



102 students from 16 countries join AIT

One hundred and two students arriving from 16 countries made up the newest batch of incoming students at the Orientation Program organized at AIT on 8 January 2013. Seventy-nine students have enrolled in various Master's program and the remaining 23 are exchange students in the Bachelor's program.

The students come from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Finland, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Korea, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Seychelles, Sweden and Thailand.

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AIT School of Management Masters and MBA programs rank high regionally & globally



Several AIT School of Management graduate degree programs are near the top of regional and global tables, according to a newly released Eduniversal Ranking of the world's Best Masters and MBA programs.

In the 2012-2013 ranking of the best 4000 Masters and MBA Pro-

grams in 30 specializations at 1000 business schools and universities in 154 countries, a number of School of Management (SOM) programs ranked high globally. Master of Agribusiness Management, Professional Masters in Corporate Social Responsibility, Master of Business Administration (MBA), Professional Masters in Technology Management, Professional Masters in Banking and Finance and Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) all were ranked highly. Details are available at this link:

<http://tiny.cc/2x4qrw>

Second tranche of Norwegian scholarships unveiled

Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA) scholarships for the year 2013 were unveiled at Yangon, Myanmar at a press conference organized on 14 January 2013. The scholarships will be granted to eligible Myanmar citizens to pursue post-graduate studies at AIT.



Potential applicants and local media attended the launch and the press conference. Mr. Tin Maung Thann, President of Myanmar Egress, Ms. Alice Kaam, President AIT Alumni (Myanmar Chapter) and Mr. Arne Jan Flolo, Chargé d'affaires of the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Yangon, spoke on the occasion and highlighted the importance of the scholarship program for Myanmar students. AIT was represented by Mr. Ahmed Amjad Ali, Head, External Relations and Communications Office (ERCO), and Dr. Theo Ebberts, Wetlands Alliance Outreach Coordinator.

Governance of global environmental change for sustainability



Mr Ruben Zondervan

Building on principles of environmental policy and nature conservation, the concept of Earth System Governance puts them into a broader context of human-induced transformations of the entire earth system. Elaborating on Earth System Governance was Mr. Ruben Zondervan, its Executive Director, in a talk delivered at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) on 18 January 2012.

Issues of architecture of Earth System Governance, agencies, 'adaptiveness' of the mechanisms, accountability, and allocation and access form the core of the research framework. This 10-year research program has nine research centers, and the International Project Office is located at the Lund University Centre for Sustainable Studies (LUCSUS), Lund University, Sweden.

AIT signs agreement for e-Women program in Myanmar



Dr. Ram C Bhujel (left) with H.E. Mr. U Myint Swe.

University of Tuscia, Italy, and Environmental and Economic Research Institute (EERi), Myanmar have signed an agreement with AIT to implement a community development program titled “Development of Rural Aquaculture through Entrepreneurship in Women in Myanmar.” The inception meeting was held at Yangon on 10 January 2013, where Chief Minister of Yangon, H.E. Mr. U Myint Swe, inaugurated a one-day seminar, which was attended by the Ambassador of Italy to Myanmar, H.E. Mr. Paolo Andrea Bartorelli.

TUST seeks partnership with AIT, offers summer scholarships for students

Tianjin University of Science and Technology (TUST), China has expressed its desire to foster a partnership with AIT. The University is keen to strengthen its international research collaboration, and can offer summer scholarships to students from AIT.

This sentiment was expressed by a delegation of TUST comprising of Prof. Wang Xuehui, Vice President for Research and International Education; Prof. W U Zhenjun, Director of Office of International Exchanges; and Prof Meng Chao, Dean of College of Arts, during their visit to AIT on 22 January 2013.



From left: Prof. Wang Xuehui, Prof. W U Zhenjun, and Prof. Meng Chao.

AIT, Kandahar University ink MoU



Prof. Said Irandoust (left) and Prof. Hazrat Mir Totakhil

AIT has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Kandahar University to broaden and intensify its partnership with the university in southern Afghanistan.

Signing the MoU on 25 January 2013 with Kandahar University (KU) Chancellor Prof. Hazrat Mir Totakhil, AIT President Prof. Said Irandoust said the Institute looked forward to continuing its efforts to assist rebuilding in the country through higher learning development. The four-year MoU will enable cooperation between AIT and KU by providing human resource development, curriculum enhancement, strengthening of research capability, institutional development and other partnership programs.

January 2013 Orientation



1-2, 8 New students 3. Prof. Louis Hornyak, Director, Center for Learning, Innovation and Quality (CLIQ) 4. Prof. Said Irandoust, AIT President 5. Dr. Barbara Igel, Dean, School of Management (SOM) 6. Dr. Nitin V Afzulpurkar, Dean, School of Engineering and Technology (SET) 7. Dr. Amaratatne Yakupitiyage, Associate Dean, School of Environment, Resources and Development (SERD) 9. Ms. Saengabha Srisopaporn, President, AIT Student Union (AITSU).

