2nd Cooperation Agreement on SIIT Development

At the SIIT Board of Trustees Meeting on 23 February 1999, the Board approved in principle the 2nd cooperation agreement among Thammasat University (TU), the Federation of Thai Industries (FTI) and Keidanren (Japan Federation of Economic Organizations) on SIIT development. These three organizations are the SIIT founders whose continuing support has strengthened the management and development of the Institute. The Joint Press Release on the cooperation agreement is presented on P.2 of this SIIT News.

SIIT Board of Trustees

First Row (from left):

- Assistant Professor Praphatsam Leopairone, TU Vice Rector for Finance and Property Management;
- Pol. Lt. Col. Dr. Thaksin Shinawatra, Shinawatra Group;
- Associate Professor Dr. Naris Chaiyasool, Chairperson of the Board and Rector of TU;
- Mr. Masatake Kusanichi, Chairman of Japan-Thailand Trade and Economic Committee, Keidanren, Japan and President of Nissho Iwai Corporation, Japan;
- Thanyapong Suriyakr, Advisor of FTI and Chairwoman of Toshiba Thailand Co., Ltd.;
- Mr. Tawee Butsuntorn, Chairman of FTI and Executive Vice President of Siam Cement Public Co., Ltd.

Second Row (from left):

- Assistant Professor Dr. Judsri Jaroenpuntarak, Dean of Faculty of Engineering, TU;
- Professor Dr. Naksit Coovattanachai, Deputy Director of National Science and Technology Development Agency;
- Mr. Khemadhat Sukondhasingha, Secretary General of FTI and President of Sikkok Co., Ltd.;
- Professor Dr. Pakorn Adulbhan, Executive Board Member of FTI, and Executive Dean of Division of Engineering and Technology, Rangsit University;
- Professor Dr. Prakat Wibulswas, Trustee and Secretary of the Board, Director of SIIT;
- Associate Professor Dr. Surachai Sirkrai, TU Vice Rector for Academic Affairs;
- Mr. Katsuhiko Fukiwara, Managing Director of Keidanren, Japan;
- Mr. Teruo Tsubaki, President of Japanese Chamber of Commerce in Bangkok, and President of Marubeni Thailand Co., Ltd.; and
- Dr. Kanthawong Sathirakul, Advisor of the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees.
Joint Press Release

Thammasat University, Federation of Thai Industries, and KEIDANREN Cooperation Agreement

Thammasat University, the Federation of Thai Industries and KEIDANREN have agreed in principle to enhance the academic quality of Sirindhorn International Institute of Technology (SIIT). In particular, the three parties have agreed to the following:

For smooth operation, SIIT shall be self-sustaining with autonomous administration under Thammasat University Council regulations regarding the establishment and management of SIIT. SIIT is governed by a Board of Trustees responsible for policy planning as well as supervision of the administration of the SIIT Director, who is appointed by the Board.

All academic programs will be operated and administered under the curriculum and academic regulations issued by the SIIT Board of Trustees and the Thammasat University Council, with degrees awarded by Thammasat University.

The Board of Trustees consists of not more than fourteen members. The Rector of Thammasat University, who is automatically a member of the Board, presides as the Chairperson, and the SIIT Director is a member in the position of the Secretary. Half of the remaining board members are appointed by Thammasat University and the other half by the Federation of Thai Industries and KEIDANREN. The members of the Board, appointed by the Federation of Thai Industries and KEIDANREN are appointed in equal numbers by each party.

In order to enhance SIIT's development towards academic excellence, the Federation of Thai Industries and KEIDANREN shall support SIIT, especially through in-kind contributions. One of the contributions is arranging annual technical training in Japan and in Thailand for some SIIT students.

This joint press release is issued on the 23rd day of February 1999.

Tawee Butsuntorn
Chairman
Federation of Thai Industries

Masatake Kusamichi
Chairman
Japan-Thailand Trade and Economic Committee
KEIDANREN

Naris Chaiyasoot
Rector
Thammasat University
Inauguration of SIIT Advanced Laboratory Building

On 19 March 1999, Mr. Peron Israsena, Former Chairman of FTI and Chairman of the Board of Shinawatra Satellite Public Co., Ltd. and Associate Professor Dr. Naris Chaiyasoot, Chairperson of the SIIT Board of Trustees and the Rector of TU, presided over the inauguration of the SIIT Advanced Laboratory Building. Mr. Teruo Tsubaki, President of Japanese Chamber of Commerce in Bangkok and Professor Dr. Okitsugu Fujisawa, Representative of the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), Assistant Professor Kamal Kumar Pawa M.D., Vice Rector for Administration, TU-Rangsit Center, Assistant Professor Somchalee Viriyayudhakorn, Vice Rector for Operations Management, TU-Rangsit Center, and Ms. Wanda Phaikao, TU Vice Rector for Administration also joined the inauguration ceremony.

