

Citation for the conferral of a  
Honorary Doctor of Science (*honoris causa*)

**Professor Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai, Ph.D.**

President, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand

Throughout his career as researcher, faculty member, Dean, Vice President and now President of Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), a renowned international institute serving the development needs of Asia, Professor Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai, a Thai Citizen, has maintained a commitment to AIT in its mission as the regional higher educational hub and neutral platform for international cooperation since 1959.

As a Fulbright Scholar and a doctoral degree holder from the prestigious University of California at Berkeley, Professor Worsak disregarded many lucrative job offers in the US, and instead opted for a relatively junior faculty position at his alma mater to pursue his dream career since 1979.

Success comes only to those who dream. After 20 years of advanced research with more than 150 publications and 1,800 international citations, Prof. Worsak was recognized by the National Research Council of Thailand as the "Thailand's National Researcher of the Year" in 1999. Today, Professor Worsak leads an expert team in the development of Thailand's first National Open-Source Software Package for Finite Element (FEM) Engineering Modeling. This is a national project of Thailand's National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA), to reduce Thailand's dependence on foreign commercial software.

As a well-known academician in Asia, Professor Worsak was instrumental in establishing the prominent series of the East Asia Pacific Conference on Structural Engineering and Construction (EASEC), a biannual event hosted in different Asian cities. In 2008, he was awarded the "Fumio Nishino Award" for his outstanding contribution in Structural Engineering Profession in Asia and the Pacific.

At the global level, Professor Worsak served in the Board of Directors of Japan's International Construction Technology Information Institute (ICTII), and Vice President (Asia) of the Global Alliance for Disaster Reduction (GADR). In 2006, Professor Worsak was awarded "Fellow of the International Association of Computational Mechanics (IACM)" for his contributions in the field of Computational Mechanics.

With his early success in research, Professor Worsak was lured into administration, as School Dean in 2000 and as Vice President for Resource Development in 2009. In a short critical period following the 2-month flood inundation of the campus in 2011, AIT suffered its worst financial crisis in its 55-year history. AIT's Board of Trustees in July 2013 appointed Professor Worsak as AIT's Interim President to rescue AIT from this precarious financial position. Impressed with his performance, the Board of Trustees decided to appoint Professor Worsak as the new President for a term of 4 years. Without disappointing the AIT Community, by the end of 2014, Professor Worsak has guided AIT out of this crisis.

Under his leadership, Professor Worsak is the strong proponent of the collaboration between Asian Institute of Technology and Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences - Deemed University (SHIATS- DU). The two Institutions, founded 50 years apart, have had a common goal - to bring prosperity to the people through advanced education.

For his wisdom and dedication, as a scholar and top administrator of an international institute with the noble goal to foster international cooperation in this Asian Century, Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences is proud to name Professor Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai - Honoris Causa Doctor of Science (D.Sc.).

*Dated this Eighteenth Day of March Two Thousand and Fifteen*