CONTENTS

3 University Highlighted Activities
- AU Digital Home: Smart Living in the Digital Age
- the 8th CGA GAMES
- Congratulations on a TNC 4-Year Term of Accreditation
  AU School of Nursing Science Acquires
- TQF 3 - TQF 7 Writing Workshop for Faculty Members
- Visitors from College of the Rockies, Canada
- Assumption University family field trip
- Anual Staff Seminar 2014

10 Faculty Activities
- AU signs MOU with NIDA
- AU CSR Activity at Korat
- Induction and Orientation Program 4/2013
  by Graduate School of Business
- Convocation Day for Nursing Graduates
- Nurses: A Force for Change A Vital Resource for Health
- Last Orientation for Graduating Students participating
  in Student Loan Fund
- Trade Potentials between Thailand and the African Continent
- Preceptorship Training for Nursing Practicum
- AU Camp for Freshmen 03/2013
- AU Orientation for Semester 3/2013 (Summer Admission)
- Acting Vice Rector Performed Building Inspections
- Better Investment with Securities: First Step towards Prosperity
- 1st Orientation of PhD Students in Business Administration

19 Prizes, Awards and Honors
- Congratulations to MSM&E Students
  On Winning The Green Innovation Award 2013
- Congratulations to Asst. Prof. Dr. Nanthapan Chinvanthanand

20 Exchange Program
- Exchange program from Paracelsus Medical University, Austria
AU Digital Home: Smart Living in the Digital Age

An Exclusive Interview with Asst. Prof. Dr. Kittiphan Techakittiroj, Dean of Engineering

Back in 2008, the energy-efficient home project was initiated by Dr. Sudhiporn Patumtaewapibal, who was then the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering. When approved, and with help from many agencies, the project was launched as the AU Genius Home. The on-going project has prospered ever since. The current project developer, Asst. Prof. Dr. Kittiphan Techakittiroj has given ABAC Today a timely interview, in the record breaking heat of April 2014.

Dean Kittiphan: At the beginning, people called it an energy saving home but energy saving is not exactly what it’s about. The objective is not to save energy, but rather to use energy to make the standard of living better. We called it a smart home but we soon found that the term ‘smart’ could be misleading. It created false expectations in the audience, so now we call it a Digital Home, highlighting the notion of efficient living in a digital age.

ABAC Today: Conceptually, what is it? I imagine the project is ongoing?

Dean Kittiphan: Of course. The Digital Home is our live laboratory. It serves as a spring-board for our faculty and students to frequently test initiatives and new theories. So far we have produced five academic papers from this project and there will be more to come. It’s an ongoing thing with our current research studies being automation and integration with other projects.

It is now the test bench for some commercial R&D projects that we have been asked to develop involving automation in the home to enhance the comfort of living.

ABAC Today: That’s interesting. What are the key characteristics of the ‘Digital Home’? In other words, what makes it different from other homes?

Dean Kittiphan: The Digital Home contains two parts: the energy part and the interactive part. The energy part includes the sources of energy for the house and the
automation. The interactive part is about IT integrated in the modern life style.

In the energy part we mainly consider three components. The first is the supply of energy. There are three power sources merged together to supply energy for living in the house. The three sources are the main power grid, the roof-top solar panels and human-driven power sources (power-generating bicycles). The second component is DC distribution (direct current). This is a trend to make the power distribution more efficient. We started with DC distribution with our grant from EGAT to build the house. The final component is the automation of electrical appliances in the house.

The interactive part has become less important. The main reason is that we cannot keep up with rapid changes in the IT industry. Interactive IT technology is consumer-based and the cost to the consumer is quite high. For example, we demonstrated interactive inventions in 2008 and publicized them, and then some months later the same technology came out in completed compact products. The excitement surrounding the inventions was gone.

**ABAC Today**: Is solar energy suitable for tropical countries like Thailand? We have plenty of sunshine throughout the year.

**Dean Kittiphan**: Yes and no. Actually we have lots of sunlight in summer only. In the rainy season it is cloudy much of the time. The capability of solar panels is not fully used. Moreover, solar panels were quite costly. The return on investment is still not attractive.

