



Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma, Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), delivering the Graduation Message at AIT's 122nd Graduation.

AIT's 122nd Graduation spans students from 23 countries and four continents

One-hundred and ninety eight students from 23 countries spanning four continents were conferred degrees at the 122nd Graduation ceremony of AIT. The 122nd graduation batch included 35 doctoral, 157 Master's, five Bachelor's and one diploma student.

Vietnam took the major share of the 122nd graduating batch with 88 graduates, followed by Thailand with 47. Indonesia and Nepal with nine graduates, and Myanmar with eight were the other three top countries. The graduating batch included students

from Asia, Africa, Europe and North America.

The graduation message was delivered by Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma, Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), while Mr. Ananda Dias, Regional Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific Environment Assessment and Early-Warning, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), delivered the AIT Outstanding Alumnus message.

See photo gallery on page 4 >>>

INSIDE...



- Recent News / Happenings at AIT..... 2
- Workshops / Seminars / Conferences..... 3
- People..... 5
- Photo Gallery..... 4, 6

Alumnus Dr. Yanyong Phataralaoha donates 2.256 Mil THB for scholarships

Thai Pipe Industry Co. Ltd, Thailand's leading PVC pipe manufacturer, has donated three academic scholarships worth 2.256 million Thai baht for students from Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar. Each Master's degree scholarship includes full tuition and registration fees valued at THB 752,000.

AIT doctoral degree alumnus Dr. Yanyong Phataralaoha (IE&M '86), Managing Director, Thai Pipe Industry Co. Ltd., on 16 December 2014 handed over a cheque to the AIT President Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai. Dr. Yanyong was accompanied by his wife Mrs. Gantasiri Phataralaoha, herself an AIT alumna (ENVI '84), and their daughters Ms. Wintica Phataralaoha and Ms. Kesryn Phataralaoha.



Dr. Yanyong Phataralaoha (left) with Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai.

Internet Hall of Fame's Steven Huter hands over NSRC gift



From left: Prof. Kanchana Kanchanasut, Prof. Worsak Kanok Nukulchai, and Mr. Steve Huter.

AIT was host to another Internet luminary on 17 December when Steven Huter, Director, Network Startup Resource Center (NSRC), University of Oregon, visited the Institute to oversee the handover

of 250 wifi access points. NSRC, which had donated 250 wifi access points to AIT immediately after the 2011 Thailand flood, gifted 250 more to help augment AIT's network. The total NSRC donation to AIT now touches USD 100,000.

Visiting AIT for the first time after the flood, Steven was greeted by Prof.

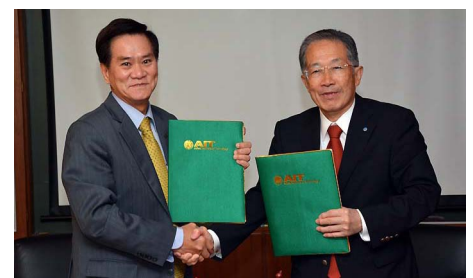
Kanchana Kanchanasut, AIT's Vice President for Research, who preceded Steven's induction to the Internet Hall of Fame by a year.

The restoration of internet connectivity at the flood-hit AIT with NSRC's help was the subject of an email that the NSRC team received from the AIT Student Union President. "It was one of the finest emails that I have received," Steven narrated to AIT President Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai. President Worsak thanked Steven and NSRC for supporting AIT.

Kurita Water and Environment Foundation signs MoU

Kurita Water and Environment Foundation (KWEF) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with AIT to jointly contribute towards improving water and environment conditions in the region.

The MoU was signed by KWEF and AIT on 1 December 2014 by KWEF President Dr. Fujino Hiroshi, and AIT President Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai. The MoU focuses on human resource development, particularly on capacity building of young researchers.



Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai (left) and Dr. Fujino Hiroshi

UNESCO-IHE workshop on Sustainable Water and Environment Management



From left: Dr. Gabrielle Groves (on dias), Prof. M. S. Babel, Prof. Kazuo Yamamoto, Mr. Raza M. Farrukh, and Dr. Zoran Vojinovic.

The role of educational and research institutions in ensuring water sustainability and environmental management was the underlying theme of the workshop organized by UNESCO-Institute for Water Education (UNESCO-IHE) and AIT on 9 December 2014. Mr. Raza M. Farrukh of Asian Development Bank, and Prof. M S Babel of AIT delivered the keynote address, while Prof. Kazuo Yamamoto, Vice President for Resource Development, AIT, and Dr. Zoran Vojinovic, Associate Professor, Department of Urban Water Systems, UNESCO-IHE, delivered the welcome address.

Workshop on Climate Compatible Adaptive Urban Development



Workshop proceedings at AIT.

“Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change in Coastal Cities of Southeast Asia,” a 4-year, 3-country focused research project conducted by AIT and funded by

the International Climate Initiative (ICI), provided the intellectual backdrop for professionals to make coastal urban areas more adaptable to climate-related risks. Led by AIT’s Dr. Vilas Nitivattananon, the event was organized and hosted by AIT in partnership with Thai City Planners Society, and in collaboration with the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning, United Nations Human Settlements Program, Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology, Urban and Regional Development Institute, and ICI.

AGS-Asia Industrial Collaboration workshop



Prof. Kazuo Yamamoto (left) gives a practical demonstration at the workshop.

The inaugural Alliance for Global Sustainability (AGS)-Asia Industrial Collaboration Workshop on 1 December 2014 saw experts from AIT, The University of Tokyo, Mitsubishi Rayon, Nitto Denko, and Kasetsart University delivering presentations on the latest scientific advances in waste water treatment. Organized by AIT Vice President for Resource Development Prof. Kazuo Yamamoto, and co-sponsored by Japan’s Mitsubishi Rayon, the half-day conference attracted 50 participants from Thailand, Japan, and Singapore.

