



MFU

INTERNATIONAL
NEWSLETTER

Our New President

Associate Professor Dr. Ted Tesprateep

A Message from the President of Mae Fah Luang University



It is the highest honor for me to be appointed by the University Council to be the second president of Mae Fah Luang University. Since October 2nd 2009, I have been entrusted to be the second president after Assoc.Prof.Dr. Vanchai Sirichana, the founding president, and the person who recruited and invited me after my deanship of veterinary school, Chiang Mai University to work as his academic vice-president in the year 2001.

Throughout the period of my vice-presidency, I have learnt about work ethics and principles from Assoc.Prof.Dr. Vanchai Sirichana. I also have received suggestions and continuous support from the University Council. These have allowed me to conduct and complete my duty successfully.

The determination and devotion of Assoc.Prof.Dr. Vanchai Sirichana is my inspiration. Because of his devotion, his creativity, and his determination, the University has rapidly developed in various aspects, academically, physically, and administratively. These aspects signify the magnificent vision of the founding president, which will in turn be my inspiration. He is a role model for me and for the generations after generations of MFU administrative teams.

I and my administrative team will take the advice and follow the mission of the administrative work from the University Council and the founding president in order to develop the university's academic quality as well as other aspects of the university's work, so that MFU will be recognized at both national and international levels.

I would like to thank all supporters who have been so generous to me so that I am able to continue this honorable responsibility effectively. Finally, I would like to pledge my oath that I will be determined and devoted to develop Mae Fah Luang with all my ability.

Assoc.Prof.Dr. Ted Tesprateep
President of Mae Fah Luang University

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#41 Mar, 23, 2010

MFU Vision in the Next Decade



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ted Tesprateep
President of Mae Fah Luang University

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Mae Fah Luang University has been developed by the determination and sacrifice of Assoc.Prof.Dr. Vanchai Sirichana, our founding president and Chairman of the Committee Board. It is my commitment to maintain this management philosophy and to prolong the effective tasks, which have been widely recognized nationally, regionally and internationally.

The first 10 years of operation of Mae Fah Luang University has been the pioneering stage. It was necessary to form the main elements of a university. Although the impressive growth of the university has left some untidy trails, fortunately, working as a Vice President at Mae Fah Luang University for eight years, I am acquainted with these issues, and I have worked alongside Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vanchai Sirichana to manage them and carry on his determination to achieve the ambitious objectives of Mae Fah Luang University.

For the next decade, Mae Fah Luang University will continue to follow Her Royal Highness the Princess Mothers “*Reforestation and Human-Resources Development*” determination academically, physically and financially, with the additional initiative to strengthen our relationship with society and convey our knowledge and experiences to benefit people within the community.

Academically, focusing on using English as a medium of instruction from the beginning, the priority in developing both students’ and teachers’ efficiency is an essential process to maximize effectiveness. We will develop by Problem Based Learning (PBL) pedagogy and support all human capacity development. MFU will gradually turn into a fully knowledge-based organization.



While MFU continues to develop the academic system, keeping up with the physical environment and landscape tasks is also going as planned. The new buildings are under construction to support the increasing needs. Mae Fah Luang University is famous for its stunning surroundings. Hence, the 5-year-plan botanical garden project to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of His Majesty the King has been processed and planted with many varieties of flora and trees.

Financially, apart from government financial support, the university increases revenue by offering academic services such as training, research, and research consultation.





At the end of 2009, the Medical Program is planned to open to support the MFU Hospital and pre-clinic. Moreover, the Organic Agricultural Program, which is practicing organic plantation, is another interest and will become a new trend that saves humans from unnecessary and potentially hazardous chemicals.

Finally, as a university of opportunity, MFU will provide more opportunity to ethnic groups in Thailand. I believe that there should not be any obstacle to prevent anybody from further education. Our future tasks are to produce graduates who possess wider perspectives and are ready to be *"World Citizens"*.

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International Events

International Workshop “Strategic Research Framework of NREMC and GMS/UniNet on NREM”

Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Management (NREM Center), Mae Fah Luang University organized the International Workshop “Strategic Research Framework of NREMC and GMS/UniNet on NREM” on October 8-9, 2009 at Mae Fah Luang University.

This workshop aims to enhance research capacity for the region through cooperation within the academic network of the member universities in the GMS/UniNet of NREM in consultation with the development partners and donor agencies and to identify and plan a comprehensive research program and discuss the feasibility, scope, institutional integration, and key dimensions of the program and prioritize research areas for implementation.

The workshop was participated by 55 people representing various universities in the UniNet namely Royal University of Phnom Penh, Yunnan Agricultural University and Kasetsart University, other academic institution namely University of Tokyo, Asian Institute of Technology, and Mahasarakham University, and also development agencies namely GMS Environment Operations Center, IUCN Asia Regional Office and Stockholm Environment Institute Asian Center.