At that time, it cost us almost B400,000 for only 20% of roof-top capacity (2.1kW). Now with economies of scale, more and more solar panels are available in the market. It now costs only half that price to obtain the same amount of power. In the near future I believe solar energy will be a cost-effective energy option for homes. We will see more solar panels incorporated into the roofs of many structures (buildings and car parks).

**ABAC Today**: How about human-driven power sources: the power-generating bicycles?

**Dean Kittiphan**: Dr. Sudhiporn initiated the idea of involving ourselves as part of the energy production. The aim is to create the awareness of the value of energy and at the same time to demonstrate a method of inserting an amount of energy into the system. Our team took an exercise bike coupled with an old motor to act as a power generator. When you cycle, it generates enough power to light the house. We currently have two bikes. You could have twenty, put them in a row, and have twenty kids cycling to generate more power in the house.

**ABAC Today**: That sounds like fun. Family members can do cycling exercises to keep fit and at the same time generate power for their home. How about DC?

**Dean Kittiphan**: DC distribution is an alternative distribution method to the widely used AC distribution. In many cases DC has proved to be a more efficient energy distribution system than AC. Specifically, large scale computer server companies are looking towards DC distribution to improve their energy efficiency. This house is demonstrating the possibility of using DC distribution in a local setting.

**ABAC Today**: So these two systems can generate the energy needed to run the house?

**Dean Kittiphan**: Yes, except for air-conditioning. For this house 80% of the energy is consumed by air-conditioning.

**ABAC Today**: How about the second part: interactive IT technology?

**Dean Kittiphan**: This part refers to all the gadgets that are integrated into our living. From the beginning, this house was designed with the concept that everyone
would be equipped with a mobile device. The communication, interaction and control is done through these mobile devices. The technology allows us to do things more easily. We can work at home and have a video-conference to talk with our colleagues in other places. We also use the technology to operate and control all the features and devices in the house – making it more convenient and not dependent on manual operation. For example, we can use gesture control to turn on or off the TV, air-conditioners, and so on.

ABAC Today: Speaking of the cost, I presume there must be some sponsors for this project?

Dean Kittiphan: We were fortunate to get enough donations to start the project back in the year 2008. The major contributors to the project were EGAT and MK.

Restaurant. Many other corporations have supplied us with their products to complete the project: SCG Building Materials, ORC Primier, Jotan Thai, Light & Equipment (L&E), Modernform Group and LG. We are thankful to all of them.

ABAC Today: If individuals or groups would like more information and/or would like to visit the Digital Home, would you allow that?

Dean Kittiphan: Of course. We welcome all visitors. Just contact the office, Vincent Mary School of Engineering, Assumption University, for an appointment.

To visit the AU Digital Home, contact Ph. 02-7232311 or email engineer@au.edu.
The Confederation of Saint Gabriel Alumni Association of Thailand (CGA) organized the 8th CGA GAMES to strengthen relationships and team spirit among all 14 institutes of alumni in the St. Gabriel Foundation network. The event was held on 3rd May 2014 in John Paul II Sport Center, Suvarnabhumi campus. AU President Rector Magnificus, Rev.Bro. Dr. Bancha Saenghiran presided over the CGA GAMES and presented the cup to the winners.

TQF 3 – TQF 7 Writing Workshop for Faculty Members

The Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs led by Dr. Sompit Porsutyaruk Vice Rector for Academic Affairs organized a TQF 3 – TQF 7 Writing Workshop for Faculty Members on 19th May 2014 at John XXIII Conference Center, Suvarnabhumi campus. Quality Assurance process, consisting of IQA and EQA, is an ongoing self improvement process required for all higher education institutions public and private alike.
The total 84 nursing science institutes in Thailand, 58 long-established public ones and 20 private, plus 6 newly established institutes [4 public and 2 private] have recently been accredited by Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council or TNMC. Of the 58 public nursing institutes, 29 are under the Ministry of Public Health, 24 under the Office of Higher Education Commission or OHEC, three under the Ministry of Defense, one under the National Royal Police, and one under the Bangkok Metropolitan. Among the 58 public nursing schools, a range of 2 to 5 years term of accreditation is granted. For private nursing schools, however, it is another story. The School of Nursing Science of AU and McCormick, Payap University were the only two private nursing institutes granted a four-year term of accreditation by TNMC as eligible to be “Mentors” of newly established nursing schools. Currently, there are only 12 “Mentor” institutes nationwide to coach the new nursing school and AU School of Nursing is the only private institute being a Mentor.

