

SIIT News

Thammasat University

A quarterly newsletter of SIRINDHORN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
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Thailand Toray Science Foundation (TTSF) Research Grants



His Excellency General Surayud Chulanont presided over the 16th Presentation Ceremony of the Thailand Toray Science Foundation's Awards and Grants on 8th February 2010, at the Ballroom, Nai Lert Park Bangkok. Asst. Prof. Dr. Thawatchai Onjun and Dr. Siwarutt Boonyarattanakalin from the Sirindhorn International Institute of Technology (SIIT), Thammasat University, were two of the twenty-five recipients of the "2009 Science and Technology Research Grants" from the Thailand Toray Science Foundation (TTSF).



Asst. Prof. Dr. Thawatchai Onjun received a TTSF research grant for conducting research on "Plasma Behaviors during the Pellet Injection in Tokamak Plasmas". Dr. Thawatchai is a full-time faculty member of the School of Manufacturing Systems and Mechanical Engineering at SIIT. His research focuses on investigation of plasma behaviors and nuclear reactions in nuclear fusion reactors that can produce energy for the future. He has investigated various topics in plasma and nuclear fusion, including thermal and particle transports, plasma instability, plasma-wall interactions, and plasma heating. His research contributes in an essential way to the international fusion community.



The Thailand Toray Science Foundation awarded a research grant to Dr. Siwarutt Boonyarattanakalin for his research project entitled "Mimicry of Mycobacterial Surface Components as Synthetic Antigens for a Vaccine Candidate against Tuberculosis". Dr. Siwarutt is a full-time faculty member of the School of Biochemical Engineering and Technology at SIIT. His current research involves applications of synthetic molecules to study processes at the interface of chemistry and biology. Chemistry provides essential tools and techniques to study biological systems at the molecular level. Appropriate small synthetic molecules are very useful in studying and manipulating biological processes. Dr. Siwarutt's research areas include design, synthesis and evaluation of biologically active molecules, and design and validation of tools to evaluate biologically active molecules. The results of these studies will contribute to developments in the treatment and prevention of life-threatening infectious diseases.

Academic Cooperation of the Department of Public Works and Town and Country Planning with Six Universities and the Engineering Institute of Thailand

His Excellency Chavarat Chanrvirakul, the Interior Minister of Thailand, presided over an agreement signing ceremony for academic cooperation of the Department of Public Works and Town and Country Planning with six universities and the Engineering Institute of Thailand under His Majesty the King's Patronage, held on January 6, 2010, at the Ministry of Interior.



The academic cooperation comprises two projects. One of the projects is research and development in engineering which will be carried out under the academic cooperation of the Department of Public Works and Town and Country Planning with six universities, namely Kasetsart University, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, Thammasat University, Mahidol University, Ramkhamhaeng University, and Khon Kaen University. The Sirindhorn International Institute of Technology (SIIT) represents Thammasat University in research and development in engineering projects.

The other project is academic cooperation between the Department of Public Works and Town and Country Planning and the Engineering Institute of Thailand under His Majesty the King's Patronage to support and promote cooperation and relationships among engineers for sharing of knowledge and experiences that will be beneficial to the development of the engineering profession in Thailand.

The two projects will result in the development of engineering technology and the development of the construction engineering profession so that they would be internationally recognized.



SIIT is rated "Outstanding" for Research Outcomes in the Fields of Civil Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Information and Communication Technology/Computer Engineering, by the Thailand Research Fund (TRF)

The Thailand Research Fund (TRF) assessed research outcomes of the years 2007 and 2008 in 34 fields of study of 436 participating academic disciplines from 36 public and private universities in Thailand. Four indicators were used in assessing the research outcomes:

- Indicator 1: Equivalent International Journal Papers / Faculty member
- Indicator 2: Impact Factor / Faculty Member
- Indicator 3: Equivalent International Journal Papers
- Indicator 4: Impact Factors

According to the 4 indicators, the participating academic disciplines were classified into 5 levels: Level 5 – Outstanding, Level 4 – Good, Level 3 – Adequate, Level 2 – Needs Improvement, and Level 1 – Needs Urgent Improvement.

On March 5, 2010, TRF announced the research outcomes assessment of 3 groups of academic disciplines, namely, Agriculture, Engineering, and Technology. Among the engineering disciplines, Sirindhorn International Institute of Technology (SIIT), Thammasat University, received the highest rating of "Level 5" (Outstanding) for Civil Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Information and Communication Technology/Computer Engineering. Thammasat University received an award from TRF for having the highest number of outstanding ratings in engineering disciplines.



