



AIT students at the Embassy of Germany in Thailand.

24 DAAD scholarship recipients felicitated at German Embassy

Twenty-four AIT students received commemorative certificates from Germany’s Ambassador to Thailand H.E. Mr. Rolf Schulze at an official DAAD Scholarship handover ceremony on 1 April 2014 at the German Embassy in Bangkok.

Ambassador Schulze and Ms. Annette Sévery, Counsellor, Press and Cultural Affairs, welcomed an AIT delegation to the embassy led by Vice President for

Academic Affairs Professor Sivanappan Kumar. The 24 scholarship recipients are from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV).

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Norway envoy meets with Myanmar scholarship recipients



H.E. Ms. Katja Christina Nordgaard with AIT students.

Norway's Ambassador to Thailand H.E. Ms. Katja Christina Nordgaard visited AIT on April 25 to meet with a large number of scholarship recipients from Myanmar who are supported by Norway's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA).

As a former ambassador to Myanmar, she spoke of her great fondness for the country and its people whom she said are now "extremely keen to catch up and learn" through educational opportunities. The coveted NMFA scholarship program attracts a high degree of interest in Myanmar every year, with less than 10 percent of applicants receiving a scholarship. The third batch of 40 students will enroll at AIT in the August 2014 semester.

Kenya's Senate Committee on ICT visits AIT



Kenyan delegation at AIT.

Kenya's Senate Committee on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) visited AIT to explore possibilities of working with the Institute.

Four senators from the Upper House of Kenya's Parliament interacted with AIT academicians and officials on 18 April 2014, to learn more about AIT's academic and research profile. The delegation included Senators Mr. Mutahi Kagwe, Mr. Dickson Karaba, Ms. Daisy Nyongesa and Mr. Paul Njoroge; Ms. Rose Mudibo, clerk to the Senate Committee, and Ms. Rose Wmbui, aide to Senator Njoroge. Mr. Hussein S Muhamad of the Embassy of Kenya also accompanied the delegation.

Two AIT students meet USAID chief, participate in NASA events

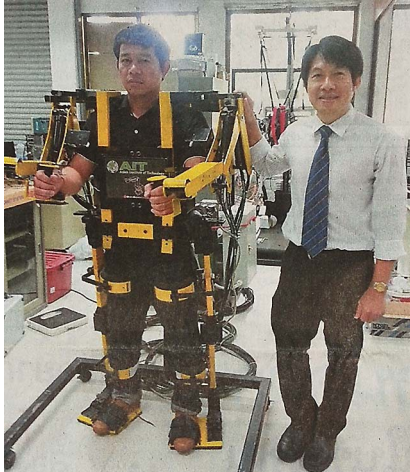


From right: Ms. Khin Seint Seint Aye and Mr. Jirawat Panpeng.

Two AIT students were among a select group of fellows who had the opportunity to interact with USAID chief Mr. Rajiv Shah as a part of their fellowship program. The two, Mr. Jirawat Panpeng and Ms. Khin Seint Seint Aye, also participated in joint USAID and NASA events in Washington DC, where they met with senior officials who proffered advice on their research.

"Fourteen fellows from all over the world were selected to participate in the Capstone events lasting from April 1-14, and we were among the four students from Southeast Asia," Seint Seint said. Both students were a part of the USAID and NASA "My Community Our Earth" (MyCOE) SERVIR Global Fellowship Program. While Seint Seint is from Myanmar, Jirawat is from Thailand. Their program was also broadcast over NASA TV.

AIT's Powersuit Exoskeleton Robot featured in *Matichon*



Dr. Manukid Parnichkun with his Exoskeleton Robot.

The Powersuit Exoskeleton Robot designed for the construction industry by Dr. Manukid Parnichkun of AIT's School of Engineering and Technology was featured by the Thai newspaper *Matichon* on 22 April 2014.

The article highlights that the Powersuit Exoskeleton Robot, which is a wearable robot, can carry a payload of up to 80 kilograms. The robot's movement is controlled through switches attached to each joint. Hydraulic actuators are attached at the elbow and shoulder joints in each arm. Made of stainless steel, the Powersuit weighs 41 kilograms.

The article can be read at this link:

http://www.matichon.co.th/news_detail.php?newsid=1398154303

AIT showcases its technology at Toilet Fair in Delhi

A team of researchers from AIT showcased two toilet prototypes at the Reinvent the Reinventing the Toilet Fair held to coincide with World Water Day celebrations in New Delhi.

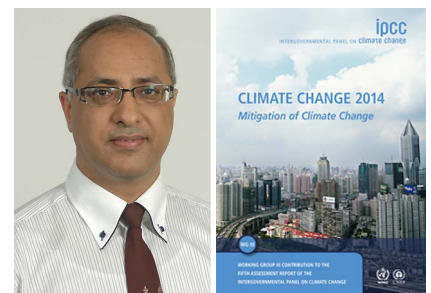


AIT's prototype on display in Delhi.

Led by Dr. Thammarat Koottatep of Environment Engineering and Management (EEM) field of study at AIT's School of Environment, Resources and Development (SERD), the Naturally Acceptable and Technologically Sustainable (NATS) Toilet team from AIT displayed a Solar Septic Tank and a Hydrocyclone toilet. The fair was co-hosted by the Government of India's Department of Biotechnology and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, with the support of India's Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Ministry of Urban Development, and Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal is Coordinating Lead Author in latest IPCC report

Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal of AIT's Energy field of study is one of the world-leading researchers who have contributed to the latest IPCC report on global climate change. The report unveiled in Berlin, Germany is titled Climate Change 2014: Mitigation of Climate Change.



Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal and the IPCC Report.