The School of Nursing Science, Assumption University, was firstly accredited for 4 years by TNMC in 1990, 24 years ago, the first private institute being accredited every 4 years ever since. The current accreditation, the 6th cycle, begins in 2014. We had a group of auditors from TNMC visit our school and the practicum sites on April 1-2 this year and the announcement of results was made on 16th May 2014. Among 20 private nursing institutes, 3 institutes currently have acquired the 4 years’ term of accreditation from TNMC. All the rest are accredited either 2 years or 3 years.

ABAC Today had an interview with the Dean, Asst. Prof. Dr. Nanthaphan Chinlumprasert to find out how they made it. Here is what we found out:

Compared with OHEC QA, TNMC accreditation is tough and more specialized into the practice of nursing profession. They have several key standard indicators that we need to meet: the curriculum and instructional management, professional practicum, human resource management; qualifications of faculty, faculty-student ratio, management of information system (MIS), strategic financial management, and the qualifications of nursing graduates including their nursing license exam passing rate. With relatively high score for the 4-year term, the Dean is now aiming at 5-year accrediting term. “We need to start working for that from now on, not three years later,” asserted Dean Nanthaphan. One
The key standard they need to seriously work on is to have more than 70% of graduates passing nursing license examination for all subjects at the first time of their trial. “That is not easy” she said, “since they all get hired upon graduation and few of them can manage their time to obtain the reviewing course manipulated by the school. Some of them even plan to gradually taking the test for few subjects until they pass them all in a few years later.”

Another 4-year plan in pipeline is to open master degree programs in nursing science. The key requirement is to have highly qualified faculty, both in quality and quantity, specialized in the fields to be offered. This plan can be achieved with the supported of the university authority as always.

As the result of well recognized, long established programs in nursing science, AU School of Nursing Science is requested to serve as a mentor institute for new nursing schools who wish to improve their quality standards and to acquire accreditation. Again, to be a mentor institute, it has to be approved by TNMC. The criteria are: to be in operation for at least 20 years, and more importantly, to be granted the TNMC’s 4-year term of accreditation for at least 3 consecutive cycles. The mentee of AU School of Nursing Science is Shinawatra University. “They can request for assistance in both academic and non-academic matters, it is challenging and a true contribution” the Dean said.

Currently, AU School of Nursing Science is serving 258 students, 27% of student body are foreign students from China, Myanmar, and ten other countries. The faculty has been among the highest rates of graduate employment and overall highest stakeholder satisfaction score.

To stay competitive in the field, Dean Nanthaphan gives 3 clear directions: quality focus, maintain high standards, and to acquire the 5-year term of accreditation.

CONGRATULATIONS on well deserved success, AU School of Nursing Science!

Visitors from César Ritz Colleges, Switzerland

The Administrative team from César Ritz Colleges, Switzerland visited AU and exchanged views on academic policies and issues with Rev. Bro. Dr. Bancha Saenghiran, AU President - Rector Magnificus, Dr. Kamol Kitsawad, Vice Rector for Advancement, Dr. Soonthorn Pibulcharoensit, Deputy University Registrar, and Mr. Glen Vivian Chatelier, Director Office of International Affairs. Their visit took place on 23rd May 2014 in SG109, St. Gabriel Hall, Suvarnabhumi campus.
University Highlighted Activities

AU Family Field Trip

Thirty three members of the Assumption University family travelled to Portugal and Spain, May 3-11, 2014 on a field trip organized by the university’s Office of the President, to two countries which are fabled as lands of exotic Europe. The group is pictured at Toledo, Spain where they visited the Cathedral of Saint Mary after which they proceeded to Madrid as the last city to visit. They returned to Bangkok refreshed, inspired and energized to serve the university. The overseas field trip is a university voluntary program aiming for increasing faculty and staff knowledge and experience from visiting places around the world.
Ob-Oon9 Project
an AU CSR Activity to Korat

Dr. Uree Cheasakul, Dean of Martin de Tours School of Management and Economics and students in class MGT4911 donated a fund of Baht 311,214 raised from the Cowboy Night activity on 9th April under Ob Oon Project to the university to be further donated to Ban Nong Bua village in Korat. The donation money will be spent on building an Ob-Oon production plant in the village. Rev. Bro. Dr. Bancha Saenghiran thanked the students for their team spirit, hard work and initiatives.