Special Lecture on "Adopting Buddhist Teachings in Daily Life for Happiness"



Phra Ajahn Mitsuo Gavesako, from Wat Sunandavanaram, Kanchanaburi province, gave a special lecture on "Adopting Buddhist Teachings in Daily Life for Happiness" to SIIT students on February 10, 2010, at Sirindhorn International Institute of Technology (SIIT), Bangkadi Campus. A number of SIIT faculty members and staff also attended the special lecture.

Special Presentation on "Chemical Engineer's Career Path in Energy Related Industries" by the President of Bangchak Petroleum PCL

Dr. Anusorn Sangnimnuan, the President of Bangchak Petroleum PCL, Mrs. Chavewan Kiatchokechaikul, the Public Relations Manager, and Mrs. Kesinee Nimmannit, the Human Resource Development Manager, from Bangchak Petroleum PCL visited SIIT on February 4, 2010. They were welcomed by Prof. Dr. Chongrak Polprasert, the Director of SIIT, Prof. Dr. Somnuk Tangtermsirikul, the Deputy Director of SIIT, and faculty members from the School of Bio-Chemical Engineering and Technology, and the School of Manufacturing Systems and Mechanical Engineering. The visit helps strengthen research cooperation between Bangchak Petroleum PCL and SIIT, particularly in the low carbon research area. The visit also strengthens cooperation in student internships at Bangchak Petroleum PCL.



On this occasion, Dr. Anusorn Sangnimnuan also gave a special presentation on "Chemical Engineer's Career Path in Energy Related Industries" to students of the Chemical Engineering Curriculum of the School of Bio-Chemical Engineering and Technology, and interested students of SIIT.

The New President of Thailand Concrete Association Prof. Dr. Somnuk Tangtermsirikul

Prof. Dr. Somnuk Tangtermsirikul, the Deputy Director of Sirindhorn International Institute of Technology (SIIT) and the Head of the Construction and Maintenance Technology Research Center (CONTEC), was elected President of the Thailand Concrete Association (TCA) for a 2-year term from 2010 to 2011. Prof. Somnuk was one of the founding members of TCA and has been consistently contributing to the development of the Association since its establishment. The Association is now widely known and recognized by academics and professionals both nationally and internationally. One of the well recognized events of the Association is the Annual Concrete Conference which has been successfully held annually since 2004.



Used Papers for the Blind

On 15 January 2010, Asst. Prof. Dr. Chalie Charoenlarnopparut (Assistant Director for Student Affairs, SIIT) led a group of second-year students of the Electronics and Communication Engineering Program at SIIT, Thammasat University, to donate used papers to the Foundation for the Blind in Thailand under the Royal Patronage of Her Majesty the Queen for Braille printing in the "Third Page Papers Project". The used papers were given by SIIT students, faculty members and staff.



Good Thesis Award from the National Research Council of Thailand

Dr. Sudaporn Chungloo from the Faculty of Architecture and Planning of Thammasat University received a "Good Thesis Award" of the year 2009 from the National Research Council of Thailand for her doctoral thesis entitled "Experimental and Numerical Studies of Solar Chimney and Wetted Roof: An Application in the Hot and Humid Climate". The thesis was conducted during her doctoral study at the Sirindhorn International Institute of Technology (SIIT), Thammasat University, under the supervision of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bundit Limmeechokchai, a faculty member and the Mechanical Engineering Curriculum Coordinator, of the School of Manufacturing Systems and Mechanical Engineering at SIIT.



Scholarships from Bangkok Bank PCL and the Bank of Ayudhya PCL



Ms. Narawadee Kaosamran, the Branch Manager - Bangkadi Industrial Park Branch of the Bangkok Bank PCL, presented a donation of 70,300 baht from the Bangkok Bank PCL to the Sirindhorn Technology Scholarship Fund of SIIT on November 13, 2009.

From left: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ekawit Nantajeewarawat (Executive Assistant Director for Bangkadi Campus, SIIT), Prof. Dr. Chongrak Polprasert (Director of SIIT), Ms. Narawadee Kaosamran (Branch Manager - Bangkadi Industrial Park Branch, Bangkok Bank PCL), and Mr. Chayapon Rompho (Senior Customer Service Officer, Bangkok Bank PCL).

The Bank of Ayudhya PCL, led by Mr. Pornthep Boonprasong, the Branch Manager - Navanakorn Branch, donated a total of 50,000 baht to the Sirindhorn Technology Scholarship Fund of SIIT on December 30, 2009. The Sirindhorn Technology Scholarship Fund is used for granting scholarships to more than 300 SIIT students annually. Distribution of the scholarships to appropriate scholarship recipients will be considered by the Institute with recommendations from the SIIT Scholarships Committee.

