School of Architecture

Tsunami Community Development

Working in conjunction with the Association of Siamese Architects (ASA), School of Architecture undertook a community rebuilding program at Tung Wa, one of the Tsunami affected areas in the South, during 15-21 February 2005.

Led by our lecturers, the students from 1st-3rd year took part in the on-site studio. Due to having a short period of time, political issues, and factors regarding the minority tribe, 'Morgan' inhabitants, the team took actions promptly. Following the first day of overall discussions between the 'Morgan' communities from around the area and the government officials, a site survey was carried out. Though proper equipments were not available, the students learned to improvise various techniques to locate existing houses to be built, trees, and natural infrastructure. The work lasted for the first few days. A master plan of the designated 30 rai was designed and drawn up immediately. Perspective drawings were produced for visualizing purposes as well as implementation of preliminary site work.

This outside classroom activities was not only beneficial to the students as part of on-hand experiences, but more importantly, to the 'Morgan' community at Tung Wa.

Architecture students took part in Tsunami community development.

The following participants were present:
1. A. Karan Paibullert
2. A. Vasin Thammanuban
3. A. Kraipol Jayanetra
4. A. Sunphawatt
   Jatupatwarangkul
5. Mr. Tanat Oonkate
6. Mr. Pichai
   Chungbanyatchareen

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7. Ms. Suchada Pramsuwan
8. Ms. Ketsara Ketisook
9. Mr. Korawuth Ackarachalanonth
10. Mr. Saran Pongkajorn

Home for the Disparates

If you think that home design is just to provide rooms to accommodate people, it now seems to be an old fashion. You will be surprised that a lot more issues and strategies might have to be included for a custom-made design in order to specially build up more experience in residential space. Under a program that asked the students to rebuild a corner on ABAC Avenue, the second-year architecture studio started up by studying behaviors of three disparate users and then designed a place in that which would foster a better relationship among them. Excerpt sensational drawings and models were exhibited on the first floor during 16-25 February 2005. Some exhibits gallery included in the School of Architecture’s projects by Chris S., Xiaorui S., Jessada R., Konkeit N., Aroon J., and Dacreà B.

Thesis Examination

The Department of Architecture of the School of Architecture, organized a program for thesis examination for the course, AR 5205 - Thesis in Architecture. The examination was conducted in Rooms L41 and L42 on AU Hua Mak Campus on 23 February 2005. A number of external examiners were invited to examine the students’ theses.

Last Orientation

To end the 5-long years of study, the School of Architecture arranged for the Last Orientation on 24 March 2005 held at Salle de Expo, Hua Mak Campus. The once-a-year event was intended to provide the graduating students a last formal talk by inviting keynote speakers to discuss about directions and jobs opportunities that they would proceed on after finishing the school. An impressive opening speech was delivered by Rev. Bro. Anupatt P. Utta Pick, who suggested that the students use the knowledge, intellectual and discipline as a compass to achieve their future. This was followed by another keynote speaker Thinnakorn Rujinarong, the president of TIDA. The speakers also included A. Vatcharot Samakkamai and A. Kittiratana Pitipanich, Chairmen of the Interior and Architecture Departments, Assoc. Prof. Chatthai Gaddawanu and Assoc. Prof. Pralong Phirananda, and A. Elffen B. Paz, followed by a closing speech by A. Pisit Viriyavadhana, Dean of the School of Architecture.
Faculty of Biotechnology

Sacred-Water Pouring Ceremony

On 11 April 2005 the Faculty of Biotechnology organized the "Sacred-Water Pouring" Ceremony, a traditional Thai custom to pay respect to the beloved elderly people, for our beloved Dean - Dr. Churdchai Cheowtirakul and Head Department - A. Noortudee Siriboon, on the occasion of the Songkran Festival.

In this event, all faculty members and staff poured sacred water and blessed the Dean and the Head of the Department. The Dean gave an interesting speech about the future and prospect of biotechnology. He also blessed everyone on this auspicious occasion of the coming Thai New Year that fell on 13 April, the Songkran Day.

Graduate School of Psychology

"English and Engineering Contracts" Contest

On 29-30 February 2005, the Council of Engineers (COE) set up a contest called, "English and Engineering Contracts" for undergraduate engineering students and professional engineers. The purpose of this contest was to promote English language involving engineering agreement among Thai engineers. There were a total of 32 teams of engineering students from many universities and 38 teams for professional engineer's level.

In the event, the participants from Assumption University who were: (i) Rattanakom Poonsanoh (ii) Jagraphob Jantanunratak (iii) Paibon Wongsasuttitkul received the consolation prize for this contest. The prize included a cash of Baht 2,000 and a certificate from the COE. It was given on 22 February at the Amari Atrium Hotel in Bangkok.