The workshop came to the resolutions regarding the research priorities for the UniNet to implement namely (1) transboundary and cross-cutting NREM issues including smoke/fire problems and other policy issues, (2) clean Development Mechanism (CDM) issues, (3) land and water resource management and (4) biodiversity conservation and livelihood intervention in the transnational context. Furthermore, the participants identified the capacity building strengthening by setting an Uninet website as an interactive learning tool for information sharing and new knowledge acquisition for the UniNet, organizing intensive training courses on specific issues periodically by NREMC for the Uninet, and organizing UniNet seminar workshops in rotation among countries.

The International Workshop “Erasmus Mundus, Mobility for Life”



The International Workshop “Erasmus Mundus, Mobility for Life” is held and hosted by Mae Fah Luang University (MFU) on the 12th October 2009 which marked the start of the Erasmus Mandus External Cooperation Window, Lot 11, in Asia. The European Union (EU) attaché and 20 delegates from leading universities from Europe, South Asia, and South East Asia gather in this workshop at MFU—the only Thai Partner—to discuss the mobility of students in all levels, lecturers, researchers and educational administrators between and within European and Asian region. Mobility has been stressed as a key for educational advancement, sustainable development, poverty reduction and also stressed on disadvantage groups.

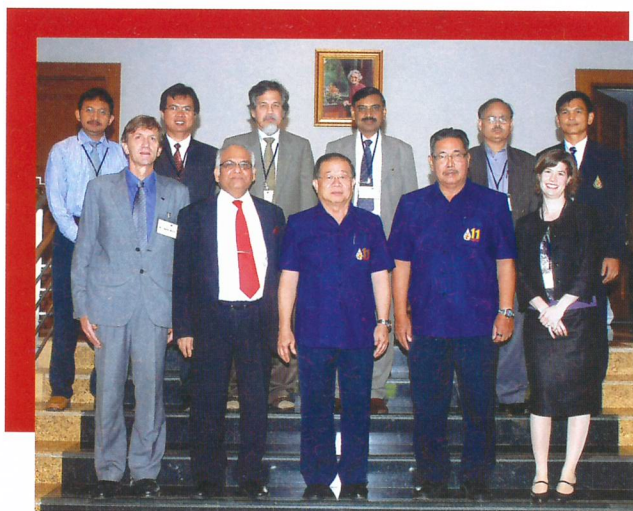
“Exchange of teaching and research experiences are perceived as a platform for continued and extended collaboration in the future between Asia and Europe. Mobility in the field of education is a key to bridge the gap between developing and developed countries which should lead to poverty reduction. That is the reason why EC is in a full support of this 4 years Mobility for Life project” mentioned **Mr. Mads Korn**, the attaché of the EC Cooperation in Education.

“Mobility in the field of education is a key to bridge the gap between developing and developed countries which should lead to poverty reduction.”

Assoc.Prof.Dr. Vanchai Sirichana, the founding president of MFU emphasizes that *“the mobility of the human resources within the educational field, on the higher education level, should not focus only on the privilege class. Rather, the disadvantaged groups such as deprived ethnic students, poor students, students with disabilities, and students with less gender equality should also be included and prioritized within this project for the long term goals of sustainable development and poverty eradication.”*

Assoc.Prof.Dr. Ted Tesprateep, the president of MFU stresses that *“the exchanges of teaching under this project do not only include the issues of content and curriculum exchanges but it also emphasizes particularly on the sharing of pedagogy or methods of teaching. It should be noted that MFU has now signed the Collaboration Agreement with Aalborg University in Denmark which its director is currently act as the UNESCO Chair of Problem Based Learning and operate the Center for user driven innovation learning and design.”* Dr.Ted also announced that *“MFU is now ready to be a pioneer university in Problem Based Learning in the country and also be the learning hub for the Greater Mekong Sub-region—GMS.”*

Prof.Ramjee Prasad, the project coordinator of the Erasmus Mundus, Mobility for Life project from Aalborg University, spells out that *“the project for the next 4 years will facilitate the exchange on selected thematic areas i.e. engineering, geography, business, education, medical sciences and pharmacy, social sciences and others like gender studies. These themes are selected to be taught and learnt employing PBL pedagogy. PBL is emphasized as a teaching tool because of its roles’ enhancement of education in local and regional development.”*



International Events



Prof. Dr. Santi Leksukhum

Seminar on “Cultural relations studies between Thailand-Burma: the effect on Lanna’s culture”

On October 18, 2009, the Office of National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT) and the French-Upper Mekong Sub-region Academic Cooperation Centre, Mae Fah Luang University co-organized the academic seminar on “*Cultural relations studies between Thailand-Burma: the effect on Lanna’s culture*” at Mae Fah Luang University.