After the inauguration ceremony, Mr. Peron Israsena, Associate Professor Dr. Naris Chaiyasoot, Mr. Teruo Tsubaki, Professor Dr. Okitsugu Fujisawa and other guests visited laboratories of the Civil, Electrical, Industrial and Mechanical Engineering and Information Technology programs housed in the SIIT Advanced Laboratory Building. The construction of this building which cost about 24 million baht was funded by the Federation of Thai Industries and Keidanren.

Training on Engineering and Technology in Japan

With the support of Keidanren (Japan Federation of Economic Organizations), 25 third-year students from the five academic programs of SIIT (Civil, Electrical, Industrial and Mechanical Engineering and Information Technology) attended an engineering and technology training program in Japan during 9 - 29 May 1999. In all 22 Japanese companies, namely Toyota Motor Corp., Toshiba Corp., Mitsubishi Electric Corp., Isuzu Motors Ltd., Sharp Corp., Nikon Co., Ltd., Seiko Epson, to name a few, cooperated in conducting this training program.

The program has been continuously arranged by Keidanren for SIIT since 1995, and the number of SIIT students who have been trained in Japan under this program has reached 100 this year. This training program has provided SIIT students invaluable practical experience.
Award Presentations and Orientation for New Students

The orientation for first-year students for the 1999 academic year was held on Friday June 4, 1999 at the TU Lecture Auditorium 4, Thammasat University, Rangsit Center. This year, SIIT has admitted 338 new students.

Mr. Takahiro Ienaga, President of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, Bangkok and Mr. Nipon Surapongrukhareon, Deputy Secretary General of the Federation of Thai Industries, were the guests of honor. The students and parents were welcomed by the TU Rector, Associate Professor Dr. Naris Chaiyasoot and the SIIT Director, Professor Dr. Prima Wibulswas. The students were introduced to SIIT regulations, SIIT Executive Committee as well as student activities.

As part of the orientation, SIIT scholarships were presented to 11 new students with outstanding marks on their entrance examinations. Silver medals were presented to 22 first, second, third and fourth-year students of the 1998 academic year who attained the highest GPA in their classes. Gold medals and certificates for academic excellence were presented to 5 graduates of the 1998 academic year who achieved the highest cumulative GPA in the Civil, Electrical, Industrial and Mechanical Engineering and Information Technology programs.

SIIT Faculty Team Visited UK Universities

From June 1 to June 8, 1999, six faculty members, Professor Dr. Sawasd Tantaratan, Associate Professor Dr. Somnuk Tantemsinkul, Assistant Professor Dr. Bundit Limmeechokchai, Assistant Professor Dr. Prinya Tantisawadi and Assistant Professor Dr. Mud-Ameerun Munlin, visited universities in the United Kingdom to negotiate possible research collaboration and faculty/student exchanges. The visited universities were University of Dundee, University of Strathclyde, Nottingham University, Imperial College, and University College London (UCL).

The SIIT team received a warm reception from all universities. During this trip, two Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) were signed, one between University of Strathclyde and SIIT, and the other between Nottingham University and SIIT.
### SIIT Faculty Members’ Publications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International Journal Papers</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional/National Journal Papers</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Conference Papers</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>52</strong></td>
<td><strong>56</strong></td>
<td><strong>46</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normalized Total (1)</td>
<td><strong>30.7</strong></td>
<td><strong>41.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>25.8</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of Papers/Faculty Member</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of Normalized Papers/Faculty Member</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Two regional/national papers are equivalent to one international journal paper and three international conference papers are equivalent to one international journal paper.

### Comparing 1996 International Publications

**SIIT and Electrical Engineering Dept. of a Leading Thai Public University**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SIIT</th>
<th>EE Dept., Leading Public Univ.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International Journal Papers</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Conference Papers</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>54</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normalized Total (1)</td>
<td><strong>28.7</strong></td>
<td><strong>7.3</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of faculty members with doctoral degrees</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>34(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Papers/Faculty Member</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Normalized Papers/Faculty Member</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) Three conference papers are equivalent to one international journal paper.
(2) There were 54 faculty members, 34 of whom hold doctoral degrees.

### SIIT Graduates Receive Scholarships for Further Studies

The Institute would like to congratulate the following SIIT graduates who have recently been awarded a scholarship for further studies at leading universities:

- Ms. Sawitri Jamaisi, graduated from the Industrial Engineering Department in 1998, has received the Shell Centenary Scholarship to study for her Master Degree in Computer Science at Oxford University, UK.
- Ms. Suwimol Sae-Tang, graduated from the Industrial Engineering Department in 1998, has received a scholarship from the Telephone Organization of Thailand to study in the Master’s Degree Program on Information Management at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok, Thailand.
- Mr. Danai Treeratwattana and Mr. Teerapong Aukararoj, who graduated from the Information Technology Dept in 1999, have each received a partial scholarship to study in the Master’s Degree Program on Computer Science and Information Management at AIT.

