

SIIT News

Thammasat University

A quarterly newsletter of SIRINDHORN INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
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Academic Excellence Scholarships Awarded by the Siam Cement PCL

The Siam Cement PCL annually awards scholarships for academic excellence to students from Chulalongkorn University (CU), Thammasat University (TU), Kasetsart University (KU), King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMITL), King Mongkut's Institute of Technology North Bangkok (KMITNB), King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT) and Sirindhorn International Institute of Technology (SIIT).

On November 15, 2005, the Siam Cement PCL presented academic excellence scholarships to 13 outstanding fourth-year students of SIIT in Civil Engineering, Electrical Power Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Information Technology programs. Scholarships of 30,000 baht/student were awarded to students ranked first. Scholarships of 20,000 baht/student were awarded to students ranked second and third. According to the company's criteria, all scholarship recipients must have a cumulative GPA equal to or not less than 3.50 for their 3 years of study. We would like to express our appreciation to the Siam Cement PCL for the scholarships awarded to our students.



Front Row, from left: Ms. Sutthinee Phanchang, Staff of Student Affairs Div., SIIT; Ms. Waraporn Thongthua, Chief of Student Affairs Div., SIIT; Mr. Kan Trakulhoon, the Vice President of the Siam Cement PCL; Mr. Manoon Sunkunakorn, Corporate Human Resources Division Manager, the Siam Cement PCL; and Mrs. Mattana Leongnarkongdee, Corporate Relations Manager, the Siam Cement PCL.

Middle Row, from left: Ms. Araya Wongviwat, Ms. Hataichanok Roongkanjanaporn, Ms. Ploypailin Piromsopa, Ms. Saranya Nawaeamwilai, Ms. Yuwa Chompoobutrgool, Ms. Amiltra Bongochgetsakul, and Ms. Suchaya Sittipod.

Back Row, from left: Mr. Kittipat Chirungsarpsook, Mr. Thanawin Ratametha, Mr. Sukasom Chaiyakul, Mr. Thanakorn Wilatsakunkiat, Mr. Thanut Techalert, and Mr. Petch Plachiva.

Scholarships from the Bank of Ayudhya PCL

The Bank of Ayudhya Public Company Limited, led by Mr. Thana Osathanond (the Vice President and Manager, Metropolitan Region 2, Metropolitan Branch Business Department), donated a total of 108,000 baht for 3 scholarships to SIIT on January 26, 2006. These donated scholarships will be given to SIIT students who need financial support in the academic year 2006. Distribution of the scholarships to appropriate recipients will be considered by the Institute with recommendations from the SIIT Scholarships Committee.

We would like to express our appreciation to the Bank of Ayudhya PCL for the donation.



From left: Prof. Dr. Somnuk Tangtermsirikul (Deputy Director, SIIT), Prof. Dr. Sawasd Tantaratanana (Director, SIIT), Mr. Thana Osathanond (Vice President and Manager, Metropolitan Region 2, Bank of Ayudhya PCL), and Mr. Surapong Thungseumit (Branch Manager, Navanakorn, Bank of Ayudhya PCL).

Visiting Faculty Members from Germany

Prof. Dr. Robert Kragler, Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Ertel, and Prof. Dr. Eberhard Hohl from the University of Applied Sciences at Ravensburg-Weingarten, Germany, visited SIIT during December 12-16, 2005, to further discuss the academic cooperation and academic exchange programs of the two institutions and to give special lectures to SIIT students.

Prof. Dr. Robert Kragler gave a presentation on "Graduate Studies at the University of Applied Sciences at Ravensburg-Weingarten" to students of the School of Communications, Instrumentations and Control. Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Ertel conducted a lecture on "Application of Reinforcement Learning to a Simple Real Walking Robot" for students of the School of Information and Computer Technology. Prof. Dr. Eberhard Hohl presented a lecture on "Successful Leadership" to third-year students of the School of Management Technology.

Faculty Promotion – Associate Professor

Asst. Prof. Dr. Ruengsak Kawtummachai was promoted to the academic rank of Associate Professor on December 19, 2005. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ruengsak is a full time faculty member of the School of Manufacturing Systems and Mechanical Engineering of SIIT. He received his B.Eng. (1st Class Honors) in Industrial Engineering from Chiang Mai University, Thailand, and M.Eng. in Mechanical Engineering and Ph.D. in Production Systems from Okayama University, Japan. Dr. Ruengsak's research areas include scheduling, production planning and control, just-in-time production, inventory control, production systems, supply chains, and logistics.