This seminar aims to enlarge vision of culture related in Thailand-Burma, to develop the multidisciplinary studies, and also to create young researchers for universal researches and development. Speakers of the seminar were **Prof. Dr. Santi Leksukhum**, Professor Emeritus, **Dr. Surapone Virulruk** and **Dr. Weerapun Shinawatra**, Philosophy Branch, National Research Council of Thailand, and **Kamol Sarikanont**, Lecturer, Chiangrai Vocational College. The seminar was participated by 40 people representing various

groups such as NRCT Committee, government officials from Chiangrai and neighboring provinces, MFU staffs and students and interested individuals.

In conclusion, the participants had a good chance to exchange their cultural knowledge of Thailand and Burma, especially Lanna which would lead to the academic and research collaboration network in the near future.

Active Learning Workshop

On October 27, 2009, Division of International Affairs organized Active Learning Workshop at the Office of the President Building, Mae Fah Luang University. The workshop was facilitated by **Dr. Barbara S. Heyl** and **Dr. William C. Rau**, Fulbright specialists and Professor Emeritus/Emerita of Sociology, School of Social Work, Illinois State University. Fulbright has funded the workshop with the objectives of disseminating knowledge and sharing experiences with MFU lecturers regarding problems in pedagogy through active learning activities.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ted Tesprateep, the President of Mae Fah Luang University reassured that MFU has shifted gear and carefully crafted the best pedagogy in higher education, paying particular interest in active learning on top of the problem based learning which the university is already engaged.

In this workshop, the facilitators provided theories, contexts and strategies for creating opportunities for cooperative tasks involving students working together in classes. During the workshop the facilitators and participants shared resources, example strategies and assignments, problems, and solutions related to using collaborative and cooperative techniques.





La Réunion University and Centre de Coopération Internationale en recherche Agronomique pour le Développement (CIRAD) joint hands with Mae Fah Luang University for Joint PhD.

On October 27, 2009, Prof. Mohamed ROCHDI, President of La Réunion University and Dr. Gilles MANDRET and Dr. Jean-Charles MAILLARD, executives of Centre de Coopération Internationale en recherche Agronomique pour le Développement (CIRAD—French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development), leading research centre in agriculture, visited Mae Fah Luang University and were warmly welcomed by the President of Mae Fah Luang University, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Ted Tesprateep.



La Réunion University and CIRAD are key French educational institutions based in La Réunion Island, the heart of the Indian Ocean. Both institutions have collaboration on research, teaching and training with the results used for international development.

Its expertise covers the area of life sciences, human sciences and engineering sciences, and their applications to agriculture and food, natural resource management and society.

Upon this visit, an agreement has been reached and the academic collaboration between Mae Fah Luang University, La Réunion University, CIRAD is established. The first step of collaboration will be a joint PhD delivered by MFU and both La Réunion University and CIRAD or their extended counterparts.

Mae Fah Luang University renewed and extended close relations with Yunnan Normal University.

On November 28, 2009, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Ted Tesprateep, President of Mae Fah Luang University welcomed Prof.Dr. Yi Ji Dong, Chairman of the University Board together with Prof. Yuan Yi Chuan, Vice President at Reception Room, Office of the President, Mae Fah Luang University.

On this occasion, the agreement on student exchange was renewed and extended on the area of co-operative education. YNNU students also invited to discuss with YNNU delegates.

MFU and YNNU had firstly signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in academic cooperation and student exchange in 2003 and first renewed in 2006 with already 70 students exchanged.



International Event Scoop

Chinese Brush Painting Exhibition at the Sirindhorn Chinese Language and Culture Center

On September 28, 2009, the Sirindhorn Chinese Language and Culture Center, Confucius Institute, Mae Fah Luang University organized the Chinese Brush Painting Exhibition to commemorate the 2560th anniversary of Confucius and the 60th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.



the painting by Her Royal Highness
Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn

Sixty paintings by Chinese honorable artists were displayed, and three artists from China gave a lecture and demonstrated brush painting.

One of these sixty paintings that put the smile on the audiences was the painting of the small elephant by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn painted in 1992.

Bai Yu Guo, the Director of Confucius Institute said that "the exhibition celebrated the occasion of 60th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Chiang Rai people and all visitors would have a chance to enjoy the paintings."

"The fascination of Chinese Brush Paintings is not about how real the paintings are but rather about the

emotions and feelings expressed through the stroke of the brush. When viewing the paintings, we need to step back to see the overall pictures as there are usually no focus points. The paintings gave impression and we would recognize the shapes of the objects that artists painted. At the same time, we would also feel the emotions of the artists expressed through the strokes. The art of Chinese Brush Paintings are mysterious."