IWA Specialist Conference on Municipal Water Management and Sanitation



Prof. Shinichiro Ohgaki (left) and H.E. Dr. Subin Pinkayan.

Coinciding with the 50th anniversary of its Environmental Engineering and Management field of study, AIT was organizer and host with the International Water Association (IWA) of the ‘First Specialist Conference on Municipal Water Management and Sanitation in Developing Countries’ on 2-4 December 2014. Led by AIT’s Dr. Thammarat Koottatep, the conference was co-organized by Japan Sanitation Consortium, Wastewater Management Authority (Thailand), Faculty of Engineering of the Prince of Songkla University, Environmental Engineering Association of Thailand, and AIT. The 3-day conference attracted 149 participants from 32 countries. Professor Emeritus Shinichiro Ohgaki of The University of Tokyo delivered the keynote address.

FOSS4G Asia 2014 Conference



From left: Prof. Nitin K Tripathi, Prof. Kanchana Kanchanasut, Dr. Venkatesh Raghavan and Dr. Sarawut Ninsawat.

Ten years after the Free and Open Source Solutions for Geinformatics (FOSS4G) Asia began in Thailand in 2004, the Conference got underway for its tenth anniversary at AIT from 2 December 2014. The Conference proceedings were jointly released by Dr. Venkatesh Raghavan of Osaka City University, Japan (who had coined the term FOSS4G 10 years ago); and Prof. Kanchana Kanchanasut, Prof. Nitin Kumar Tripathi, and Dr. Sarawut Ninsawat, all from AIT. Dr. Piyawut Srichaikul, Director, Thailand National Electronics and Computer Technology Center, delivered the opening remarks.

122nd AIT graduation: 17 December 2014



1, 2, 4, 7, 12, 13, and 16 Graduating students with faculty, family and friends. 3. Prof. Sivanappan Kumar. 5. Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai addressing the graduates. 6. Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma. 8. Prof. Sununta Siengthai. 9. Prof. Pennung Warnitchai. 10. Mr. Ananda Dias. 11. Ms. Kate-Natee Noipin. 14. A view of the VIP gallery. 15. Students of AIT International School.

AIT faculty members co-author book on Managing Water Resources

Three AIT faculty, Dr. Sangam Shrestha, Dr. Anil K. Anal, and Dr. Abdul Salam have coauthored a book on “Managing Water Resources under Climate Uncertainty: Examples from Asia and Europe.” The book, published by Springer Publications was launched during the World Water Week in Stockholm, Sweden in September 2014.

Michael Jarraud, Secretary General of World Meteorological Organization (WMO); Blanca Elena Jiménez Cisneros, Director, Division of Water Sciences, Secretary, International Hydrological Programme, UNESCO; and Christoph Elineau, Coordinator of the SEA-EU-NET (SouthEast Asia European Union Network) have written the foreword. The book includes several climate change impact studies from the water sector, illustrates various sources of uncertainties while dealing with climate prediction, and provides



From left: Dr. Sangam Shrestha, Dr. Abdul Salam, and Dr. Anil K Anal.

adaptive measures to cope with future climate change for a sustainable water sector.

Further details are available at this link:
<http://goo.gl/v51l7V>

Dr Indrajit Pal joins as Assistant Professor

Dr. Indrajit Pal has joined AIT as Assistant Professor in Disaster Preparedness, Mitigation and Management (DPMM) program in the School of Environment, Resources and Development (SERD).

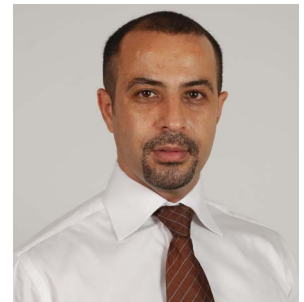


Dr. Indrajit Pal

Dr. Indrajit Pal has a Ph.D on “Seismotectonic and Earthquake Hazard Assessment in parts of East and North-East India” from Vidyasagar University, Midnapore, India. He obtained his B.Sc (Hons.) Geological Sciences and Master’s in Applied Geology from Jadavpur University, Kolkata, India. Dr. Pal served as faculty member at the Centre for Disaster Management, Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, Uttarakhand, India from October 2006 to November 2014.

Dr. Yuosre Badir promoted as Associate Professor

Dr. Yuosre Badir has been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor in AIT’s School of Management (SOM). His elevation was announced by the AIT President Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai following the recommendations of the Faculty Evaluation Panel (FEP) and the SOM Faculty Evaluation Committee.



Dr. Yuosre Badir

Dr Badir joined AIT as an Assistant Professor in the School of Management in August 2008. He obtained both his Ph.D. in Management of Technology, and Master’s in Logistics and Supply Chain Management, from École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland in 2006 and 2000, respectively.

AIT Blood Donation : 12 December 2014



Coming up
**AIT
ORIENTATION**
6 Jan 2015

News You Can Use

AIT Rings Out 2014 and Wishes Everyone a Happy New Year



Editor:

Bajinder Pal Singh
bajinder@ait.asia

Designer:

Nadhika Mendhaka

Photos:

Paitoon Tinnapong

For feedback, contact
Media and Communications
Unit at AIT
mcu@ait.asia



Follow AIT at

- Facebook www.facebook.com/aitasia
- YouTube www.youtube.com/aitasia
- Twitter www.twitter.com/aitasia
- Google+ <https://plus.google.com/113705895909660110340/posts>
- LinkedIn <http://www.linkedin.com/edu/school?id=17195>
- Pinterest <http://www.pinterest.com/aitasia>