Mr. Pornthep Boonprasong (Branch Manager - Navanakorn Branch, the Bank of Ayudhya PCL) presented the donation to Prof. Dr. Chongrak Polprasert (Director of SIIT).



Judo Competition in "Maedome Games, 2010"



Thammasat University hosted the 37th Thailand University Games "Maedome Games, 2010" under the theme of "Sports for Unity – We all are Thai" from 22 January to 30 January, 2010. SIIT participated in this event by hosting the judo competition. The organizing committee led by Prof. Dr. Chongrak Polprasert (Director of SIIT) and Asst. Prof. Dr. Chalie Charoenlarnnoppaput (Assistant Director for Student Affairs, SIIT) coordinated with the Judo Association of Thailand Under the Patronage of His Majesty the King (JAT) to organize the judo competition during 25-29 January 2010 at Gymnasium 2, Thammasat University - Rangsit Campus.

A total of 237 male and female judo athletes from 36 universities, including Thammasat University, joined in this competition. During the 5-day competition, 16 golden medals, 16 silver medals, and 31 bronze medals were presented to the winners. Congratulations!



Visits of Delegates from Saitama University, Japan and University of Gothenburg, Sweden

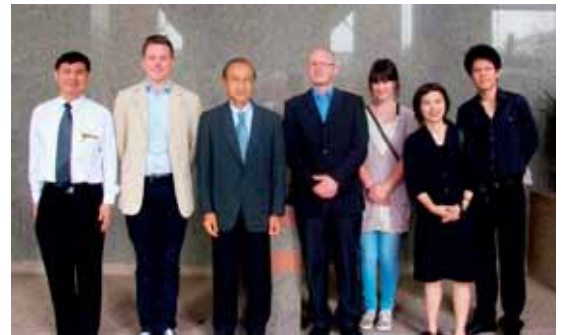
Prof. Dr. Hiroshi Mutsuyoshi, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Masato Saitoh, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Takeshi Maki, and six students from Saitama University, Japan, visited SIIT during 26-29 January 2010. The visit was part of the academic cooperation activities of the International Collaborative Graduate Program (ICGP) on Civil and Environmental Engineering for Student Exchange Program, between Saitama University and Thammasat University (TU).

Seen in the photograph are (back row, from left) Asst. Prof. Dr. Mongkut Piantanakulchai from the School of Civil Engineering and Technology, SIIT; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nakhorn Poovarodom from the Faculty of Engineering, TU; Prof. Dr. Hiroshi Mutsuyoshi from Saitama University; Prof. Dr. Chongrak Polprasert, the Director of SIIT; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Masato Saitoh and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Takeshi Maki from Saitama University; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Taweeep Chaisomphob, the Head of the School of Civil Engineering and Technology, SIIT; and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pruettha Nanakorn, the Executive Assistant Director for Rangsit Campus, SIIT; with six students from Saitama University (front).



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Urban Nulden, the Head of the Department of Applied Information Technology, Dr. Johan Lundin, the Coordinator of Pedagogical Development and Interactive Learning (PIL), the Department of Applied Information Technology, and one student from the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, visited SIIT on 9 February 2010. The visit was intended to establish mutual academic collaboration between the two institutions.

From left: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Thanaruk Theeramunkong (Head of School of Information, Computer, and Communication Technology, SIIT), Dr. Johan Lundin (Coordinator of Pedagogical Development and Interactive Learning (PIL), Department of Applied Information Technology, the University of Gothenburg), Prof. Dr. Chongrak Polprasert (Director of SIIT), Assoc. Prof. Dr. Urban Nulden (Head of Department of Applied Information Technology, the University of Gothenburg), Miss Celia Nuldén (Student from the University of Gothenburg), Assoc. Prof. Dr. Waree Kongprawechnon (Assistant Director for Special Affairs, SIIT), and Mr. Supakiat Pattichart (SIIT student).



Thai Poems Composing Contest "Praise for Beloved Mother"

To celebrate the National Mother's Day 2009 and to encourage Thai culture among SIIT students, the Student Affairs Division of SIIT organized the Thai Poems Composing Contest "Praise for Beloved Mother" on August 10, 2009. There were 313 SIIT students who participated in this activity as 17 contestants and 296 voters.