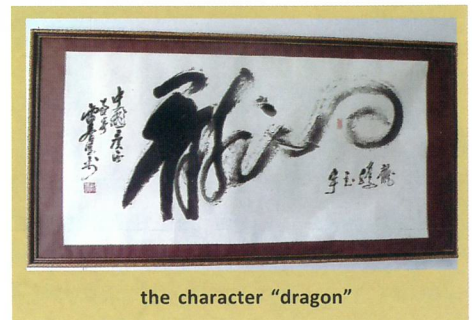


picture of the mountains

"Please have a look at that picture of the mountains, such landscape appears only in China. The artist used the same white color to paint water, fog and cloud from the bottom to the top of the picture because of the painting connection.

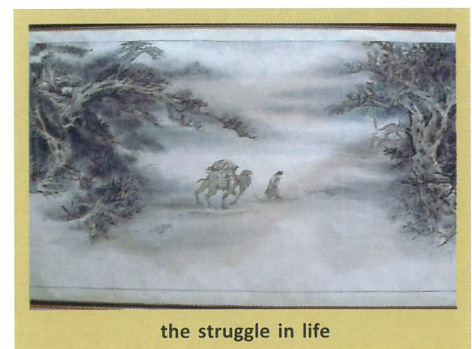
Chinese handwritings were also hung together with brush paintings because the handwriting is recognized in differently from the brush paintings." said Bai Yu Guo

"Chinese is a pictographic language. All characters developed from images. Now, Chinese artists turn characters to images once again." said Bai Yu Guo while pointed to the character "dragon" that the artist had painted as a dragon image.



the character "dragon"

"Some images give us a cautionary remark, and some are auspicious symbols. For example, the painting of Xuanzang's followers represents the struggle in life, the picture of horses represents success, and the image of fish represents abundance."



the struggle in life

The paintings exhibited representing friendship from China during 28 September - 25 October 2009 have fulfilled our heart before the seasons change.

The workshop in Bee Sting (Apitherapy) was, the first organized in Thailand, at the Mae Fah Luang University Hospital



The first Bee acupuncture (Apitherapy) workshop was exhibited during the **9th International Conference on Apitherapy Health Care: International Bee Products Conference & Exposition (IAHB IX)** on November 11-13, 2009, at Mae Fah Luang University Hospital, Mae Fah Luang University, Chiang Rai, Thailand by Chinese bee venom therapists.



Twenty Bee venom therapists demonstrated the applications of bee acupuncture in treating rheumatoid arthritis, neck-shoulder syndromes, tennis elbow, spondylitis, breast cystic hyperplasia, etc.. Twenty-five patients suffering from rheumatism, back pain, skin diseases, spondy-litis were treated during the workshop at the MFU hospital.

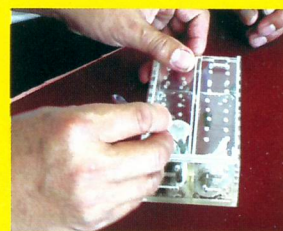
Mrs. Supattra Apinan, one of the patients suffering from foot pain for a year, came directly from Bangkok to receive the treatment. She said that one of her friends suffered from the same type of foot pain and was being treated with bee acupuncture in Hong Kong was later fully recovered. So, she has given herself a try after being treated by steroid injection.



The patients were firstly stung by a bee for the allergy test. Then, after 30 minutes, if the allergy did not occur, they were safe for bee sting treatment. First of all, a live bee is taken out from a plastic bee box and stings on the upper part of the wrist and mark. *"The bee venom therapist should be quick to help reduce the danger from the bee sting and to reduce the pain from the bee sting is to massage the sting point."*



Perform an allergic test

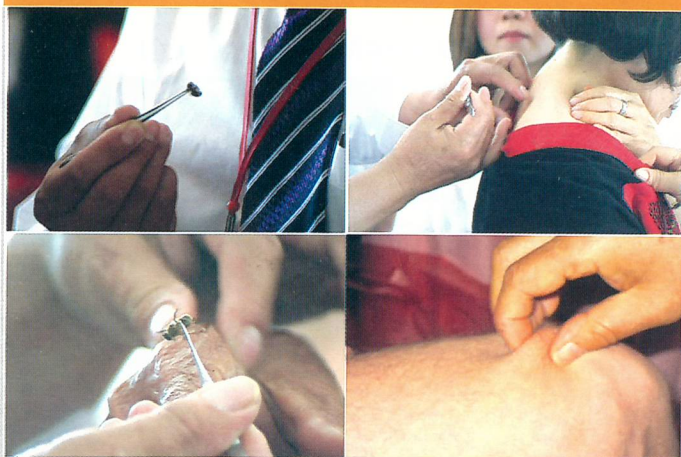


Bee has taken out from a bee keeping box



Prof. Fang Zhu, Kunming Westhill Health Preservation and Apitherapy Health Care Institute, China whose expertise in Apitherapy explicated about the bee sting, allergy test and diseases cure by bee acupuncture during the bee acupuncture workshop.