Dr Shobhakar Dhakal co-edits special issue of Yale University Journal



Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal

Yale University's Journal of Industrial Ecology has published a special issue on Sustainable Urban Systems that focuses on the integration of engineered infrastructures, people, and natural systems in the pursuit of sustainable cities. The special issue generates new insights using the notion of "urban metabolism." An integrated-understanding of the urban system and its sustainability synergies and tradeoffs is a

must in the unprecedented era of urbanization," said Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal, Associate Professor of Energy at AIT, who is one of the co-editors of the special issue.

AIT alumnus receives Giuseppe Pellizzi International Best PhD award

Dr. Parish Nalavade, an alumnus of AIT has been honored for his doctoral work, which he concluded at AIT. Dr. Parish was awarded the third prize in the inaugural edition of the "Giuseppe Pellizzi International Best PhD Prize" during the twenty-third annual meeting of the Club of Bologna.



Dr. Parish Nalavade (extreme right) receiving the award.

The award is granted for the finest doctoral thesis on agricultural mechanics published during the past two years. The doctoral thesis titled "Modeling of Soil and Powered-Disc Interactions for Development of a Powered-Disc Harrow," was guided by Dr. Peeyush Soni, Assistant Professor, AIT's School of Environment, Resources and Development (SERD).

SOM alumnus wins Emerald / EFMD Award

AIT alumnus Dr. Assadej Vanichchinchai has won the 2012 Emerald/EFMD Outstanding Doctoral Research Award in the category of Operations and Production Management for his doctoral research on "The Relationship between Quality Management and Supply Chain Management: An Analysis of the Automotive Industry in Thailand". Dr. Assadej earned a doctorate (Doctor of Philosophy 2009) from the AIT School of Management (SOM).

Hokkaido University showcases micro-satellite technology



Dr. Yukihiro Takahashi

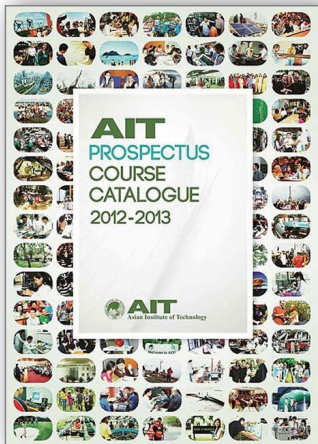
With construction of conventional satellites being costly and challenging, the concept of micro-satellites is picking up globally. Micro-satellites offer the benefits of low cost and customized on-demand operational parameters. Presenting micro-satellite technology and the concept of an Asian Micro-satellite Consortium (AMC) was Dr. Yukihiro Takahashi, Director of Space Mission Center, and Department of CosmoSciences, Hokkaido University, during a visit to AIT on 22 January 2013.

Dr. Takahashi said that the super-constellation of micro satellites could scan any location in the world within seven and a half minutes. He also offered that students from AIT could work at Hokkaido University on the project.



Dr. Assadej Vanichchinchai

Prospectus 2012-2013 describes over 1000 courses at AIT



Just in time for student recruitment season, Prospectus 2012-2013 is a new AIT publication unveiled to the public by the Media and Communications Unit (MCU).

The 315-page book contains codes and descriptions for more than 1000 courses offered at over 75 Fields of Study and Academic Programs at the Asian Institute of Technology.

AIT Prospectus 2012-13 is designed to assist prospective students interested in applying to AIT. It contains general introductions to all Fields of Study at AIT's three Schools and International Undergraduate Programs, and consolidates information on application procedures and eligibility requirements.

Descriptions of preferred backgrounds for applicants, as well as typical study plans for Master's and Doctoral students, are included in the Field of Study sections.

The document can be downloaded at this link:

http://www.ait.asia/news-and-events/publications/ait_prospectus2012.pdf

News You Can Use

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Top papers of 2012 in Social Media

Your paper is quoted in the academia, but what about the social media?

Nature points out that "One of the promises of altmetrics — an approach to measuring attention on research papers that relies on alternative measures to citations, such as downloads, social media mentions and collections in online libraries — is that it could provide an almost real-time view of the papers provoking most excitement. Citations, by contrast, are inevitably slow to gather pace."

The top paper was on biological impacts of the Fukushima nuclear accident which had 2,142 people tweeting; 9 on blogs; 3 reddit posts; 131 Facebook posts and 9 G+ direct links).

Read more at this link: <http://blogs.nature.com/news/2012/12/what-were-the-top-papers-of-2012-on-social-media.html>



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