to 2010) and served as its Chairman from 2006 to 2008, a member of the Board of Directors of Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute (ASTRI, from 2004 to 2010), and a member of ACM's Publications Board (from 2006 to 2012). He is a founder of the Hong Kong Mandarin Bible Church (HKMBC) and is now serving as an Elder.</p>
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