



Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation
Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development



SEAMEO RIHED

Bulletin

SPECIAL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING



OPENING CEREMONY:
SPECIAL SEAMEO-RIHED GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
BY
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MINISTER OF EDUCATION MALAYSIA
&
SEAMEO LOUNGE & RESIDENCE

9 - 10 April 2001
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

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POLICY FORUM ON ECONOMIC CRISIS
AND HIGHER EDUCATION
IN EAST ASIA
JANUARY 29 - 31, 2001
ORGANISED BY
IIEP - UNESCO
SEAMEO-RIHED
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, MALAYSIA

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UPDATE

First SEAMEO Education Congress 26 - 29 March 2001



H. E. Suvit Kunkitti, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand, (Center) cutting the ribbon to open the Congress-H.E. **Tan Sri Dato Musa bin Mohamed**(left), **H. E. Chamlong Krutkhuntot**, Deputy Minister of Education (right).



Dr. Padoongchart Suwanawongse, Director, SEAMEO RIHED welcoming **H. E. Suvit Kunkitti** (right), and **H. E. Tan Sri Dato Musa bin Mohamed** (second right).

Visit to SEAMEO RIHED by H.E. Tan Seri Dato Musa bin Muhamed, President, SEAMEO Council and Minister of Education, Malaysia



Management of International Linkages Training Course, 3 March – 7 April 2001



Dr. Padoongchart Suwanawongse presenting award certificate to participant with **Mr. Kevin Kettle**, resource person, looking on.

The 2000 SEAMEO-Jasper Fellowship Award winner



Discussion with **Dr. Anita Lie**, on her Research Report, **The Multicultural Curriculum Toward Education for Peace and Development**.

Policy Forum on Economic Crisis and Higher Education in East Asia



From left - Dr. Zahratul Kamar Mahmud, Deputy Director, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Malaysia, Dr. Vanchai Sirichana, Permanent Secretary of University Affairs, Thailand, Dr. Hassan bin Said, Director of Higher Education Department, Malaysia, Dr. Gudmund Hernes, Director of IIEP and Dr. N. V. Varghese, IIEP Program Specialist.

The International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP, UNESCO), SEAMEO RIHED, and Ministry of Education, Malaysia jointly organised the forum at Selangor, Malaysia from 29 –31 January 2001. The participants came from Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, IIEP and SEAMEO RIHED with a total of 33. The policy forum activities were paper presenting discussions and group work.

The papers presented were: the theme paper and country papers on the economic crisis and higher education in East Asia. The theme paper was presented by Dr. N.V. Varghese (IIEP Program's Specialist). It is the research study on the magnitude and nature of changes in higher education during the crisis, responses and reform measures of the institutions in Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. The country papers were presented by the delegates from

Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, reflecting the nature of the economic crisis on higher education (in terms of budget, student enrolments, staff changes, programmes, projects and roles of universities, etc.) and policy directions of higher education.

The main impacts of the economic crisis on higher education, derived from the forum, are the budget cuts, tuition fee increases, more student enrolments due to fewer students going abroad, programmes or projects changed to suit the work market, more technical training, students' interests changes, staff changes, no staff recruitment, more exchange staff and income generation.

The discussions and exchange of ideas of the participants included the response of universities to the crisis, and how universities reform.



Participants paying close attention to speaker.

WORKSHOP

REGIONAL WORKSHOP on SIMU



Professor Bernard Davat, Institut National Polytechnique de Lorraine, lecturing students during Workshop.

The opening session of the Regional Workshop on Simulation for Motor Control took place on 30 April 2001 at King Mongkut's Institute of Technology North Bangkok. This workshop was organized by SEAMEO RIHED and Thai-French Innovation Centre under the auspices of King Mongkut's Institute of Technology North Bangkok and with the support of the French Government.

The introductory remarks were made by Dr. Padoongchart Suwanawongse, Director of SEAMEO RIHED, followed by the welcoming speech of Associate Professor Banleng Sornil, President of King Mongkut's Institute of Technology and the Opening Address was made by Madame Martine Herlem-Hamidi, Attache , Scientific and Technical Cooperation, The French Embassy of Thailand.