International Event Scoop



A bee stung at the marking spot and the massage has to be done quickly to reduce pain from bee venom.

Mr. Zeth Rick, a second generation of beekeeper owns an apiary in California, USA, flew directly from USA to Thailand just to know how to treat bee stings during the workshop. *"I have been stung by bees many times and get used to it. Being treated by bee stings felt warm and it was not painful for me."* He added.



Mr. Zeth Rick was treated by the bee venom from the Chinese therapist during the workshop

During the conference, several papers covering Apitherapy: honey, royal jelly, beeswax, bee pollen, and propolis were presented by national and international delegates. The guests of honor were **Dr. Sumate Yamnoon**, Secretary General of the Commission on Higher Education, **Assoc.Prof.Dr. Ted Tesprateep**, the President of Mae Fah Luang University, **Dr. Siriwat Wongsiri**, Dean of School of Science, Mae Fah Luang University and also the President of Asian Apiculture Association (AAA) including the Keynote Speakers: **Prof. Mitsuo Matsuka**, Former President of Asian Apiculture Association (AAA), Honeybee Science Research Centre, Tamagawa University, Machida, Tokyo, Japan elucidated on quality standard of royal jelly. Subsequently, **Ms. Hitomi Enomoto** from Tamagawa University, Japan explained about beekeeping managements for food safety in hive production. **Prof. Kunsuk Woo**, Chairman, CALS, Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea enlightened antibacterial activity of Korean honey in health care. Last but not least, **Prof. Fang Zhu**, Kunming Westhill Health Preservation and Apitherapy Health Care Institute, China

explicated and demonstrated the Apitherapy in health care in China. The conference was participated by eight countries including Belgium, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Singapore, and the USA.



scientists in Asia.

The AAA Conference is held every two years. We are happy to have this first apitherapy-specialised one which is hosted by MFU. We will have the 10th AAA in Busan, Korea next year." said **Prof. Matsuka**.



Prof. Mitsuo Matsuka



Almost all bee products are health foods or supplements, and not regarded as medicines at the present moment. Prof. Matsuka attempts to bring apitherapy into people recognition worldwide.

Prof. Kunsuk Woo donated modern beekeeping equipment to the school of science, MFU which will be demonstrated to students, beekeepers and visitors.

The conference was successfully conducted at Mae Fah Luang University, Chiang Rai and the next International Conference on Apitherapy Health Care will be held at Fujan, China in the year 2010.



International Visitors (September - November 2009)



On September 14, 2009, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Ted Tesprateep, Vice President and Mr. Domdej Bunnag, Advisor to the President for International Affairs of Mae Fah Luang University warmly welcomed a delegation from **Japan-Thailand Economic Partnership Agreement (JTEPA)** Outreach Program led by



Ms. Chompunuch Nakornthap, Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and **Mrs. Nantana Sivakua**, Deputy Director-General, Department of East Asian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On this occasion, both partners had a discussion on developing the elder care curriculum and mobility of elderly caregivers.

A German Academic delegation led by **Prof.Dr.-Ing.habil. Frank Palis**, Chair General Electrical Engineering Electric Actuator Systems, **Institute of Electric Power Systems** met on September 22, 2009 with Assoc.Prof. Dr. Ted Tesprateep, Assoc.Prof. Nareewan Chintakanond, Vice Presidents joined by Dean of School of Management and lecturers of School of Information Technology to discuss the academic cooperation in fields of logistics and supply chain management.



Mr. Surapong Jayanama, Director of **Saranrom Institute of Foreign Affairs (SIFA)**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand and his delegation had a meeting with Assoc.Prof. Nareewan Chintakanond, Vice President of Mae Fah Luang University, Dean and lecturers of School of Management on September 21-23, 2009 to discuss joint international policy oriented academic activities under SIFA's Academic Partnership Program.



On November 3, 2009, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Vanchai Sirichana, Chairman of the Executive Committee and Assoc.Prof.Dr. Ted Tesprateep, President of Mae Fah Luang University welcomed and gave a lecture on Landscape of Mae Fah Luang University to 50 landscape experts led by **Prof.Dr. Tatsuhiko Kawashima** and **Mr. Yoichi Ogawa**, Chief Executive Officer of the **Organization for Landscape and Urban**



Greenery Technology Development of Japan.

