Rev. Bro. Dr. Bancha Saenghiran, Rector Magnificus of Assumption University presided over the King’s 86th Birthday Anniversary Greeting Ceremonies at Assumption University. AU administrators, faculty members, students, and staff joined the whole Thai nation in conveying best wishes to His Majesty the King on this auspicious occasion. Two ceremonies, organized by the Office of Thai Art and Culture were held on both Assumption University campuses on December 4, 2013 at the King’s Room, the Cathedral of Learning Building, Suvannabhumi campus and at the Tower of David, Hua Mak campus.
On December 18, 2013, Assumption University had a privilege to confer Doctor in Philosophy Honoris Causa on H.E. Jose’ Ramos – Horta, Under-Secretary-General Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Head of the UN Integrated Peace Building Mission in Guinea-Bissau (West Africa). The Investiture Ceremony was performed in the University Chapel and the Degree was presented to him by Rev. Bro. Bancha Saenghiran, f.s.g. Ph.D., Rector- Magnificus of Assumption University. On this occasion, Dr. Jose’ Ramos captivated the audience with his insightful address entitled, “ASIA: Rise or Fall – Challenges and Opportunities in the 21st Century”.

It is important to note that besides being Head of the UN Peace Building Team, Dr. Ramos is one of the three leaders of East Timor, Prime Minister in 2006, President of Timor-Leste from May 2007- April 2008 and in 1996 he was jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize with Bishop Carlos Belo.

In citation, H.E. Ramos – Horta has engaged his entire life in selfless struggling for peace and independence of his homeland – East Timor – and the people. He has been recognized nationally and internationally through numerous awards. President Ramos is world renown for his academic achievements especially in peace building, human rights, and public relations. He writes and speaks extensively on the topics and has been awarded several Doctor Honoris Causa from universities in Australia, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Brazil, Portugal, Thailand, and USA.

In his eloquent address, Dr. Ramos revealed his authentic concerns and sincere suggestion over intense situations in various places in Asia including Thailand.

Drawing on his rich, first-hand experience of Timor-Leste’s independence struggle from over 400 years of Portuguese colonization and two decades of Indonesian rule, he concludes one essential ingredient for peace:

“...In victory, be magnanimous; never seek to humiliate the adversary....”

His statement is timely for current Thailand situation – his second witness as he was in Bangkok during the street protest.
in May 2010. Over the present tension, he eloquently expressed his real concern as a true friend:

“...It is always a pleasure to visit the Kingdom of Thailand. Like other countries in our region, Thailand faces complex political and social tensions that cause real concern among its many friends.

I was here in Bangkok in May 2010 in the heat of the street protests – and was the only foreign Head of State welcome by the Government. I was witness to the tensions ...as the two sides were not able to climb down from their respective demands. “

Yet he never lost hope for the future of Thailand:

“However, we are all hopeful that those involve in the different sides of the divide will be able to meet halfway in frank and robust dialogue, swallow their pride, restrain their anger, manage their emotions, bridge their differences, and charter an inclusive Road Map for the Future of Thailand as a truly free, peaceful, compassionate, and egalitarian society illuminated by the wisdom of Buddha.”

For Thais, wherever you are in your standpoint, wouldn’t it be wise to seriously ponder his suggestion—a suggestion from a leader of one of the nine fastest growing states in the world?

And for Asia the big picture, President Ramos cautions scholars who predict that world power is shifting to Asia in the 21st century as he views the challenges we face are immense and complex:

“I would dare say that our region is the most dangerous in the world, the most militarized, most nuclearized, with complex land and maritime border disputes, regional rivalries, ethnic and religious conflicts that have exploded in and between states.”

In conclusion he offers a sound suggestion:

“Asia needs a roadmap of priorities and resource allocation to answer all these challenges. Asian leaders should consider a 30-year Asian Road Map for integrated, sustainable Human Development including goals for eradicating poverty, illiteracy, TB, malaria, etc. and restore the wealth and health of our forests, rivers, seas.”

For those interested in reading his full address, the program booklet for the Conferral Ceremony is available at the AU library.
Rev. Brother Dr. Prathip Martin Komolmas, The President Emeritus of Assumption University blessed the Bridal couple at the Wedding reception for Mr. Viwat Avarasiripong’s son Jinnawat, on December 26, 2013 at the Reniassance Hotel. Mr. Viwat Avarasiripong, a graduate of ABAC Batch#2, in the past was an adjunct professor in the Undergraduate Department of Marketing, the Martin de Tours School of Management and the former President of the Assumption University Alumni Association.