Faculty of Nursing Science

Women's Path: The Health Promotion Perspectives

On 14 February 2005, the Faculty of Nursing Science, organized the seminar on "Women's Path: The Health Promotion Perspectives" at the
Hall of Fame, Hua Mak Campus. The objectives were to provide opportunities: (i) to overview knowledge and understanding about women’s path and life in the context of health, (ii) to discuss women’s potential and adaptation to live with certain health issues, and (iii) to share experiences about women’s development trends in different cultures.

The Seminar started the morning session with the Welcome Address by Rev Bro. Dr. Visit Srivicharitana, Vice President for Academic Affairs; the Opening Remarks by Asst. Prof. Dr. Nanthaphan Chinthumphrasert, Dean, Faculty of Nursing Science, and keynote addresses on, “Take Control of Your Life and Stay Healthy” by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lily Stojanovska, Department of Biomedical Sciences, Victoria University, Australia; and on “The Initiative of Breast Cancer Management: How Far We Go?” by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Puangtip Chaiphibalsarisdi, Faculty of Nursing Science, Chulalongkorn University.

In the afternoon session, the following topics were presented:

“Coping with Life Adversity: A Model of Resilience for Menopausal Women”,

“The Effects of Fermented Soy on Postmenopausal Women”,

“Diabetes and Menopause: What Are the Consequences?”,

and

“Live Longer, Live Stronger” by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lily Stojanovska.

There were 200 persons participants consisting of nursing instructors, nursing students and other staff of Assumption University.

**Dean Holds Important Posts**

The Dean of the Nursing Science Faculty, Asst. Prof. Dr. Nanthaphan Chinthumphrasert, was nominated by the Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment as a member of the External Assessment Committee to assess the educational management and the quality assurance of the Police Nursing College on 10 January 2005.

Secondly, on 27 February 2005 at 9.00-16.00 hours, the Dean of AU Nursing Science was invited as the educational and nursing science curriculum expert by the Faculty of Nursing Science, Saint Louis College to review the curriculum of the Bachelor Degree in Nursing Science.

**Visitors from Saint Louis College**

Six instructors and staff from the Planning and Development Department, Saint Louis College visited the AU Faculty of Nursing Science and Assumption University at Hua Mak Campus on 9 March 2005 from 09.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

This visit emphasized on the policies of development planning for the organization, human resources, research, education and the information technology system.

Dr. Withthaya Chareonsri, Director of the Human Resources Management, presented an overview of education at the university level while the Dean, Asst. Pro. Dr. Nanthaphan Chinthumphrasert presented an overview of the Faculty of Nursing Science to the visitors.

**Appointment on Thesis Examination**

Asst. Prof. Dr. Nanthaphan Chinthumphrasert, Dean, Faculty of Nursing Science, was appointed by the Faculty of Graduate Studies, Mahidol University for Thesis Examination entitled, “Decision Making Process for the Unwanted Pregnancy among Adolescence Acquaintance Rape Survivor”. The examination was held on 21 March 2005 from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon at Medical and Health Social Sciences Department, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities, Mahidol University.

**Faculty of Engineering**

**Open House**

The Graduate School of Psychology held an “Open House” event on its premises (CC Building, 9th Floor), on 4 March 2005, 09.00-17.00. The event allowed the opportunity for interested people to gain first-hand knowledge and information about programs the school has to offer.

This event was comprised of lectures, film showings, and psychology related activities such as: psychological fun tests on self-assessment, stress, personality, etc. Lectures presented included visiting psychologist, Dr. Daniel Murphy’s “Career Prospects on Psychology”, Dr. Holly Dugan’s “Counseling as a Clinical Practice” and the Dean, Dr. Vorapot Ruckthum’s
Happy moments of everyone participated in the Psychology’s Open House

"Learn MSCP Program". These activities provided a unique opportunity for a wide distribution of the vision and mission of the Graduate School and Assumption University.

Bro. Martin Komalmas, President Emeritus, Assumption University also visited the Open House and offered his blessings in achieving our objectives through this activity. More than thirty people attended this event, which made it a memorable experience. The participants included lecturers from Udon Thani University, Thailand, teachers and students of the New Pioneer International School, Bangkok, psychologists, staff and faculty members of other departments of ABAC, as well as other interested individuals.
Everyone, faculty members, staff, MSCP volunteers, and including the very helpful cleaning and service personnel, were engaged in lively talks with highly interested visitors. Students of the present MSCP program joined in the preparatory process of this event, and extended their full support in making this Open House a great and memorable success.

**Using Psychological Science to Master Stress**

The AU Graduate School of Psychology organized a seminar on “Stress Management: Using Psychological Science to Master Stress” by Dr. Ben Weinstein, Clinical Psychologist of the Psychological Services International. It took place on 11 March 2004 from 9.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon on the 9th floor of C Building, Hua Mak Campus.