The project leaders were Ms. Ponchanok Chammankitvanich, first batch of ACC School of Commerce, and Mr. Teetanai Treepermsub. Dr. Uree Cheasakul and A. Tipnuch Phungsoonthorn, Director of ACC School of Commerce and Deputy Chairperson of Martin de Tours School of Management and Economics were supervisors of the project. Ob-Oon Project is a social responsibility project aiming to help the community in a sustainable way by creating occupations in the community. It went on to final round of the national competition of Community Business Development for Sufficiency Economy organized by Thailand Management Association (TMA) in 2009 and won the 2nd runner up award.

The Cowboy Night was organized live at AU Suvarnabhumi campus. It featured exhibitors from Dong Pra Doo Farm who exhibited “Panda Cow” and many more animals. Guests, students, and faculty members enjoyed feeding the animals, playing games, visiting food booths each with donated money of only 30-40 Baht. There were also a cowboy competition, lotto draw, and invited singers and a musical band.

Kudos to BBA ACC and all involved in Ob-Oon Project!
AU Signs MOU with NIDA

AU President - Rector Magnificus, Rev. Bro. Dr. Bancha Saenghiran and Rector of National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA), Dr. Pradit Wannarat, sign an MOU on academic cooperation between AU Faculty of Arts and Department of Language and Communication and NIDA Faculty of Language and Communication on 2nd May 2014, A51, Assumption Hall, Hua Mak. Attendants included Dr. Chayada Thanavisuth, Dean of Faculty of Arts, Dr. Kampol Sawaengbunsatit, Dean of NIDA Faculty of Language and Communication, AU administration and faculty.

Induction and Orientation Program 4/2013 by the Office of Graduate Studies, Assumption University, 10th May 2014, at the Auditorium, De Montfort Hall, Hua Mak campus.
Faculty Activities

Convocation Day for Nursing Graduates

Bernadette de Lourdes School of Nursing Science organized Convocation Day for Nursing Graduates, Class of 2013 on 12th May 2014 at Salle d’ Expo, Assumption Hall, Hua Mak campus. Rev. Bro. Dr. Bancha Saenghiran, President-Rector Magnificus, Assumption University presided over the ceremony. This convocation was to give final advice to graduating nurses before embarking on their professional careers.

International Nurses Day 2014


last orientation for graduating students participating in Student Loan Fund

Rev. Bro. Dr. Amnuay Yoonprayong Vice Rector for Moral Development Education presided over the last orientation for graduating students participating in Student Loan Fund (รพช) on 19th May 2014 at Seminar Room, De Montfort Hall, Hua Mak campus.
Faculty Activities

Assumption University signs MOU with SET for Research Support

Dr. Uree Cheasakul, Dean, Martin de Tours School of Management and Economics represented AU in signing a memorandum of understanding with Mr. Jaramporn Chotikasatian, President of the Stock Exchange of Thailand to set up a Research Fund Project that promotes and supports research & development in Capital Markets at graduate level during academic year 2014.

The Stock Exchange of Thailand has signed a memorandum of understanding with Assumption University, and other leading educational institutions around the country every year. The purpose of the project is to collaboratively develop internationally standardized research concerning capital markets for master and PhD candidates at AU.

This year, Asst. Prof. Dr. Nopphon Tangjitprom from the Finance and Banking Department, Martin de Tours School of Management and Economics received an outstanding PhD research award from the Capital Markets Research Fund 2013 supported by the Stock Exchange of Thailand. The MOU signing ceremony was organized at the headquarters of the Stock Exchange of Thailand.