Mor Din Daeng, More Than Games

Rev. Bro. Dr. Bancha Saenghiran, Rector Magnificus of Assumption University presided over the Assumption University’s Athletes Commentary Ceremony to honor AU athletes and to boost their morale. The athletes were participating in the 41st Thailand University Games: “Mor Din Daeng, More Than Games.” Attendants at the ceremony were Dr. Vindhai Cocracul, Vice Rector for Student Affairs, Dr. Chirapa Srikalasin, Assistant to the Vice Rector for Student Affairs, coaches, team leaders, and AU athletes. The event organized by the University’s Student Affairs, took place on January 8, 2014 in front of the Cathedral of Learning Building, Assumption University, Suvanabhumi campus.
Congratulations
to the Graduates of Class XLI

Rev. Bro. Dr. Bancha Saenghiran, Rector Magnificus of Assumption University, presides over the AU Graduation Ceremony Class XLI. Among participants were Rev. Bro. Surasit Sukchai, the Provincial Superior of the Brothers of St. Gabriel, Province of Thailand and Chairman of the University Council, Rev. Bro. Dr. Prathip M. Komolmas, AU President Emeritus, administrators, faculty members, students and 3,691 graduates who successfully completed bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees in various fields. The ceremony was performed on January 18, 2014 at The Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, Bangkok.

Organized by the Working Committee for AU Graduation Class 41, Assumption University
School of Laws Last Orientation

The Rector Magnificus of Assumption University, Rev. Brother Dr. Bancha Saenghiran addressed the Graduating class of the Faculty of Laws at its Last Orientation on January 22, 2014 in the Assembly Hall, De Montfort Building, at the Hua Mak campus. The Rector Magnificus emphasized integrity in professional performance and the rule of law as the pivots of social harmony and progress.

The Most Important Elements in Business

Professor David B. Grant, Professor of Logistics and Associate Dean (Business Engagement) Hull University Business School, U.K. addressed the Faculty members and students of the Martin de Tours School of Management on the subject of Logistics and Supply Chain Management: The Most Important Elements in Business at a forum at the Assumption University Suvarnabhumi campus on January 15, 2014 at 9:00 hrs.
Rev. Bro. Dr. Bancha Saenghiran, President - Rector Magnificus of Assumption University presides over the opening of AU Celebration Day 2014 to celebrate the New Year and new semester 2/2013 among various student committees and club members of AU Student Organization and AU community. The event took place on January 20, 2014 at Scholar Square (Dome 4, Assumption University, Suvarnabhumi campus).

Organized by the Student Organization of Assumption University
Chinese New Year 2014

The Department of Business Chinese, the Faculty of Arts hosted the Chinese New Year festivities at the Quad, the Cathedral of Learning, Assumption University Suvarnabhumi campus on January 22, 2014. The Chief Guest at the Festivities was Assumption University's Rector Magnificus, Rev. Brother Dr. Bancha Saenghiran who added warmth and cheer to the celebration despite the prevalent chilly winds and cold weather.
Faculty Activities

Musica Grandioso was an Opera and Students recital. Through this project the students were allowed to show their appreciation towards the traditional form of music, provided entertainment services to public with cooperation from well-renowned Japanese performers in Tokyo and Thailand. It also allowed students to demonstrate their instrumental skills and talents in public and enabled the students to gain more confidence in performing in public, organized by School of Music at Martin Hall on January 23, 2014.

The Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs organized an Orientation for new faculty members at Assumption University on January 25, 2014 at the Salle d’Expo, the Hua Mak campus. The Rector Magnificus introduced the UNIVERSITY, its Vision, Mission and academic objectives to the new faculty. The faculty members participated in a teaching techniques workshop led by the Staff from the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The Department of marketing, the Martin de Tours School of Management organized its first Orientation for Marketing Major Students at the John XXIII International Conference Center on January 24, 2014.
AU Christmas 2013 was celebrated at both campuses on 24 December 2013 where AU President, Rev. Bro. Bancha Saenghiran presided over the ceremony. The highlights of the Christmas 2013 at Suvarnabhumi campus were the ceremony of AU Awards for Excellence and Birthday anniversary celebration of Rev. Bro. Prathip M. Komolmas, President Emeritus at the Chapel of St. Louis Marie de Montfort. The Holy Mass was performed at night in the Chapel of St. Louis Marie de Montfort. Christmas 2013 at Hua Mak campus featured AU Staff of the Year Award and Christmas party at Salle d’ Expo, Assumption Hall. The Holy Mass was celebrated in the chapel, Assumption Hall at night. Attendants were AU administrators, faculty members, staff, students, alumni, and guests.
Five ABAC Students Won Prizes in French Speech Contest 2013

On December 1, 2013 students from Business French participated in the Annual French Activities organized by the Association of Thai Teacher Teaching French, under the Royal Patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn. The contest took place at Assumption College, Bangrak, Bangkok.

Our sincere congratulations to the five AU winners:

- Ms. Issariya Mekrungcharas was the 1st Prize Winner in Speech Contest
- Mr. Watchara Thapchai, Ms. Natcharas Anantakitayathorn and Mr. Jatturong Singchan, as a team, received the Honorable Mention Award in French Conversation.
- Ms. Pusacha Suanmalee won the Honorable Mention Award in French Quiz.
Exchange Program

Students Exchange from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

Dr. Andrew Ciganeck and Dr. Denis and a group of fourteen students from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater were hosted to visit Assumption University by the Martin School of Management on January 6, 2014. Mr. Glen Chatelier, the Director of the Office of International Affairs welcomed the Wisconsin visitors with a brief introduction of Assumption University at the Wiset Si Samut Room, the Cathedral of Learning, Suvarnabhumi campus, before a forum on ASEAN and the Thai Economy followed, with lecturers from the Martin School of Management sharing their informed and researched views with the participants.

Students Exchange from DePauw University

Asst. Prof. Dr. Kittiphan Techakittiroj, Dean of the Vincent Mary Faculty of Engineering welcomed Assoc. Prof. Khadija J. Stewart, Caroline Jones and a group of twenty-four undergraduate students from DePauw University, Indiana, USA on January 10, 2014 at the Suvarnabhumi campus. The objective of the study abroad visitors was to learn more about the academic programs of Assumption University while on their visit to Thailand to learn more about Thai Culture and Traditions.
Mr. Steve Miranda, Managing Director, Center for Advanced Human Resources Studies (CAHRS), and Joseph E. Grasso Associate Dean for Finance, Administration, and Corporate Relations, The School of Industrial and Labor Relations (ILR) at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, U.S.A. accompanied by Mr. Thepparith Senamngern an Assumption University Alumnus, visited the Martin School of Management’s Dean Dr. Uree Cheasakul and her academic team at the Assumption University, Suvanabhumi campus to explore collaborations in academic exchange programs on January 13, 2014. The meeting was attended by two lecturers from the AU Faculty of Laws, graduates of the master’s degree in laws program at Cornell University.

Rev. Brother Dr. Prathip Martin Komolmas, the Rector Emeritus of Assumption University welcomed thirty two Exchange students from U.S.A., Japan, Finland, the Netherlands, Germany and France at an Orientation organized by the Office of International Affairs on January 17, 2014. The Exchange students have enrolled in undergraduate courses in the Martin de Tours School of Management and the Business English Department, the Faculty of Arts for one semester.

Sasicha Sirivallapanondh, Jitrinee Chanphati, Khanchanok Jiotphat, Pichaya Sadudeechevin and Tirada Saengprayoonporn from the Martin de Tours School of Management and Economics have been awarded the JASSO Scholarship to participate in the Asian Studies Exchange program at Kansai Gaidai University, Osaka, Japan from January to December 2014.
Taekwondo Gold
in the 27th SEA Games 2013, Myanmar

Ms. Cassandra Haller, 22-year-old Thai-Swiss our Student of Martin de Tours School of Management and Economics beat Ms. Thanh Hien Nguyen of Vietnam 11-2 in the final. Claimed the women’s 67 kg. Taekwondo Gold at Wunna Theikdi Indoor Stadium, Myanmar, December 19, 2013
Photograph Montage
AU Commencement Exercises
Class XLI