The science of psychology has been at the forefront of research about stress. From the first research to the latest stress reduction techniques, psychology has played a key role. Since understanding stress is the key to mastering stress, natural responses to stress and identify

Mr. Mathews is congratulated by the EU Commissioner and the Dean

**Student Helps Achieve Success**

From 18-21 March 2005, the first ever Thailand National Debate Tournament was held at Thammasat University. This event was organized by the faculty of the British American studies at the university, and sponsored by the European Union High Commission, Bangkok, Thailand.

Over 20 teams from the major universities in Bangkok attended this tournament, including AU’s “A” team,
consisting of Mr. Isaac G. Mathews, currently a master's degree student in the Graduate School of Psychology, Mr. Tarique Shakil, Faculty of Tele-Communications Engineering, and Ms. Betty Ironsi, Faculty of Hotel Management. The team secured and took the 3rd place overall. This award recognized the team as one of the best debate teams in Thailand.

The format of this debate was in line with the All-Asians style of debating and the topics of the various debate rounds covered political, social and economic issues relevant in Asia and the world today.

The three AU students, Mr. Shakil, Mr. Mathews, and Ms. Ironsi are congratulated on their achievements by the President, Bro. Bancha Faculty, together with the S&T Student Committee, organized the Pins Presentation Ceremony for all S&T freshmen. The 'Pin' is symbolic of the S&T family. The aim of this event was to encourage all S&T freshmen to be proud of being a member of S&T Faculty and to welcome freshmen to this warm family in a formal way.

Major Guidance and Pins Presentation Ceremony

According to the regulation of the Assumption University, freshmen students have to select their major in the second semester. The Faculty of Science and Technology organized the "Major Guidance Function" in order to provide details of each major, their differences, as well as future paths and career development to the students.

This function was conducted by the instructors from each department. It was held on 10 February 2005 at Multimedia E6.

After this function, the S&T

14th ASAIHL Inter-University Conference

Dr. Vilasinee Srisarkun of the Faculty of Science and Technology was invited to attend the 14th Inter-University Conference hosted by the Association of Southeast Asian Institutions of Higher Learning - Thailand (ASAIHL-Thailand). This event provided an opportunity for academics and scholars from various universities to exchange ideas and experiences in issues related to ICT and education, such as the application of computing and IT in higher learning, online educational resources and e-publishing, institutional administration and activities. There were a number of interesting papers presented, such as:

- The Role of IT in Enhancing Students Learning
- Higher Education Manpower Development in Informa-

Last Orientation

When freshmen students first enroll in the S&T Faculty, the first Orientation was organized to provide information on how to study in the university. Now it is the senior student's turn to have the Last Orientation with the aim to:

(i) provide information on the difference in school vs business environments.
(ii) share experience by alumni about how to apply theory work to professional work, and
(iii) prepare these new graduates for their future career.

The Last Orientation was held on February 2005.
Mobile Phone Platform

On 18 February 2005, the Faculty of Science and Technology organized a Special Seminar entitled, “Developing Applications and Games on the Mobile Phone Platform” at the Multimedia Presentation Room (E6) Hua Mak Campus. In this seminar, representatives from SecondSoft Co. Ltd., Game Square Co. Ltd., and CoreCell Co. Ltd. were invited to present and discuss various topics, namely:

- Application development using the J2ME Framework
- Common mistakes in developing applications on the mobile phone platform
- The trends and technology of developing applications on the mobile phone platform.
- The career paths of a Game Programmer
- Current trends and technology on game development issues.
- Possible recruitment and job training for graduating students.

Students, staff, lecturers, and the general public were invited to attend this seminar free of charge.

Call for Abstracts

The faculty members as well as their graduate students are cordially invited to submit the abstracts of the papers presented at any international meetings held either in Thailand or abroad to the Editor of the AU Journal of Technology for inclusion in the forthcoming issue of ‘AU Abstracts 2005’, to be issued in July 2005 which will cover the meetings that take place during 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005. In order to avoid the rush and other complications, may we suggest that the authors submit their papers as soon as they have presented their papers. This will allow the Editor to have more time to go through their papers, and to clarify some points prior to the publication.

Call for News

The AU Tech Note cordially invites staff and students in the School of Architecture, the Faculty of Biotechnology, the Faculty of Engineering, the Faculty of Nursing Science, Graduate School of Psychology and the Faculty of Science and Technology to contribute news articles for publication in the Newsletter.

What to Contribute?

Any kind of information you would like to see in AU Tech. An illustrative list is given below:

- Personal news (new appointments, promotions, fellowships, awards, travel abroad, etc.)
- Reports of special interest groups, industrial visits, recently launched or concluded projects, open house, field works, etc.
- Reports on recently held workshops, seminars, symposia, conferences, etc. Information about forthcoming activities and events, recent publications, etc.
- Results of recently concluded projects, patents, newly released products and formulations, experiments and techniques, etc.

Please send your news articles to the Editor via email: <narongchc@au.edu>