



## Silver Jubilee Celebrations of School of Management

AIT's youngest school, the School of Management (SOM) marked its 25th Anniversary "Silver Jubilee" on 25 October 2014 under the banner "25 years of Excellence." The one-day celebration at the AIT Conference Center was headlined by special alumni speaker Mr. Chaovalit Ekabut (IE&M, 1980-'82), who delivered a moving keynote speech titled: "Looking Back and Looking Ahead – AIT and SOM". Currently the Vice President for Finance and Investment and CFO for Siam Cement Group, Mr. Chaovalit shared

poignant insights from his professional and personal life since graduating from AIT (IE&M) in 1982, saying to today's SOM students: "Your journey is yours, enjoy it."

School of Management Dean Dr. Donyaprueth Krairit and AIT Vice President Prof. Sivanappan Kumar presided over the event which attracted prominent alumni from the Philippines, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Thailand, as well as faculty, staff, students and other SOM alumni.



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## Norway Ambassador visits, meets NMFA-AIT scholars from Myanmar



From left: Prof. Sahas Bunditkul, Dr. Subin Pinkayan, H.E. Mr. Kjetil Paulsen, and Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai.

Ambassador of Norway to Thailand and Cambodia H.E. Mr. Kjetil Paulsen on 14 October 2014 led a delegation representing the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA) on a visit to AIT. The delegation included Mr. Erik Svedahl, Minister Counsellor, Norway Embassy, Bangkok; Dr. Chatri Moonstan, Senior Program Officer, Norway Embassy, Bangkok; and Mr. Andreas Johan Vogt, NMFA trainee.

Norway's diplomats were welcomed to the Institute for discussions on collaboration by H.E. Dr. Subin Pinkayan, Chairman of the AIT Board of Trustees; Prof. Emeritus Dr. Sahas Bunditkul, Chairman of the AIT Executive Committee, and Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai, President, AIT. Ambassador Paulsen met the large contingent of Myanmar students funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA) Scholarship Program.

## DAAD scholars receive certificates from Germany's Ambassador to Thailand

Twenty-nine current students from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam who are recipients of German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Scholarships were welcomed to the German Embassy, Bangkok on 15 October 2014 for a special recognition ceremony.



H.E. Ambassador Rolf Schulze

Each DAAD scholar received an official scholarship certificate from the Ambassador of Germany to Thailand H.E. Ambassador Rolf Schulze, and the Director of the DAAD Information Center, Thailand, Mr. Johannes Gorbert. "You become a part of the family of German alumni," said Ambassador Schulze, as he welcomed the students and asked them to maintain close contact with Germany throughout their professional lives.

## Israeli Ambassador stresses focus on entrepreneurship programs



H.E. Dr. Subin Pinkayan (left) with H.E. Mr. Simon Roded.

Ambassador of Israel to Thailand, H.E. Mr. Simon Roded has stressed the need for cultivating entrepreneurship in universities. In his maiden visit to AIT on 28 October 2014, the ambassador invited the senior AIT management to visit Israel and experience the uniqueness of Israeli entrepreneurship and its academia-industry incubation programs.

In tune with the vision of the Chairman of AIT Board of Trustees, H.E. Dr. Subin Pinkayan, who has proposed an Engineering Leadership and Entrepreneurship Program, H.E. Roded stated that universities are increasingly paying more attention to entrepreneurship, innovation and application-based technologies. The ambassador met with H.E. Dr. Subin Pinkayan, AIT President Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai, and senior AIT officials.

## AIT President outlines plan in alumni meeting

AIT President Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai has outlined a multi-pronged plan for strengthening the Institute. In a meeting with delegates from the AIT Alumni Association (Thailand) on 30 September 2014, Prof. Worsak highlighted forward-looking plans including modernization of the library, an external academic audit, and an external audit of the Institute's financial control and governance system.