Dr. Padoongchart stated that the Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development or RIHED was very happy once again to join hands with the Thai-French

Innovation Centre (TFIC) in organising this Regional Workshop on Simulation for Motor Control. This was the second joint effort between RIHED and TFIC. We are very fortunate that the French Government was willing to support this activity again. He expressed his hope for a successful workshop and that all the participants would benefit.

Associate Professor Banleng Sornil's Welcoming Address pointed out how challenging and exciting it was for the three institutions to cooperate in arranging the project together again and how each institution had its own specific role and expertise in organising the workshop. SEAMEO RIHED has experience in conducting regional activities and has a close relationship with SEAMEO's Member Countries. The French Embassy to Thailand gave financial support and TFIC represents the French technology in this region. He mentioned that TFIC was set up by the French and Thai Governments, based on the concept of mutual concern. Through this centre, French companies can promote their equipment and technology while Thai industry and universities can enhance their competence with collaborative projects with their French partners in the field of welding, corrosion, automation, electricity-electronics and computer. He then thanked everyone for their contribution and participation. In closing he remarked that this was a good opportunity to build up a network among our universities and friendship among the participants of this workshop, which will hopefully last long into the future.

Mme Martine Herlem-Hamidi, in her Opening Address, spoke about the workshop's three main objectives: first, to bring the participants specific knowledge in electrical motor control technology, second, to make them really integrate new capacities through at least 50% of practice on computers and on French equipment and last, but not least that the participants will be able to apply all the theory and exercises in their own universities because software



Professor Farid Meibody-Tabar, Institut National de Polytechnique de Lorraine, demonstrating equipment to participants.

LATION for MOTOR CONTROL

used in this training is very common and widespread. She remarked that the link between the last workshop and this workshop is very positive and it shows how human resources development can be managed in an intelligent way. She noted how the Thai-French Innovation Centre keeps implementing regional activities in addition to its support to Thai Universities and industries. Then she thanked everyone concerned and stated that these projects would not be possible without the strong cooperation of Professor Bernard Davat and Professor Farid Meibody-Tabar from Institut National Polytechnique de Lorraine who agreed to transfer their knowledge and methods. The point was made that for the last two years King Mongkut's Institute of Technology North Bangkok and INPL have been increasing their exchanges for the benefit of both sides. She thanked Associate Professor Banleng Sornil for having developed this cooperation with France and then declared the workshop open.



Third from left - Dr. Padoongchart Suwanawongse, Director SEAMEO RIHED, Associate Professor Banleng Sornil, President King Mongkut's Institute of Technology North Bangkok, Mme Martine Herlem-Hamidi, Attache, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, French Embassy, Professor Bernard Davat and Professor Farid Meibody-Tabar, from the Institut National Polytechnique de Lorraine.

Closing Award Ceremony, Siam City Hotel, Bangkok - 4 May 2001

Highlighting the close of the Workshop was the Certificate Award Ceremony and dinner with the Closing Address by Deputy Permanent Secretary of University Affairs, Associate Professor Songkram Luangtongkum. Also attending was Mme Martine Harlem-Hamidi, Associate Professor Banleng Sornil, Dr. Padoongchart Suwanawongse, Mr. Panarit Sithakun, Mr. Arnauld de Nadaillac, Professor Bernard Davat, Professor Farid Meibody-Tabar, participants in the Workshop, staff of KMIT and RIHED.



Associate Professor Songkram Luangtongkum, presenting award certificate to participant.

Professor Songkram stated that this was a momentous occasion as the Workshop proved to be an invaluable tool for development of engineering in the Southeast Asian region and has brought together participants from various fields and countries to learn and exchange knowledge in the broad field of control technology. Sharing ideas and knowledge lays the groundwork for future collaboration between member countries and TFIC. He stressed the point that these workshops come at a crucial time for our region as the rapid growth in technology demands new ways and means of production. We must have the human resources to meet the international standards in order to compete and have a viable society. So we are very fortunate to have experts in this field come and share their knowledge with us. This is only a beginning as we look forward to continued joint activities, which will develop and enhance the Southeast Asian region. He then thanked everyone concerned with organising and participating in the Workshop.