Office of Graduate Studies, Assumption University, organized its ‘Speaker of the Month’ conference on 21st May 2014 for MBA students. Mr. Watana Chutthong, First Secretary African Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs delivered a talk entitled, “Trade Potentials between Thailand and the African Continent”. His presentation was well received by the audience. The conference was held at Salle d’ Expo, Assumption Hall, Hua Mak campus.
**Faculty Activities**

**Preceptorship Training for Nursing Practicum**

Bernadette de Lourdes School of Nursing Science organized a Preceptorship Training for Nursing Practicum, 26-29 May 2014 at Salle d’Expo, Assumption Hall, Hua Mak campus. The training was chaired by the Dean Asst. Prof. Dr. Nanthaphan Chinlumpresasert.

The Practicum is for new faculty members as well as registered nurses who have experience and would like to be Au preceptors for the affiliated hospitals. This project aimed to train qualified nursing staff from affiliated hospitals to be efficient Au preceptors, to enhance the quality of nursing supervision, and to maintain the standard ratio of instructor/preceptor to student 1:8 in the health care setting. The training had two phases including pedagogy training phase, conducted earlier in February-March, and in May was English training phase.

**AU Orientation for Semester 3/2013 (Summer Admission)**

Rev. Bro. Dr. Bancha Saenghiran President - Rector Magnificus of Assumption University - presided over the AU Orientation for semester 3/2013 (Summer Admission) on 7th June 2014 at the Auditorium, De Montfort Hall, Hua Mak campus. The summer orientation was organized by AU Student Affairs.
AUStudent Organization (AUSO) organized an AU Camp to welcome freshmen 03/2013 during June 7-8, 2014. The event was held in the gymnasium, Suvannabhumi campus. The one-day event was rerun three times for three mixed groups of this year’s freshmen. The morning session began with icebreaking activities as they are from different faculties followed by a walk rally and other team games all designed to strengthen teamwork, collaborative skills and problem solving capacity. By noon time, they mostly became acquainted and many of them had made new friends across faculties.

The afternoon session was even more fun and engaging as it encapsulated all ideas and purposes of the AU Camp under the theme for 2014, “AU Pirates: The Land of Treasure”. Being well thought-out by the AUSO team and Student Affairs adviser, the treasure hunt game symbolized their upcoming 4-year student life at AU. Imagine AU as a rich treasure island where all ‘pirates’ are hunting for gold and jewelries, the precious knowledge and skills that would help them build their future career in the 21st century world after graduation.

Not only were these three thousand freshmen having a good time at the AU camp 2014, senior AU students were cheerfully setting up stage performances to entertain and welcome new members to the AU family. They also answered endless questions from freshmen about life at AU, such as residential facilities, campus resources, programs, and services. The final activity was Baisri, a meaningful traditional North/Northeastern ritual, to individually welcome all new students. Last but not least, the AU Rector- Magnificus, Rev. Dr. Brother Bancha Saenghiran, gave all freshmen a warm welcome speech and helpful tips while studying and joining the AU Family, that is, to live up to the AU identity (strong moral ethics, leadership, English language proficiency, and entrepreneurship), keep a balanced lifestyle between studies and activities (or between work and leisure), and stick to AU motto: “Labor Omnia Vincit”.

• “We passionately did our best to make this one-day event fun for the new comers,” said Kantapon, AUSO President. Thanaphol, AUSO Vice President for Club Affairs, added, “It’s AUSO’s intention to build unity among students”
Voice from **Nong Friends** in BBA program “I’m impressed with the seniors. Despite the term break, they are all here to organize a warm event for us. I had so much fun and feel proud to be part of AU Community.”  
**Nong Ton**, a freshy in the Faculty of Arts, “I had no idea ABAC would have any activity like this. It melts down my fear and I made lots of new friends. I was thrilled to be welcomed by the AU President himself tying a traditional white string on my wrist! It was so meaningful. AU does have many good things to be proud of.”

**Tri-ELE International Conference**

The Institute for English Language Education (IELE), Assumption University, together with 2 other leading language institutes namely Language Institute, Thammasat University and Faculty of Liberal Arts, Mahidol University, organized the first Tri-ELE International Conference titled “Toward Global English Horizon” on 20th to 21st June 2014, at The Ambassador Hotel Bangkok. The conference aimed to provide a platform for all ELE scholars, practitioners, and learners to explore theories, thoughts, research, and practices for professional and academic advancement.