The delegation of AIT Alumni Association Thailand Chapter (AITAA-Thailand), was led by its Vice President Mr. Supachai Rakpanitmanee, Managing Director Panya Consultants Co., Ltd. Speaking on behalf of the Thai alumni, Mr. Supachai offered his sincere congratulations and expressed his delight at the appointment of Prof. Worsak. He mentioned that their visit coincided with the appointment of Mr. Chusak Gaywee, President of AITAA-Thailand, as the new Director General of Thailand's Department of Highways. Mr. Chusak was scheduled to attend the meeting, but had sent his apologies due to an urgent matter arising



Prof. Worsak Kanok Nukulchai (left) being greeted by AITAA (Thailand).

out of his new responsibility.

Prof. Worsak expressed his appreciation for the continued support of AITAA (Thailand), and stated that his priority during the preceding year as Interim President had been to solve the financial crisis, and to normalize AIT's relationship with the Royal Thai Government.

Details about the meeting can be read at this link: <http://goo.gl/Bp96un>

## India's Ministry of Human Resource Development underlines AIT among its international collaborations

AIT is one of the two foreign institutes listed by the Government of India in its latest listing of technical institutions supported by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD). Further, it is the only institute outside of India that is listed under the Government's Externally Aided Projects/International Collaboration (EAPIC) program.

Describing AIT as an "autonomous International postgraduate Institute which provides advanced education in engineering, science and allied fields," the MHRD states that AIT is an autonomous institute with its management being entrusted to an International Board of Trustees. It adds that India's Ambassador in Bangkok is a member of the Board of Trustees of AIT. MHRD also provides support to AIT by way of secondment of Indian Faculty for a period of 16 weeks in selected areas of specialization.



Screenshot of the website of India's Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD).

AIT and the Colombo Plan Staff College for Technician Education (CPSC), Manila, Philippines, are the only international institutes listed on the MHRD website.

## UNOCAL Myanmar grants scholarships to two AIT students

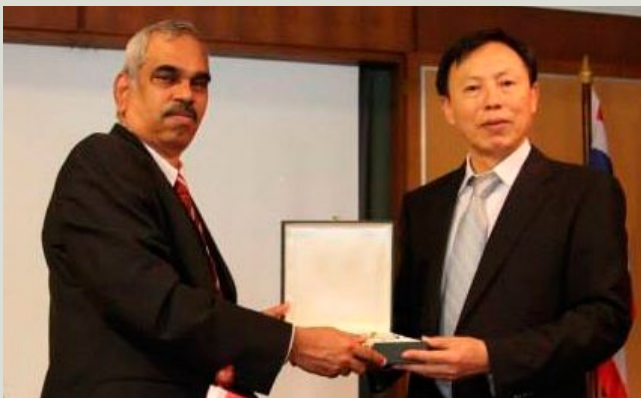


*Mr. Mariano L Vela (center) with UNOCAL scholarship recipients.*

UNOCAL Myanmar has granted two scholarships to students studying at AIT. Handing over the scholarship cheque to AIT on 27 October 2014, Mr. Mariano L. Vela, President, Unocal Myanmar Offshore Co. Ltd., stated that the scholarships mark the beginning of a partnership with AIT.

“The challenges in Myanmar are technological, particularly the issue of hydrocarbon extraction in deep waters,” Mr. Mariano said. Institutions like AIT can help in educating students and laying the foundation for tackling such technological challenges, he added. Both scholarship recipients, Ms. Hnin Pann Phyu of Telecommunications field of study, and Ms. May Thazin Khine of Structural Engineering field of study, who are from Myanmar, thanked the donor for helping them realize their dream of pursuing studies at AIT.

## AIT invited to join China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week



*Prof. Sivanappan Kumar of AIT with Mr. Liu Baoli (right).*

AIT has been invited to participate in the China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week to be held in July 2015 in Guizhou province, People’s Republic of China.

Inviting AIT was a delegation of officials from the China-ASEAN Center and the organizing committee of the China-ASEAN Education Week. Led by Mr. Liu Baoli, Secretary-General, ASEAN China Education Summit, and former member of the AIT Board of Trustees, the delegation visited AIT on 22 October 2014. The delegation, which was to attend the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) Conference, stated that close to 300 agreements had been signed between China and ASEAN Universities.