Prof. Nai-Min Yu, Dean and **Mr. Pipat Phorarisut**, Secretary of Dean of **College of Foreign Language and Literature, National Chengchi University** visited Mae Fah Luang University on November 24, 2009 and were welcomed by Assoc.Prof.Dr. Ted Tesprateep, President and lecturers from School of Liberal Arts to discuss the signing of MOU between Mae Fah Luang University and National Chengchi University on students exchange and academic cooperation.



Prizes, Awards and Honors

Mae Fah Luang University awarded as the outstanding friendly place to people with disabilities for the second year in a row.



On September 14, 2009, Vice President of Mae Fah Luang University, **Assoc.Prof.Gp.Capt. Yuthana Tra-Ngarn** represent of Mae Fah Luang University at the Citation Award Ceremony of the outstanding friendly place to people with disabilities in educational categories, organized at the Prince Palace Hotel, Bangkok from the National Office for Empowerment of Persons with Disability (NEP), Ministry of Social Development and Human Security.

The award was presented by **Mrs. Nuanpan Lamsam**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Social Development and the Annual Human Security to Mae Fah Luang University for having facilitated friendly environment to people with disabilities for the second year in a row.

Distinctive Silver Medal from the International Conference Organizer was awarded to MFU Lecturers.

King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology and Thai Society for Biotechnology (TSB) held "**The 21st Annual Meeting and International Conference of The Thai Society for Biotechnology: TSB 2009 Biotechnology: A Solution to the Global Economic Crisis**" from September 24-25, 2009 at Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, Bangkok, with the aims to disseminate research progress and to share experiences of researchers in the field of biotechnology and related sciences/technology.

A group of young MFU researchers namely **Assist.Prof.Dr. Saroat Rawdkuen**, School of Agro-Industry, **Dr. Phanuphong Chaiwut** and **Dr. Punyawatt Pintathong**, School of Cosmetic Science—presented their research posters and were awarded with a silver medal for their distinctive poster presentation on "*Three-phase partitioning of protease from papaya peel extract.*" Two papers namely : "*Extraction of protease from papaya peels*" and "*The partitioning of protease from Calotropis procera latex by aqueous two-phase systems*" were also presented and received good feedback at the conference.



MFU lecturer was awarded for the 2009 distinctive poster presentation award.

On October 15-17, 2009, the Thailand Research Fund (TRF) hosted the conference "Young Researcher Meets TRF Senior Research Scholar" at Holiday Inn Resort Regent Beach Cha-Am, Petchburi with over 1,000 researchers participated. The objectives of this conference are for researchers to present their research progress, findings and exchange ideas, comments and suggestions from senior researchers and savants.



At this event, **Dr. Phanintra Teeranon**, lecturer of School of Liberal Arts, Mae Fah Luang University was awarded the 2009 distinctive research poster presentation on "*The Interaction between Fundamental Frequency and Duration of Vowels in Tai and Mon-Khmer Languages: Implications for Tonogenesis Theory*" by TRF.

Dr. Romyen Kosaikanont

Assistant to the President for International Affairs

Dr. Romyen Kosaikanont has recently been appointed as the Assistant to the President for International Affairs after joining MFU as a lecturer at School of Management for almost 2 years.

Dr. Romyen graduated with Doctor of Philosophy in Economics and International Development from University of Bath, UK, and Master of Arts in Gender and Development from Institute of Development Studies (IDS) University of Sussex, UK.



Her research deals mainly with gender studies, human rights and socio-economics such as *"The Internet Mail Order Brides"* funded by Norwegian Female Lawyers Associations (NORAD) which has been published in 2007, *"Women Human Rights Defenders"* and *"The Socio-Economic Impacts of the Tsunami on Women in Service Sector: Case Studies of Patong Beach, Phuket"* projects both funded by APWLD, and *"The Socio-impact of the GMS in the Mekong Sub-Region"* funded by Thai Research Fund.

Dr. Romyen has organized and facilitated many national and international workshops and trainings; for instance, *"The International Conference on Sustainable Urban Environmental Management and Practice"* in Chiang Mai funded by CIDA, Canada, *"Gender and Supply Chain Management"* in Chiang Mai, Thailand funded by OXFAM Great Britain, *"Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights for Young People"*, in New Delhi, India, and *"Gender Analysis on Urban Environmental Management"* in Bangkok, Thailand.

Get to know Dr. Romyen better!

This is your first time that you were appointed for the executive position. How do you feel about your new role?

