

Special Event: H.E. Dr. Thanat Khoman Lecture

Thursday, February, 22nd, 2018 | Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok, Grand Ballroom I
6:00 - 8:00 PM

THE ASIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

is pleased to Host the Inaugural

H.E. Dr. Thanat Khoman Lecture Series

Sponsored by:

The John F. Kennedy Foundation of
Thailand for Thai-American Friendship



The John F. Kennedy Foundation of Thailand for Thai-American Friendship is sponsoring a special lecture series in honor of H.E. Dr. Thanat Khoman, the late Chairman Emeritus of the AIT Board of Trustees and former Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Thailand.



RATIONALE

The United States of America played an instrumental role in the foundation of the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), initially through its support of the SEATO Graduate School of Engineering (SEATO-GSE) which was hosted by Chulalongkorn University at its downtown Bangkok campus until 1967, and later as key guiding force for AIT's overall development, as one of the Asian region's foremost international institutes of higher learning.

Created in 1959 by Royal Decree of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the SEATO-GSE was the sole graduate school of advanced engineering in a region. From the very beginning, it was a group of intrepid, bold and committed academicians from Colorado State University (CSU) who answered the call from the Government of the United States to engineer a new kind of postgraduate institute in a far-away tropical land. And when the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand agreed to take the fledgling school under its wing, Dr. Thanat Khoman, the young Foreign Minister of Thailand, became a key figure in its history. The Thai statesman signed the acceptance of the School into Thailand, and later became the longest serving Chairman of the Board of Trustees of AIT.

H.E. Dr. Thanat Khoman was a legendary Thai diplomat and statesman who helped found the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). He was born in Bangkok on May 9, 1914, to a prominent Thai family. His father was a justice of the Supreme Court of Thailand. He was appointed ambassador to the United States in 1957. As foreign minister from 1959 to 1971, Dr. Thanat forged close ties with the United States.

With President John F. Kennedy in the White House, Dr. Thanat negotiated what became known as the Rusk-Thanat communiqué with Secretary of State Dean Rusk, in which the United States pledged to defend Thailand in the event of aggression. He was impressed with President Kennedy, whom he had met in 1961. After the president's assassination in 1963, he started the John F. Kennedy Foundation in Thailand to provide scholarships for Thai students overseas.

Dr. Thanat's statesmanship for Thailand on the global scene was recognized in 1967 when the country was chosen as the site for the signing of ASEAN's founding document, known as the Bangkok Declaration. H.E. Dr. Thanat Khoman passed away on 3 March 2016 at the age of 101.

PROGRAM: Thanat Khoman Lecture

Dr. Adrian Ray Chamberlain

Former President, Colorado State University, United States of America

Dr. Adrian Chamberlain, former President of the Colorado State University, is our esteemed and honored inaugural Keynote Speaker for the H.E. Dr. Thanat Khoman Lecture Series



Title

Visions for Thailand's Higher Education Leadership as a Regional Hub for Science, Technology and Innovation in the 21st Century Global Society

Summary: The challenges facing humanity in the 21st Century are global. Thailand can play a key role as a regional hub for science, technology and innovative solutions. Higher education and industrial leaders in Thailand can work to promote the country as the 'Cal. Tech. and M.I.T. of Southeast Asia.' This calls for wide public support, key major research goals and plans, selection and recruitment of a few intellectual leaders, development of an endowment plan and years of hard work. The private sector in cooperation with university leaders can formulate educational achievement goals that can induce major societal benefits for the coming century.

This special event is co-organized by the Asian Institute of Technology and Chulalongkorn University under the sponsorship of the JFK Foundation Thailand.

PROGRAM

Venue: Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok Hotel, Grand Ballroom I

Master of Ceremonies: **Dr. John D. Nelson,**
Professor Emeritus, Colorado State University; Former CEO, Engineering Analytics, Inc.;
Vice Chairperson, AIT Board of Trustees

6:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Registration/ Cocktail Reception and Networking
6:30 – 6:45 pm	Pre-Lecture Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reflections by Khun Srilaksana Khoman, Dr. Thanat's daughter-in-law. Khun Srilaksana will speak about her father-in-law, the man and his programs, and his times as Ambassador and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand.• Reflections by H.E. Mr. Vitthya Vejjajiva, H.E. Ambassador Vitthya Vejjajiva, Former Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to the United States of America, Belgium, European Commission and Canada. Former Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand.
6:45- 7:45 PM	Keynote Address By Dr. Adrian Ray Chamberlain , Former President, Colorado State University, United States of America
7:45 – 8:00 PM	Thank You and Concluding Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Dr. Subin Pinkayan, Chairman of the AIT Board of Trustees and Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of Thailand. Dr. Subin extends his thanks to Dr. Chamberlain on behalf of AIT.• Ms. Doris Wibunsin, Honorary Treasurer John F. Kennedy Foundation of Thailand for Thai-American Friendship extends her thanks to Dr. Chamberlain on behalf of the John F. Kennedy Foundation of Thailand for Thai-American Friendship.

Please kindly register your participation through the below link.

Registration Link: [Click Here](#)

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