Dr. Shobhakar is Co-Coordinating Lead Author of the chapter on Human Settlements, Infrastructure and Spatial Planning, along with Prof. Karen Seto of Yale University. This is a new chapter in IPCC assessment which was not covered in the previous assessments. He is one of only two scientists from Thailand-based institutes to contribute to the report produced by 235 authors, 38 review editors, 180 contributing authors and over 800 expert reviewers. The worldwide scientific collaboration of international experts took over four years to complete.

28 companies participate in AIT Career Fair

Twenty-eight companies participated in the AIT Career Fair organized on 2 April 2014. Two of these companies also conducted campus interviews to recruit AIT students.

Calling the event a good link between AIT and industry, Prof. Kazuo Yamamoto, Interim Vice Presi-

dent for Resource Development stated that the event would strengthen the Institute's institutional ties with various companies. Prof. Sivanappan Kumar, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs remarked that the bi-annual affair was a good opportunity for students to pursue their career goals.



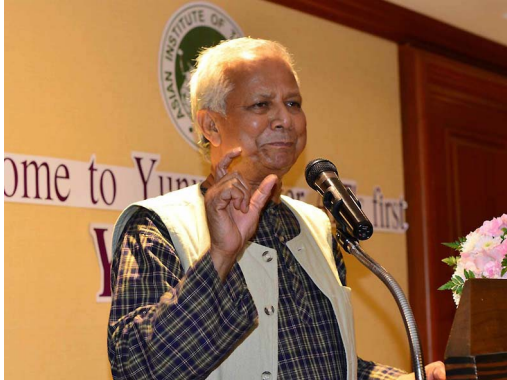
AIT International Food Fair: April 2014



Yunus urges social business development in Thailand

The Yunus Center AIT and the Thai Social Enterprise Office on 10 April 2014 wel-

comed 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Winner Prof. Muhammad Yunus to an exclusive executive reception and networking event in Bangkok.



Prof. Muhammad Yunus

In his keynote address, Prof. Yunus spoke about his new “Social Business Design Lab” which is organized monthly at the Yunus Centre on Dhaka, Bangladesh. AIT Vice President for Resource Development Prof. Kazuo Yamamoto was on hand to welcome Prof. Yunus on behalf of the Institute. He was joined by Nuttaphong Jaruwannaphong, Director of the Thai Social Enterprise Office (TSEO); Dr. Faiz Shah, Director, YCA; Ms. Mariana Botero, Program Officer, YCA; and AIT Extension staff organizers. An article on the event can be read in The Nation at this link:

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/business/Nobel-laureate-Muhammad-Yunus-urges-social-busines-30231844.html>

PEOPLE

AIT alumnus appointed Finance Secretary in Nepal

Mr. Yuba Raj Bhusal, an alumnus of Regional Development Planning and Management from AIT’s School of Environment, Resources and Development in 1996 has been appointed as the new Finance Secretary of Nepal.

Mr. Bhusal was awarded a Gold Medal (Mahendra-vidyabhushan) by the then King of Nepal for his outstanding academic performance, having scored a perfect GPA score of ‘4’ from AIT. Prior to his appointment as Finance Secretary, Mr. Bhusal was serving as Secretary, National Planning Commission of Nepal. Having joined the Nepal Civil Service in 1980, Mr. Bhusal has served in various positions both in Nepal and abroad. He has also served as Provincial Budgeting Advisor with UNDP/Ministry of Finance in Afghanistan in 2007-08.



Mr. Yuba Raj Bhusal

AIT alumnus appointed Secretary, Information and Communications in Nepal

Mr. Suman Prasad Sharma, who graduated in 1995 with a Master’s degree in Environmental Technology and Management from AIT’s School of Environment, Resources and Development (SERD), has been appointed as Secretary, Ministry of Information and Communications, Nepal.

Beginning his career as an assistant engineer in the Department of Water Supply and Sewerage, Mr. Sharma has served as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Physical Planning and Works, Regional Administrator in the Western Development Region of Nepal, and Financial Comptroller General of Nepal.



Mr. Suman Prasad Sharma

Scholarships and Fellowships

Their Majesties' Scholarships

Covers: Tuition fees, accommodation, bursary
 Eligibility: Thai and International students with GPA > 3.5

Apply before 15 May 2014

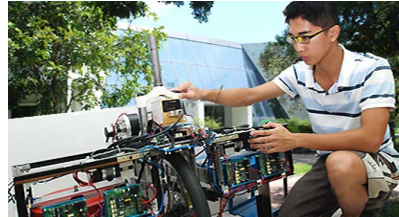
RTG Fellowships

Full Tuition Fee (752,000 THB) : GPA > 3.5
 75 % Tuition Fee (564,000 THB) : GPA > 3.0
 50 % Tuition Fee (376,000 THB) : GPA > 2.75

Apply before 15 May 2014

Their Majesties' Scholarships and Royal Thai Government Fellowships are available to suitable candidates applying to Master's and Doctoral Programs for admission in the August 2014 semester.

<http://www.ait.ac.th/news-and-events/2014/announcements/ait-scholarship-and-fellowships/#.U2BWzFxvzyz>



APPLY NOW TO AIT

HM KING'S AND HM QUEEN'S
RTG SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships & Fellowships
available for PhD & Master's

Application Deadline: 15 May 2014

News You Can Use

Public backs affirmative action programs on campus

A recent Pew survey stated that roughly two-to-one (63% to 30%) Americans favor affirmative action programs. Polling by other organizations has found similar results. A CBS News/New York Times poll conducted last May found that 53% of the public supported affirmative action programs in hiring, promoting and college admissions, while 38% opposed such programs. Sixty-three percent said they favored it since it increased diversity, while 24% said it was to make up for past discrimination.

Read more at this link:
<http://goo.gl/9OWIWw>

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