It is a strange feeling, I must admit. People who know me well would be surprised to know that I took on this position. Mainly, this is because I have always regarded myself of a team worker not a leader. And I have declared since the beginning that I would devote myself for feminism and academic arena. I have never thought that I would be sitting on the executive position. However, I also thought that taking on this job, I will learn a great

deal as well and perhaps with this, I can contribute even more for my students and MFU.

As an executive, lecturer and researcher, how can you deal with these roles, duties and also colleagues?

It has been quite tough especially on the first few months. I have always realized that time is very precious and with this additional role, I have to better improve time management skill. The hardest thing is to deal with our emotions when things do not go as it plans or when

there are so much pressure on me and my colleagues' time.

What is your vision for International Affairs Division?

I would love to see International Affairs Division growing and being even more active and efficient in serving the needs of staff and students in international affairs. I would also like to see International Affairs Division doing more outreach projects within MFU and with Universities outside the countries including GMS, ASEAN, Europe, and North America. Internationalization of the university is highly important as the world is increasingly more globalized and connected, International Affairs Division needs to serve and be the spring board for such thing to happen. That is to say that International Affairs Division should be a mechanism in gearing the university towards an internationalized university.

Please tell us about your great experiences when you studied abroad.

Of course, one great thing about studying abroad is that we learn the new subject/knowledge that otherwise we could not have learnt domestically. Gender studies is such a new subject that during my student time, there have been no universities offered that course. But that is not the only good thing about being abroad. Knowledge and experiences sharing with friends from different walks of life and also cultural and social background are invaluable. I was quite lucky that the courses I took only have 26 students but they were from 20 countries and from all 6 continents. I have learnt great deal about life and how to live in a real internationalized community.

Why are you interested in gender studies?

By training, I was an economist. And I did it quite well. With that, I don't believe that there are such things as gender inequality. However, my undergraduate supervisor was then a board committee of the Women's Studies Center at Chiang Mai University and she often discussed about gender issues with me. Of course, I thought she was crazy. Only after I have experienced a process of job application myself, then I realized that perhaps, gender inequality may exist. It just clicked!!



What was your great success in life?

To talk about success in life, I guess you are asking about my goal in life. Actually, my goal is very humble, I don't want to be or have anything much. I just want to be happy. But my happiness is coming from not hurting other people, not being violent and be useful to the people who needed me. With that, I think being a lecturer can help me reaching that goal. But asking whether I have succeeded that yet, I can't give you the answer. It must be the students who have to answer that. What I can say is that I have tried.

MFU International Students

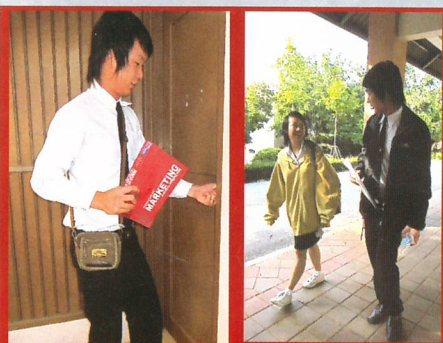
My Life in One Day @ MFU

“ Sawasdee Krap! My name is **SAI OO SHANG**. Just call me “**AHTIT**”. I come from Myanmar which has a long relationship with THAILAND. Now, I am a third year student in Software Engineering, School of Information Technology, Mae Fah Luang University.



1

7.00 - 8.00



I woke up at 7.00 am. in the morning and left the international dormitory and walk to class at 7.40 am. I usually go to class with friends because while we are walking, we can talk about our studies, friends and activities especially in winter, the weather is inviting to pleasantly

I decided to study at Mae Fah Luang University because its quality of education, spectacular landscape and good quality of student life. There are several facilities here such as Learning Resources and Educational Media Center, MFU Book Center, Indoors Stadium and Sports Center, Mae Fah Luang University Hospital, International Students'dormitories, Food Center, the Sirindhorn Chinese Language and Culture Center and Computer Laboratory. I enjoy attending university's activities. Today, I would like to tell everybody about my everyday life!!

2

8.00 - 10.30



My Database System class started at 8.00 until 10.00 am. This class allows me to learn more about data storage. The lecturer got a lot of techniques to make all students understand the lessons. After this class, my friends and I had a break at E1 building (Classroom Building) canteen.

MFU International Students

3

10.30 - 13.00



At about 10.30 am., we moved to Learning Resources and Educational Media Center to review exercises and discuss our project. The center provided many categories of books; therefore, we often spend time here for our project and also studying. At noon, we had lunch at D1 building (Activity Building). There were many kinds of food here such as noodles, rice and also halal food. My favourite dish is thai fried rice, so I chose it for my lunch.