SIIT Cyber-Tech Club Organizes the Fourth Computer Programming Workshop

A computer programming workshop on "Web Application Programming with PHP" for high school students was organized by the SIIT Cyber-Tech Club during November 26-27, 2005. The workshop was held at the computer laboratory on the third floor of the SIIT Main Building, SIIT Rangsit Campus, under the supervision of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Thanaruk Theeramunkong, the advisor of the Cyber-Tech Club, and Dr. Cholwich Nattee, the co-advisor.



Twenty-three students from 5 schools attended the workshop. These students are from the following schools: Ampornpaisarn (Nonthaburi); Buriram-pitthayakhom (Buriram); Pathumwilai (Pathum Thani); Saint Francis Xavier (Nonthaburi); and Thammasat Klong Luang Wittayakhom (Pathum Thani). Three undergraduate students from Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University and a teacher from Burirampitthayakhom School also participated in this workshop.

Fifteen SIIT students who are members of the Cyber-Tech Club led by Ms. Ploypan Shinwadee, the Club President, and a number of SIIT scholarship students, as well as three SIIT staff members contributed to this event. Teaching materials in electronic form were presented to all participants with no charge. The participants studied basic concepts and advanced implementations using SQL commands, database design and management, and how to program a web application using PHP.

Study Visits to Wangnoi Power Plant of EGAT and Honda Automobile Production Plant



December 26, 2005: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bundit Limmeechokchai led 60 fourth-year students of the Mechanical Engineering curriculum, School of Manufacturing Systems and Mechanical Engineering, to visit the Wangnoi Power Plant of EGAT Public Co. Ltd. in Amphoe Wang Noi, and also to visit the production plant of Honda Automobile (Thailand) Co., Ltd. in Amphoe Uthai, Ayutthaya Province.

Exchange Students from Finland, France and Germany

Two students from Finland, two students from France, and nine students from Germany enrolled as exchange students to take courses at SIIT in the 2nd/2005 semester, during November 2005 – March 2006. These students are from Espoo-Vantaa Institute of Technology and University of Kuopio, Finland; Institut Supérieur d' Electronique de Paris (ISEP), Catholic University of Paris, France; Technische Universitat Muenchen (TUM), Technische Universitat Darmstadt (TUD), and University of Applied Sciences at Ravensburg-Weingarten, Germany.

Finland



From left: Mr. Jyri Junnola, from Espoo-Vantaa Institute of Technology, enrolled to take courses of the Industrial Engineering curriculum and Mr. Juho Heikki Mustakallio, from University of Kuopio,

enrolled to take courses of the Information Technology curriculum.

France



From left: Mr. Chicoisne Thomas and Mr. Gache Aymeric, both from the Institut Supérieur d' Electronique de Paris (ISEP), enrolled to take courses of the Telecommunications curriculum.

Germany



From left: Mr. Michael Pauli and Mr. Tobias Horn, both from Technische Universitat Darmstadt (TUD), enrolled to take courses of the Mechanical Engineering curriculum.

From left: Mr. Suren Nico and Mr. Lipp Josef, both from Technische Universitat Muenchen (TUM), enrolled to take courses of the Mechanical Engineering curriculum and Electrical Power Engineering curriculum, respectively.



Front row, from left: Mr. Felix Sterk, Mr. Nico Hochgeschwender, and Mr. Oliver Haag enrolled to take courses of the Environmental Technology, Information Technology, and Management

Technology curricula, respectively. Second row, from left: Mr. Thomas Wilhelm enrolled to take courses of the Information Technology curriculum and Mr. Sascha Riek enrolled to take courses of the Telecommunications curriculum. They are from the University of Applied Sciences at Ravensburg-Weingarten.

SIIT Mini Camps

SIIT held four mini camps for high school students who have been admitted to study at SIIT in the academic year 2006. The Business Camp and Science Camp were held on January 22, 2006, and the Cyber Camp and English Mini Camp were held on February 4, 2006, at SIIT, Thammasat University – Rangsit Center.

Business Camp

Sixty-five high-school students participated in the two activities organized by the Business Camp. The first activity was "Doing the Impossible", led by Dr. Chawalit Jeenanunta (Chairperson of the Management Technology Program). The aims of this activity were to help participants to explore ways to challenge and move beyond their personal assumptions and to help them better understand individual and organizational barriers and resistances; thus, leading them to think and do things differently. Participants explored the ways that individuals and groups can be powerful forces for creativity and become key contributors in the change process, as well as learning the role of the leader to facilitate change.