COVER STORY

Special Governing Board Meeting

The Pan Pacific Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

9 - 10 April 2001



H. E. Tan Sri Dato Musa bin Muhamad, President, SEAMEO Council and Minister of Education, Malaysia presenting opening speech.

The Special Governing Board Meeting of SEAMEO RIHED opened with introductory remarks by Dr. Padoongchart Suwanawongse expressing his gratitude to H.E. Tan Sri Musa bin Mohamed for officiating the opening. He stated this Special Governing Board Meeting is considered as one of the significant milestones in the 31 year history of RIHED in the sense that the Board will chart future directions of the Centre in the next five years, from 2002 to 2007.

Dr. Vanchai Sirichana emphasised that this is indeed a 'special' meeting in that we are challenging our own collective thoughts and efforts to come up with feasible and fruitful directions for contributive existence of SEAMEO RIHED in the next five years from 2002 to 2006. As the host of SEAMEO RIHED Centre, I am pleased to confirm the Royal Thai Government's continued support to the Centre as we have witnessed the successes of SEAMEO RIHED in promoting human resources in higher education. In the speed of advanced technologies and globalization, one can never sit back and relax, enjoying his/her own achievement. We all need to learn and be alert every minute to make sure that our past accomplishments only teach us how to

move ahead in a firmer and more forward looking manner.

The Keynote Address was presented by H.E. Tan Sri Dato Musa bin Muhamad, President of SEAMEO Council and Minister of Education, Malaysia. He mentioned that among the more critical issues facing higher education today is one that relates to its role in promoting competitiveness. In this globalised world of the 21st century, knowledge is key to a country's competitiveness and its socio-economic well-being. He believes the future of SEAMEO RIHED lies in its ability to solve many of the critical issues facing higher education today and in the future. He then declared, with great pleasure, the Special SEAMEO Meeting officially open.

After the Opening Addresses the important proceedings were as follows:

- ❖ **Presentation of Accomplishments of SEAMEO RIHED during the First Five-Year Development Plan (1997-2002)**
- ❖ **Country Papers were presented from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam**
- ❖ **Discussion on Second Five-Year Development Plan of SEAMEO RIHED (2002-2007)**

It was agreed that SEAMEO RIHED should direct its programmes and activities during the next five years to the following areas in connection with higher education:

1. **Management and administration;**
2. **Quality assurance and benchmarking;**
3. **Applications of information and communication technology (ICT);**
4. **Effective learning-teaching methodology;**
5. **Building up research capability;**
6. **Collaboration with private sector and industry;**
7. **Involvement in regional groupings, e.g. GMS, EAGA.**

UPCOMING EVENTS



The 12th World Conference on Cooperative Education – WACE 2001, Suranaree University of Technology is the organiser Nakhon Ratchasima, 22 - 27 July 2001



First International Forum on Education Reform: Experiences in Selected Countries, Office of National Education is the organiser Bangkok, 30 July - 2 August 2001



Subregional Seminar on the Possibility of Establishing a Virtual University for the Mekong Subregion Countries Bangkok, 1 - 4 August 2001



Training Course on Advanced Higher Education Administrators Development (AHEAD) Myanmar, 27 - 31 August 2001



SEMINAR and EXHIBTION on Thai Higher Education

12 - 13 May 2001, Melia Hanoi, Hanoi

15 - 16 May 2001, New World Hotel, Ho Chi Minh City

The Second Seminar and Exhibition on Thai Higher Education in Vietnam has received gracious support and friendly assistance from the Ministry of Education and Training of Vietnam to facilitate organising of the event.

Objectives

1. To strengthen higher education cooperation and relations between Vietnamese and Thai universities.
2. To promote and introduce Thai higher education institutions to Vietnamese public and academic circle.
3. To provide opportunity for Vietnamese and Thai academic to meet each other and create academic linkages and collaboration.
4. To obtain opinions and suggestions from Vietnamese academics for preparing future cooperation plan.

Expected outcome

1. Vietnamese academics, students and public will have a better understanding of Thai higher education.
2. Linkages and collaboration projects will be created between Vietnamese and Thai universities.
3. Vietnamese and Thai academics will have an opportunity to meet and discuss with each other.
4. Relations between the two countries will be strengthened further.

*Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between
the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam*

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