## AIT hosts International Symposium on Water Resources Management



*Dr. Chihiro Yoshimura*

AIT was host to an International Symposium on Environmental Flow and Water Resources Management on 30-31 October 2014. Jointly organized by AIT and Tokyo Institute of Technology, the symposium also saw participation from Yangon Institute of Technology, Myanmar; Royal University of Bhutan, Bhutan; University of Tokyo, Japan; and Beijing Normal University, China. According to Dr. Sangam Shrestha of Water Engineering and Management field of study at AIT, 55 participants, including 20 delegates from six countries, attended the symposium.

Prof. Sivanappan Kumar, Vice President for Academic Affairs, AIT; and Dr. Chihiro Yoshimura of Tokyo Institute of Technology delivered the welcome remarks.

## New book on 'Improving Air Quality in Asian Developing Countries: Compilation of Research Findings'



A new book edited by AIT professor Nguyen Thi Kim Oanh titled "Improving Air Quality in Asian Developing Countries: Compilation of Research Findings" has been released.

The 379-page book funded by Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) was published in October 2014 by the Vietnam Publishing House of

Natural Resources, Environment and Cartography (NARENCA) Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Vietnam. It is a compilation of research findings of the 10-year "Air Pollution Research Network for Improving Air Quality in Asian Developing Countries" (AIRPET) and includes both technical information and policy recommendations. Prof. Kim Oanh, who is based at the Environmental Engineering and Management program at the School of Environment, Resources and Development, was the principal investigator of the AIRPET regional project and the leader of the AIT research team. Prof. Chongrak Polprasert was the Co-principal investigator and Prof. Eva Selin Lindgren was the Swedish Resource Person.

## Dr. Sohee Minsun Kim joins AIT



Dr. Sohee Minsun Kim has joined the School of Environment, Resources and Development (SERD) at AIT as Assistant Professor. She will be based at the Urban Environmental Management (UEM) program.

A South Korean national, Dr. Kim completed her Ph.D. and Master's from the Graduate School of Engineering, University of Tokyo, Japan, in 2012 and 2009, respectively. She completed her Bachelor's in Architecture and Landscape Design Course from Tama Art University, Tokyo, Japan. Prior to joining AIT, she worked as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at United Nations University – Institute of Sustainability and Peace (UNU-ISP), Tokyo, Japan. She also served as Research Fellow at the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Tokyo. Dr. Kim was also a visiting researcher at Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India, and a research assistant at the University of Tokyo and Nomura Research Institute, Tokyo.

### OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY



**CAHYAWAN  
CATUR EDI  
MARGANA**

### Condolence ceremony

A condolence meeting was held on 14 October 2014 for Mr. Cahyawan Catur Edi Margana, an Indonesian doctoral student of Food Engineering and Bioprocess Technology, School of Environment, Resources and Development (SERD). He passed away due to a 'Pontine Hemorrhage' on 11 October 2014. He was 50.



## ‘Coloring My Home: AIT’ competition for kids



The AIT Campus Sustainability Club successfully organized a drawing competition for children of the AIT community on 11 October 2014. “Coloring My Home: AIT” was the underlying theme of the competition which was open to kids of

the AIT International School, and children of AIT faculty, staff and students. Forty-five children artists from the AIT community participated in the competition.

The event held outdoors on the patio of the central campus fountain was an initiative to involve kids from the AIT community, with the theme of environmental sustainability applied in a fun and interactive way.

## News You Can Use

### Pros and cons of bilingual education

The Washington Post had an interesting story by Valerie Strauss titled “Why is bilingual education ‘good’ for rich kids but ‘bad’ for poor, immigrant students?”

The article mentioned that “Multilingualism is the norm with 163 of the world’s 195 countries officially bi- or multilingual. More than half the world’s population uses more than one language.”

Read the entire article at this link:  
<http://goo.gl/gmTxIn>

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