4

12.00 - 18.00



After having lunch, we walked back to the international dormitory. When I got back to my room and opened the door, I looked around twice and decided to clean up!! It took about 1 hour to tidy my room! After an exhausting time of cleaning, I had a rest for a while and then I went to a cheerleading rehearsal for University's Sports Day called Lam Duan Games. I love dancing because it is a good way of exercises. I would have a good health and fun at the same time.

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18.00-23.30

After finishing the rehearsal, I went to 7/11 (University's branch) to buy some soft drink and snack for my spare food and then went back to my dormitory. I had a shower first, did assignment and go to bed at 11.30 pm.



These are my activities in one day at MFU where I can enjoy my study and my life!!

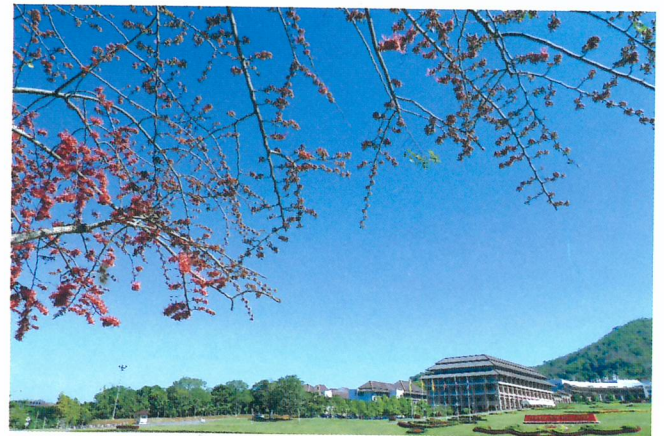
MFU International Students

MFU Exchange Students



Jakob Lecher and Stefan Ablinger

The culture, the beautiful landscape and of course the extraordinary friendly native people here made it an easy choice for us to select MFU. We are truly amazed by the sheer beauty of this university and the huge dimension compared to our campus back in Austria. Everybody we met did his/her best to give us a warm welcome which made it really easy for us to start off our studies and to feel home from the first day on.



We are sure that we will have an amazing and instructive time here at MFU and we are eager to take as many travel possibilities we can, to ensure we don't miss any special place in this beautiful country.

MFU Exchange Students Facts & Figures 2009



Management Center Innsbruck
Austria



10 Exchange Students



Meio University
Japan



FHS St. Gallen
Switzerland



Group T - Internatioanl University College Leuven
Belgium



Upcoming Events

The 14th International Annual Symposium on Computational Science and Engineering (ANSCSE 14)

Date : 24 - 26 March 2010

Venue : Mae Fah Luang University, Chiang Rai, Thailand

Contact : Dr. Anant Eungwanichayapant (email: anscse14@gmail.com)

Website : www.mfu.ac.th/anscse14



ANSCSE (Annual Symposium on Computational Science and Engineering) is an international forum for computational scientist and engineer annually held. The goal is to foster the collaboration among researchers in the field of computational science and engineering. ANSCSE also acts as a forum for researchers in Thailand and international partners to exchange new ideas, findings, and best practices.

The International Symposium on "Fungal Biodiversity and Resources"

Date : 3 - 4 June 2010

Venue : Mae Fah Luang University, Chiang Rai, Thailand

Contact : Asst.Prof.Dr. Ekachai Chukeatirote
(e-mail: fungalsymposium@gmail.com)

Website : www.mfu.ac.th/fungalsymposium09



The aim of this symposium is to bring together leading fungal researchers in Thailand in the fields of biodiversity, phylogeny and biotechnology to present their latest research advances, and also bring in leading international researchers with expertise in using fungal biodiversity in biotechnology.

Editor's Note

The wind has changed. The cold wind of November has come. It changes wet dark clouds to the clear blue sky with the foggy sunshine peaked out from the tree trunks and lit the leaves in golden pale green. The falling leaves mark the winter season at MFU. The wind has changed.

At MFU, the change also came with the cold wind. On October 2, 2009, our Founding President Assoc. Prof. Vanchai Sirichana has finished his term as MFU President. His successor, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ted Tesprateep, former MFU Vice President for almost 10 years has carried on the mission. Being Vice President at MFU for a long period of time, he envisioned the same aspiration as obtained

by his predecessor. His statement shows at the ***MFU Vision in the Next Decade.***

Dr. Romyen Kosaikanont, a Ph. D. in Economics and International Development has been assigned as Assistant to the President responsible for International Relations Development. Know more about her in ***MFU People***

Moving to the next decade, our international newsletter has changed to make it a little bit better and any suggestion or articles required to publish, please contact Ms. Pakkawadee Lucksiri at Division of International Affairs or email us at inter@mfu.ac.th

Editor's Tip

“
*Someone is sitting in the shade today
because someone planted a tree a long time ago.*”

Warren Buffett

MFU International Newsletter

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