



## “SHADES OF SEA” enthralls audience

Maritime costumes, an aquatic environment, and a spate of performances swamped the AIT Conference Center on 19 February 2017 as the six-hour extravaganza “Shades of Sea” converted the AIT Conference Center into a virtual thalassic world on the occasion of the AIT Cultural Show.

The high tide was the performance by the teams from Sri Lanka who virtually swept all awards, barring the

group performance prize that went to Thailand. Amidst the deluge of student talent, performances ranged from pirates to mermaids, as the teams from Sri Lanka won the Mr and Miss AIT, competitive dance, solo and duet singing, talent show, drama as well as the fashion show competition. Organized by the Gender and Culture Committee of the AIT Students’ Union, the show was live streamed to global audiences.

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## AIT is in a state of normalcy, things are looking up: President informs Board

After suffering from the devastating effects of the flood and numerous crises, AIT is now in a state of normalcy, and things have started to look up. This was stated by AIT President Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai in his report to the AIT Board of Trustees held on 16 February 2017 at the AIT Conference Center.

The AIT President highlighted the achievements of AIT in terms of gaining the trust of the host country government, recommencement of the Royal Thai Government scholarships, AIT's performance in ranking systems, repair and renovation work in the campus, the new AIT library and forthcoming projects. The entire text



*Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai*

of his address can be read at this link: <https://goo.gl/oCnKeQ>

## ADB presents PPP collaboration opportunities in the Asia-Pacific region

The Asia-Pacific region can benefit from Public-Private Partnerships (PPP), and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) is helping shape PPP as a key conduit for greater infrastructure investment. Sharing the PPP scenario in the region was a two-member team from the ADB team at an interaction session organized at AIT on 16 February 2017.

Led by Ryuichi Kage and Amir J Qari of the ADB, the interaction session highlighted how the ADB has established a dedicated Office of Public-Private Partnership (OPPP) to support and enable governments to secure greater private investment and generate economic growth in the region.



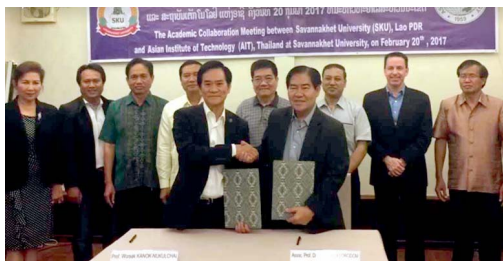
*PPP Interaction session at AIT.*

Dr. Bindu Lohani, former ADB Vice President mentioned the role played by both AIT and ADB in the development of the Asia-Pacific region.

## AIT signs a Mentorship Memorandum with Savannakhet University

AIT has signed a Mentorship Memorandum with Savannakhet University (SU) of Lao PDR. The Memorandum was signed by AIT President Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai and Dr. Bounpong Keorodom, President of Savannakhet University during a visit of the AIT delegation to Laos on 20 February 2017.

Savannakhet University has received a grant from ADB to build its new campus spread over 304 hectares, and it will start a new engineering school to support the industry in the neighboring Free Economic Zone being created under a Public Private Partnership (PPP). AIT will help SU in its curriculum development and faculty development. "One of AIT's mission is to assist young provincial universities in their early development stages, including faculty



*Agreement signing between AIT and SU.*

development, and that is why our alumni are spreading wings all over universities in Asia," Prof. Worsak remarked.



## Engage in lifelong learning, become global citizens: AIT President



*Open House participants.*

It is important to engage in lifelong learning and to acquire knowledge at every stage in life. Lifelong learning has assumed increased importance since what we learn today

may no longer remain relevant in the next four to five years. This was the message of AIT President Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai on the occasion of “Open House” organized at AIT on 17 February 2017.

Also addressing the students was AIT alumnus Dr. Amornpon Changsuphan, Scientist, Ministry of Science and Technology, who spoke about how AIT had impacted his life. Also participating in the AIT Open House were the President of Siam University Prof. Pornchai Mongkhonvanit, representatives of the Thailand’s Military Research and Development Centre (MRDC), besides a strong representation of Chinese students.

## Pacific Island countries to build geo-spatial databases, with help from AIT



*From left: Mr. Tae Hyung Kim, Dr. Lal Samarakoon, Ms. Tiziana Bonapace, and Mr. Hitoshi Kozaki.*

Representatives from eight Pacific Island countries are on the path of creating their national geo-spatial databases courtesy of a UNESCAP project being implemented by AIT’s Geoinformatics Center. Twelve participants from eight countries from the Pacific region began a month-long training program on 6 February 2017 at AIT to learn about creating national geo-databases and geo-portals for disaster risk reduction. Participants came from Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Micronesia, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu.