Congratulations to students who won the prizes: Mr. Bandit Saechue and Ms. Virasinee Jumpa achieved the 1st prize, Mr. Dusadee Tuendumseel and Ms. Chalisa Aunsakul achieved the 2nd prize, Mr. Nuttapon Dejthamtor and Mr. Chawin Chatchaiyan achieved the top rank of popular vote, and Mr. Sittichok Rshaniphon and Mr. Warit Sarideepan achieved the second rank of popular vote.

Prof. Dr. Chongrak Polprasert (Director of SIIT) and Asst. Prof. Dr. Chalie Charoenlarnopparut (Assistant Director for Student Affairs, SIIT) with the winners.

Father's Day Card Contest "Special Thanks to My Dad"

From November 17 to December 4, 2009, the SIIT Student Affairs Division organized an activity "Father's Day Card Contest" to celebrate the "National Father's Day" (5th December). The activity aimed to encourage warm relationships between SIIT students and their fathers, as well as to cultivate Thai arts/culture through Thai arts and literature in students' cards. There were 411 SIIT students who participated in this activity as 16 contestants and 395 voters.

Congratulations to students who won the prizes: Ms. Kaelkrittaya Trurktham achieved the 1st prize, Mr. Ratchanon Boonachathong achieved the 2nd prize and second rank of popular vote, Ms. Nareerat Jirakoonsombat achieved the top rank of popular vote, and Ms. Mananya Klanpoth achieved the third rank of popular vote.



SIIT Students Attend Technical Training in Finland, Germany, and Japan

Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences, Finland

Mr. Krittibutr Manomayangkul and Ms. Apinya Chanthakulchan from the Industrial Engineering Program have been accepted to attend technical training as exchange students at Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences, Finland, from April 1 to May 31, 2010, under an academic collaboration agreement between SIIT and the Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences.



University of Applied Sciences at Ravensburg-Weingarten, Germany

Ms. Naruemol Wattanasiritham and Ms. Sumonthip Chompoondang from the Engineering Management Program, and Mr. Panthep Tharanon and Mr. Pittawat Nawamongkolwatana from the Mechanical Engineering Program, have been accepted by the University of Applied Sciences at Ravensburg-Weingarten, Germany, to attend technical training and conduct their research in Germany from April 1 to May 31, 2010, under the academic cooperation between SIIT and the University of Applied Sciences at Ravensburg-Weingarten, Germany.



Technish Universität Darmstadt (TUD), Germany



Ms. Suthira Limkul and Mr. Theerat Sakdejayont from the Electronics and Communication Program, Mr. Maroay Phlernjai from the Mechanical Engineering Program, Mr. Naruth Amornnaramitkij, Ms. Nutch Teraphongphom and Mr. Boonyawat Phokaphan from the Industrial Engineering Program, have been accepted to attend technical training as exchange students at the Technish Universität Darmstadt (TUD), during April 1 - May 31, 2010, under an academic collaboration agreement between SIIT and TUD.

Kyushu Institute of Technology (KIT), Japan

Mr. Veratat Thamrongdullapark from the Mechanical Engineering Program has been accepted to attend technical training as an exchange student at the Department of Mechanical Information Science and Technology, Kyushu Institute of Technology, Japan, from April 1 to May 31, 2010, under an academic collaboration agreement between SIIT and the School of Computer Sciences and System Engineering, Kyushu Institute of Technology, Japan.



Central Research Institute of Electric Power Industry (CRIEPI), Japan



Mr. Pakin Techavisesa from the Civil Engineering Program and Ms. Thitapha Chanpokapaiboon from the Electronics and Communication Program will attend

technical training at the Central Research Institute of Electric Power Industry (CRIEPI), Japan, during April 1 - May 31, 2010, under an academic collaboration agreement between SIIT and CRIEPI.

Kochi University of Technology (KUT), Japan



Ms. Phanthira Chansereewat and Ms. Worakhon Natkhsit from the Engineering Management Program have been accepted by the Kochi University of Technology (KUT) to

attend technical training as exchange students at KUT from April 1 to May 31, 2010, under an academic collaboration agreement between SIIT and KUT.

Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho) Scholarship

Mr. Natt Leelawat, a graduate from the School of Information and Computer Technology at SIIT, received a Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho) Scholarship to study in Japan for his master's degree. Mr. Natt graduated from SIIT in 2007 with a B.Sc. (1st Class Honors) in Information Technology. He will study at the Graduate School of Decision Science and Technology, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan, starting in April 2010.