**Congratulations!**

### New Faculty Members

**During June 1998 – June 1999, SIIT appointed 7 additional full-time faculty members and one visiting faculty member. These faculty members hold a doctoral degree from a reputable university/institute and most of them have joined SIIT with a wealth of teaching and research experience. The Institute hopes that their contribution will strengthen the teaching and research activities at SIIT. These new faculty members are:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Academic Qualification</th>
<th>Present Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Vladimir I. Kouprianov</td>
<td>Doctoral Scientific Degree in Steam Boilers and Steam Generators, Moscow Power Engineering Institute, Russia.</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering Programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Waree Kongpravechorn</td>
<td>PhD in Mathematical Engineering and Information Physics, The University of Tokyo, Japan.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Electrical Engineering Programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Thanatuk Theeramunkong</td>
<td>DEng in Computer Science, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Information Technology Programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kommut Vilpitsutvarakun</td>
<td>PhD in Communication Engineering, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan.</td>
<td>Lecturer, Information Technology Programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Siriset Tootasanatsorn</td>
<td>PhD in Information Processing and Communications, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan.</td>
<td>Lecturer, Information Technology Programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Santsav Makharov</td>
<td>PhD in Applied Mathematics, Computer Center of the Russian Academy of Science, Russia.</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Information Technology Programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Napat Hampornchaisin</td>
<td>Dr. tech in Civil Engineering, University of Innsbruck, Austria.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Civil Engineering Programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Alexander K. Andrew</td>
<td>Doctoral Degree in Technical Sciences (Equiv. PhD), Electro-physics, Moscow Power Engineering Institute, Russia.</td>
<td>Visiting Faculty Member, Electrical Engineering Programs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Visitors

University of Dundee, Scotland

On 13 January 1999, Mr. Michael J. Tooze, Director of Development Initiatives in South East Asia of the University of Dundee, Scotland, United Kingdom, visited SIIT to introduce his university’s academic and research programs and also to explore possibilities of collaboration between the University of Dundee and Thammasat University.

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Associate Professor Dr. Freddy Y. C. Boey, Deputy Director of the Advanced Materials Research Centre and Associate Professor Dr. Yeo Joon Hock from the School of Mechanical & Production Engineering, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, visited SIIT on 8 May 1999 to introduce their research activities and discuss postgraduate research opportunities at the School of Mechanical & Production Engineering. Possible academic cooperation between the School and SIIT was also explored.

SIIT Director as Keynote Speaker
and Academic Cooperation with
Faculty of Engineering, Melbourne University

Professor Dr. Prida Wibulswas, Director of SIIT, was invited and sponsored to be one of the keynote speakers of the Tenth International Pacific Conference on Automotive Engineering held in Melbourne, Australia during 22-24 May 1999. At the conference, Prof. Prida delivered his keynote address on “Emissions from Transportation and Mitigation Measures in Thailand”. He also participated in the panel session discussing and answering questions of other participants.

During this visit to Australia, Prof. Prida also signed a Memorandum of Understanding for Academic Cooperation between SIIT and the Faculty of Engineering, University of Melbourne.

MARA Institute of Technology, Malaysia

Associate Professor Dr. Eukhony B. Hj. Ismail, Provost of the MARA Institute of Technology, Perlis Branch, Malaysia, led 30 faculty members and administrators on a visit to SIIT on 24 May 1999. They were welcomed by Professor Dr. Sawasdi Tantaratan, the Deputy Director of SIIT, who informed them of the SIIT academic programs, research activities, and management and operations. The visitors also toured the research facilities of the SIIT Advanced Laboratory Building and the Library & Information Services Center.

The SIIT News is published quarterly by SIIT.

Executive Editor: Prof. Dr. Prida Wibulswas
Editors: Ms. On-Arong Suranirarat
Mr. Paul Hinshaw
Mr. Terry Avon
Artists: Ms. Khin Lay Mu

For additional information about SIIT please contact:
The Public Relations Committee
Sirindhorn International Institute of Technology
Thammasat University
P.O. Box 22, Thammasat-Rangsit Post Office
Pathum Thani 12121, Thailand
Tel: (66 2) 986 9101-8, 554 6319-23. Fax: (66 2) 986 9112-3
http://www.sit.tu.ac.th

Siriindhorn International Institute of Technology (SIIT)
Thammasat University
P.O. Box 22, Thammasat-Rangsit Post Office, Pathum Thani 12121, Thailand
Tel: (66 2) 986 9101-8, 554 6319-23. Fax: (66 2) 986 9112-3

To