“The aim is to work together to develop a system that is customised for every country,” Dr. Lal Samarakoon, Director, GIC told participants. Mr. Hitoshi Kozaki, Head of International Organization Department and Deputy Permanent Representative to ESCAP, Embassy of Japan to Thailand; Ms. Tiziana Bonapace, Director, ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division, ESCAP; Mr. Tae Hyung Kim, Economic Affairs Officer, ESCAP, and Dr. Lal Samarakoon, Director, Geoinformatics Centre, AIT addressed the participants at the inaugural event.

## AIT signs MoU with CIFS



*Mr. Somn Promaros (left), and Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai (right).*

Central Institute of Forensic Science (CIFS), Thailand has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with AIT for facilitating traffic accident investigations. The MoU was signed by Mr. Somn Promaros, Director, CIFS, and Prof. Worsak

Kanok-Nukulchai, President, AIT on 27 February 2017.

With this agreement, CIFS and AIT will collaborate on knowledge sharing, investigate factors leading to injuries and deaths caused by accidents, examine safety measures, and inquire into preventive ways to reduce injury from accidents.



## AIT Cultural Show: 19 February 2017



Photos courtesy: Nitikorn Pengsawang, Sravanth Varma, Dharmana Harish Naidu, Yasiru Nilanga, and Janith Jinadasa.



## PROMOTIONS: PROFESSORS

### Weerakorn Ongsakul



*Dr. Weerakorn Ongsakul*

Dr. Weerakorn Ongsakul has been promoted to the rank of Professor. His elevation was confirmed at the meeting of the AIT Board of Trustees held on 16 February 2017.

Dr. Weerakorn joined AIT as an Assistant Professor in the Energy Program of the School of Environment, Resources and Development (SERD) in January 2001. He obtained both his Ph.D. and Master's degrees in Electrical Engineering from Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, U.S.A. in 1994, and 1991, respectively. Dr. Weerakorn graduated from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand with the degree of Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical Engineering in 1988. He has served as Dean of the School of Environment, Resources and Development (SERD) from September 2009 to June 2013.

### Barbara Igel



*Dr. Barbara Igel*

Dr. Barbara Igel has been promoted to the rank of Professor. Her elevation was announced following approval by the AIT Board of Trustees in its meeting held on 16 February 2017.

Dr. Igel joined the School of Management as an Assistant Professor and Program Coordinator of the joint program with Punjab College of Business Administration (PCBA) in 1993. She obtained her Dr. rer. pol. (~PhD Economics), Freie Universitaet Berlin (West) in 1989. Dr. Igel took both her Master's and Bachelor's degrees, viz. Dipl. Volkswirt (~MA Economics) and Vordiplom (~BA Economics) from the Technische Universitaet Berlin (West) in 1984 and 1982, respectively. She has served as Dean of the School of Management (SOM) from 2008 to June 2013.

## EMERITUS PROFESSORS

### Karl E. Weber



*Prof. Karl E. Weber*

Prof. Karl E. Weber had obtained his Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology (summa cum laude) from Ruperto-Carola University in Heidelberg, Germany in 1966.

He joined AIT as an Associate Professor in February 1978 and was promoted to the rank of a Professor in 1983. Having served as a Professor at AIT for about 16 years, he graduated 17 Ph.D. and 132 master's students.

### Gajendra Singh



*Prof. Gajendra Singh*

Prof. Gajendra Singh gained his Ph.D. from University of California in Davis, California, USA in 1973. He joined AIT as an Assistant Professor in 1975 and was promoted to the rank of a Professor in 1988. Having served as a Professor at AIT for about 16 years, he graduated 12 Ph.D. and 160 master's students.

### Tawatchai Tingsanchali



*Prof. Tawatchai Tingsanchali*

Prof. Tawatchai Tingsanchali obtained his Doctor of Engineering in Water Resources Engineering from AIT in 1975. He joined AIT as an Assistant Professor in 1975 and was promoted to the rank of a Professor in 1988. Having served as a Professor at AIT for about 19 years, he graduated 13 Ph.D. and 128 Master's students.

## Reaching Out



*AIT Study Tour from 2-15 February 2017 for students of JIS group, India.*



*Creating notebooks from one-side printed paper: An activity organized by Dr Pisut Koomsap, Head, Department of Industrial Systems Engineering (ISE).*



*Demonstration of Pro-poor Telemedicine Technology by AIT Extension.*

## New SU Team Takes Over

A new Students' Union team led by Ms. Piraya Lueprasitsakul (sitting, front row, fifth from left) has taken over. The team photograph was clicked in the Knowledge Garden of the AIT Library.



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## COMING UP!

- **WORLD WILDLIFE DAY**  
March 1, 2017
- **BLOOD DONATION CAMP**  
March 9, 2017
- **AITAA GOLF 2017**  
MARCH 17, 2017
- **GIANT PRAWN 2017**  
March 20, 2017
- **CAREER FAIR**  
MARCH 29, 2017