Construction of Cafeteria and Mountain Trails at Bann Tohae School, Mae Hong Son Province

Members of the SIIT Volunteers Club and the Issara Sarnfun Group of Thammasat University jointly undertook construction of a cafeteria and mountain trails at Bann Tohae School, Tambon Mae Saam Laep, Amphoe Sop Moei, Mae Hong Son province. From 14 to 27 October 2009, a group of 46 SIIT students volunteered their labor to help in constructing a new cafeteria, which can be also used as a classroom or a community meeting place. The students also helped in constructing mountain trails from a helicopter apron to Bann Tohae School. This project benefits the education of the children and also helps to strengthen the local community.



Baan Thor Fun Camp

The SIIT Volunteer Club and Issara Sarnfun Group of Thammasat University jointly organized sport competitions and recreation activities for more than 500 orphans and hill tribe children at Baan Thor Fun, Amphoe Sangkhlaburi, Kanchanaburi Province, during 29-31 January 2010. These activities were held to celebrate the National Children's Day 2010, to develop the emotional intelligence, and to improve the quality of life of hill tribe children. In addition, clothing and toys donated by SIIT faculty members and students were presented to the children.



SIIT International Night 2009

The SIIT Student Committee organized an extra-curricular activity "SIIT International Night 2009" at the SIIT Main Building (Rangsit Campus) on 4 February 2010. Asst. Prof. Dr. Chalie Charoenlarnpparut, the Assistant Director for Student Affairs, officially presided over this activity. The International Night was designed to promote Thai arts and culture, and cultural exchange among international students and Thai students, as well as faculty and staff members of SIIT.

This year, the highlight was "SIIT International Songs Singing Contest", which rounded off the evening with the awards presentation to the following students: Ms. Emmika Iamsunran receiving the 1st prize, Mr. John Bryan receiving the 2nd prize, and Ms. Trinuj Vongsomtakup receiving the 3rd prize. The organizing team would like to express special thanks to the "TU Recreation Group" for their amusing cultural shows, and to Mr. Buddy de Vos and Ms. Verine Chokeboonmongkol, two SIIT second-year students, for their excellent performances as the masters of ceremonies (MCs).



Loy Krathong Festival

Thammasat University organized the "Loy Krathong Festival 2009" at the Rangsit Campus on November 2, 2009. In Thai, Loy means to float and Krathong means a circular floating object with decoration of banana leaves, flowers, a candle and incense sticks. Thais float krathongs to pay respect to the Goddess of Water. Floating a beautiful krathong away also refers to sending away misfortune and asking for good luck in the future. As part of the extra-curricular activities, SIIT students, led by Mr. Dusadee Tuenodomseel (the President of the SIIT Student Committee) participated in the Krathong competition. Asst. Prof. Dr. Chalie Charoenlarnpparut, the Assistant Director for Student Affairs of SIIT, participated in this festival as the representative of the Director of SIIT.



In the evening of November 2, 2009, the Student Affairs Division of SIIT organized an activity of "Design & Decorate My Krathong" on the ground floor of the SIIT Main Building, Rangsit Campus. This activity was aimed to encourage Thai and international students of SIIT to share their experience of designing and decorating a krathong made from natural materials and also to support Thai traditional arts and culture. More than 115 Thai and international students, and 23 faculty members and staff participated in this activity.



SIIT Job Fair 2010



The SIIT Training and Industrial Relations Office held the "SIIT Job Fair 2010" for introducing leading companies and job opportunities to fourth-year students who will graduate in the academic year 2009. The job fair was held on January 13, 2010 at Sirindhorn International Institute of Technology (SIIT), Thammasat University, Rangsit Campus. Twenty companies who participated in the job fair included CP ALL PLC; Delta Electronics (Thailand) PLC; Siam City Cement PLC; PTT Chemical PLC; Toshiba Semiconductor (Thailand) Co., Ltd.; Charoen Pokphand Foods PLC; Bangkok Cable Co., Ltd.; Bangchak Petroleum PLC; Thai Plastic and Chemicals PLC; Microsoft (Thailand) Co., Ltd.; Betagro PLC; Ajinomoto (Thailand) Co., Ltd.; Bangkok Glass Industry Co., Ltd.; and Unilever Thai Trading Ltd.

Cultural Trip

The SIIT International Office arranged a cultural trip in the 2nd semester/2009 for 40 students (both Thai and foreign) to visit the floating market and the Imaginary Museum in Ratchaburi Province, and the Mrigadayavan Palace in Petchaburi Province, on February 10, 2010. This cultural trip was intended to provide information on interesting places including Thai culture to foreign students, and to let the students have chances to join activities on cultural exchange.



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