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Somrote Komolavanij (Head of the School of Management Technology) led the second activity, "Earthquake". Participants learned about problem-solving and decision-making processes and how to increase individual and team effectiveness. They also learned to improve team communication, build synergy in the team, and develop skills in the use of positive confrontation, leveling, and supporting behavior. In addition, this

activity demonstrated how rational problem-solving by the team can be enhanced by good inter-personal relationships, and helped the participants to understand the "task" and "maintenance" behaviors.

Cyber Camp

The Cyber Camp was attended by 65 students. A number of activities were held to help the students know more about computers. Based on the idea of learning while playing, several computer-related games were organized for the participants to play and learn. With the instruction of Asst. Prof. Dr. Bunyarit Uyyanonvara and Dr. Cholwich Nattee, the participants learned how to find information from the Internet, how to create a picture using a computer, how to use a computer to solve problems mathematically and how to use a computer for calculation. The winner received a thumb-drive as an award and all participants went home with some computer knowledge and happiness.



Science Camp



new skills, and make new friends.

Sixty-four students participated in the Science Camp hosted by the SIIT CreaTech robotics club. At the beginning of the day, students were divided into small teams and were given the mechanical parts, electronics, and tools needed to build a simple, autonomous, line-following robot. One CreaTech member paired with each high school group to help with robot construction and micro-controller programming. SIIT students, Mr. Pathomwong Suwanpanich and Mr. Nyan Bo Bo, served as teaching assistants, and SIIT faculty members, Dr. Matthew Dailey, Dr. Cholwich Nattee, and Dr. Pichai Jintakosonwit, also helped out. After a day of testing and tweaking their robots, the teams competed in a robot race. The winning team won a robotics kit from ET-Robotics, and all involved got a chance to have fun, learn



English Mini Camp



More than 120 participants joined the English Mini Camp co-organized by instructors and staff of the English Training Unit (ETU) and the SIIT English Club team. Under the concept of fun English learning, the participants had a chance to join various activities including word bingo, extravaganza hunt, coin hunt, heroic plays and other fun social activities. The camp environment was full of enjoyment and warmth. Volunteers from the English Club were very helpful and creative. At the end of the camp, souvenirs and awards were distributed according to the score card results. Before departing, songs and games were led by cheerleaders and other volunteers.



Cultural Trip

The SIIT International Office and English Club arranged a cultural trip for exchange students, who enrolled to study at SIIT in the 2nd/2005 semester, to visit the Ancient City in Samut Prakan Province on December 3, 2005.

This cultural trip was intended to provide information on interesting places and Thai culture to foreign students, and to let them participate in student activities with Thai students, in order to share their experience and culture.

TU Cheer Song Contest 2005

The SIIT Cheer and Chorus Club participated in the "TU Cheer Song Contest 2005" held by the Student Union of Thammasat University at Gymnasium 2, Thammasat University, Rangsit Campus, on September 10, 2005. The participants were first year students from all faculties of Thammasat University.



The 5th International University Sports Competition (IUSC) "SIIT Games"

The 5th International University Sports Competition (IUSC) 2005 "**SIIT Games**" was hosted by SIIT at Thammasat University, Rangsit Campus, during August 27-28, September 3-4, and September 10-11, 2005.

This annual sports competition was organized jointly by the student committees of 14 participating institutions/universities, namely Asian University; Bangkok University International College; British and American Studies International Program, Thammasat University (BAS-TU); Dhurakijpundit University, International College; International BBA Program, Chulalongkorn University; Kasetsart University, International Studies Center; Mahidol University, International College; Mission College; Rangsit University, International College (RIC); Shinawatra University; Sirindhorn International Institute of Technology (SIIT), Thammasat University; Stamford International University; Twinning Engineering Program, Thammasat University (TEP-TU); and University of the Thai Chamber of Commerce.



This year, SIIT students participated in 6 sports competitions: soccer, basketball, volleyball, table tennis, tennis and badminton. The awards received were: the Winner Trophy for Men's Volleyball, Winner Trophy for Women's Basketball, Winner Trophy for Women's Tennis, Silver Medal for the 1st Runner-up Men's Badminton, Bronze Medal for the 2nd Runner-up Men's Soccer, Bronze Medal for the 2nd Runner-up Men's Tennis, Bronze Medal for the 2nd Runner-up Women's Badminton, and Bronze Medal for the 2nd Runner-up Women's Volleyball.

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