On this occasion the organizers received an honor from His Excellency Mr. James Wise, Australian Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, for his opening speech. Rev. Bro. Dr. Prathip M. Komolmas, Rector Emeritus, participated in the opening ceremony. Rev. Bro. Simeon Anupatt P. Yuthachai and Asst. Prof. Dr. Linchong Chorrojprasert, Dean, Institute for English Language Education, represented Assumption University in giving welcome speeches.

At the conference, 12 IELE instructors presented their academic research works.
Faculty Activities

Strategic Planning:
From Policy to Action

Rev. Bro. Dr. Bancha Saenghiran, President - Rector Magnificus of Assumption University, delivered an opening address at the workshop entitled “Strategic Planning: From Policy to Action.” The workshop was for heads of units/departments to understand and practice strategic planning, exchange experience, and increase cooperation and collaboration between sections of the university resulting in effective and efficient work plans. The workshop was led by Dr. Noppadon Kannika, Instructor of Graduate School of Business. Attendants were Rev. Bro. Dr. Prathip Martin Komolmas, AU President Emeritus and AU administrators. The event took place on June 25-26, 2014 at Coronation Hall, Assumption University, Hua Mak campus.

Organized by the office of Human Resources Management
Faculty Activities

Acting Vice Rector Performed Building Inspections

Mr. Sompol Na-Songkhla, Acting Vice Rector for Administrative Affairs and his team performed a round of building inspections at Suvarnabhumi campus in preparation for the upcoming new academic year in August to ensure safety, healthy and modernized living, nice landscape, and meeting building regulations. The inspections included classroom buildings, library, laboratories, meeting rooms, sports complex, residential halls, etc. to welcome new students and return students to promote optimal learning for students. the Rector was also present as an observer on 24th June 2014, Suvarnabhumi campus.

Seminar on “Better Investment with Securities: First Step towards Prosperity”

Assumption University, Graduate School of Business, and Business and Legal Advisory Center (ABAC BLAC) has joined hand with Kasikorn Securities (PCL) in hosting an academic seminar on the topic of “Better Investment with Securities: First Step towards Prosperity” from June 26th to July 24th 2014 at the City campus, Assumption University. The Seminar will be held once a week every Thursday. And on this day, The President, Reverend Brother Bancha Saenghiran, has honored the seminar by given an opening address. The seminar has received a very positive reception from the participants. Attending the lecture at the campus are AU alumni as well as the public.

1st Orientation of PhD Students in Business Administration

Rev.Bro.Dr. Bancha Saenghiran, President - Rector Magnificus, Assumption University presided over the First Orientation of Doctor of Philosophy in Business Administration. Attendants were Dr. Uree Cheasakul, Dean, Martin de Tours School of Management and Economics, and Au administrators. The event took place on 28th June, A52, Assumption Building, Hua Mak campus.
Prizes, Awards and Honors

Congratulations
MSM&E Students Winning
The Green Innovation Award 2013

Five students from Department of Insurance and Department of Marketing, Martin de Tours School of Management and Economics teamed up under the name: “Chanubby team” to write a marketing plan for the “Thaisri Green Innovation Competition 2013”, organized by Thaisri Insurance Public Company Limited. With their hard work and creativity under the “Green Hotel Insurance Product Innovation”, the AU team won the first runner up award in this competition. The award ceremony was held on 16th May 2014 at Thaisri Insurance Company’s office.

The AU Chanubby Team, supervised by Dr. Punnaluck Satanasavapak, Department of Marketing and A. Angsana Channak and A. Maneerat Kor-Udom, Department of Insurance, is composed of the following members,

1. Ms. Natsuda Jitjomnongmate
2. Ms. Woradee Woraphong
3. Mr. Vasuthorn Chantara
4. Mr. Wuttipong Kawadee
5. Mr. Pracha Sukjaroenchaikul

Congratulations

The Gabrielite Provincial Superior and Chairman of the Assumption University Council presented a token of appreciation to Asst. Prof. Dr. Nanthaphan Chinlumprasert, Dean, Bernadette de Lourdes School of Nursing Science for the success in obtaining four years accreditation from the Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council on June 19, 2014.
Exchange program

Six students on the exchange program from Paracelsus Medical University, Austria, will be joining with Bernadette de Lourdes, School of Nursing Science at Assumption University, for two weeks to gain great experience from the school.