Message from Centre Director

It is my privilege once again to introduce to you the May 2007 issue of SEAMEO RIHED Bulletin. This issue features “The Study Visit to the United Kingdom of Senior Staff of Universities in Thailand and Southeast Asian Countries.” The event was held in cooperation with the International Training Research and Education Consortium (InTREC) during 20-26 May 2007. The research project on “A Study on Higher Education Innovation,” sponsored by the Knowledge Network Institute of Thailand (KNIT) and the Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand is also highlighted. The second study visit to the University of Birmingham, University of Central England, Cambridge University, University of Westminster and King’s College, London was very successful, with the participation of 22 distinguished university lecturers and administrators from both private and public universities. During 14-16 May 2007, we also co-sponsored the International Conference on Higher Education: Global Challenges and Prospects, hosted by Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University in Bangkok.

For the on-going and upcoming activities, two important events coming up in September are The 15th SEAMEO RIHED Governing Board Meeting which will be held in Jakarta, Indonesia and the back-to-back “Regional Seminar on Making a Difference: ICT in University Teaching/Learning and Research in Southeast Asian Countries.” These two events will be co-organised by the Ministry of National Education, Indonesia during 23-24 August 2007. Another event lining in September is the “Seminar on University Leadership: Building, Leading and Implementing Strategies”, co-organised by Siriraj Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, Mahidol University on 7 September 2007 at Siriraj Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, Mahidol University, Bangkok. “The Second Meeting of Director General/Secretary General/Commissioner of Higher Education in Southeast Asia Region”, which will be kindly hosted by the Department of Higher Education Management, Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia is scheduled during 23-24 November 2007.

Finally, should our readers require further information about our activities or wish to comment on our bulletin, please feel free to contact us. We would be very happy to receive comments or enquiries from you and shall join you in your endeavor to make this region better and stronger.

We always consider ourselves as “Your Partner in Higher Education.”
A Study Visit to the United Kingdom of Senior Staff from Universities in Thailand
20-26 May 2007 at United Kingdom

International Conference on Higher Education: Global Challenges and Prospects
14-16 May 2007 in Bangkok, Thailand

A Research Project on “A Study on Higher Education Innovation”
Visits and Linkages

On 1 February 2007, Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director and his staff paid a visit to Dhurakij Pundit University where Prof. Dr. Boonserm Weesakul, President Emeritus of DPU and his colleagues cordially welcomed us. SEAMEO RIHED and Dhurakij Pundit University has a joint project on “A Database on Academic Development and Researchers in Higher Education.” The objective of the project is to collect the data on academic development and researchers in Thailand. The collection will assist higher education educators and scholars to better assess the trends of research and development in the country.

SEAMEO RIHED donated higher education book collection to the Educational Learning Resources Centre (ELRC), Faculty of Education, Chulalongkorn University on 24 January 2007. Prof. Dr. Pote Sapianchai, the Centre’s founding member; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pruets Siribanpitak, Dean of Faculty of Education, Chulalongkorn University; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ninnat Olanivoravuth, Secretary General of ASAIHL; SEAMEO RIHED Director; and representatives from SEAMEO Secretariat and Bureau of International Cooperation Strategy, Commission on Higher Education, Thailand participated in the ceremony. The collection can be accessed through various channels, including SEAMEO RIHED’s E-library (http://elib.rihed.seameo.org), Faculty of Education’s website (http://lib.edu.chula.ac.th/). A visit in person can also be made through the ELRC, Faculty of Education, Chulalongkorn University.

Prof. Dr. Supachai Yavaprabhas, SEAMEO RIHED Director made a presentation on Higher Education System in Thailand in the Education UK Partnership Fair, organised by the British Council, Thailand on 2 February 2007 at Holiday Inn Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand.
Study Visit Programmes

A Study Visit to the United Kingdom of Senior Staff from Universities in Thailand

20-26 May 2007 at United Kingdom

During 22-26 May 2007, SEAMEO RIHED and International Training, Research and Education Consortium (InTREC) organised the 2nd educational visit to the United Kingdom and provided the senior staff from universities in Thailand with the opportunity to learn about the development of policy and practice in university management. The participants were also encouraged through discussions with experts to consider the relevance and practicalities of these innovations on Thailand’s higher education system. Moreover, the study visit also helped develop several aspects of leadership and management skills of the participants.

At the Birmingham University on 21 May 2007, the highlights were the lectures on “the Changing Higher Education Environment in England” presented by Professor Bahram Bekhradnia, Director, Higher Education Policy Institute, Oxford (right); “Quality Assurance and Enhancement, in the light of Developing the Learning and Teaching Strategy” given by Professor Alex Hughes, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Birmingham University (centre). Other interesting presentations were “Financial Management in UK Higher Education”; “The International Strategy of Birmingham University”; “Marketing and student recruitment”; “Managing Innovation: Entrepreneurial Universities”; and “E-Learning: a case study”.

On 22 May 2007, participants visited the University of Central England and the key lectures were “The Transition from a Polytechnic to a University: Translating the Mission,” presented by Maxine Penlington, Secretary and Registrar; “Innovation-Generating Third Stream Income and Corporate Development Manager, University of Central England” presented by Dr. Nayan Patel, Technology Transfer Manager; The other presentations at this university were the “Marketing to attract students” by Lorraine Westwood, Director of Marketing, and the “Case Study and Tour of Technology Innovation Centre,” respectively. The participants were also taken on a campus tour at the new Animation Suite, Birmingham Institute of Art and Design of Faculty of Art and Design, University of Central England.
On 23 May 2007, following the campus tour around Cambridge University and its Colleges, Dame Sandra Dawson, Master, Sidney Sussex College (centre); Tao Tao Chang, International Director (right), and Richard Partington, Director of Admissions (left), Sidney Sussex College briefed the participants on the history of the University and its Colleges.

On 24 May 2007, Dr. Geoffrey Copland, Vice Chancellor of University of Westminster welcomed the participants and gave lecture on the issues of “UK Education within a Trans-National Education context” and “The University Leadership” (centre). The other presentations included in this visit were the “Overview of the University of Westminster” by Colin Matheson, Director of Scholarships; “Quality and Innovation - Westminster’s perspective” by Jeanne Godfrey, Academic Registry; “University marketing and strategic planning”, by Maurits van Rooijen, Vice President, International and Institutional Development; “Managing university finances” by Phil Harding, Director of Finance, University of Westminster; and “Centre for Excellence in the Workplace” by Sibyl Coldham and Lorraine Harper, Director, Centre for Excellence in the Workplace.

On 25 May 2007, Dr. Keith Hoggart, Vice Principal, King’s College London welcomed our distinguished group and briefed on the history of the college (left). Today’s highlight was the lecture on “Strategic Management of Universities” by Professor Michael Shattock, Professor of Education, London University Institute of Education (centre). Other presentations including “Estates and Large-Scale Projects” and “The Provision and Management of Information Services & Systems at King’s” were delivered by Ian Caldwell, Director of Estates and Gary Horrocks, Research and Learning Liaison Manager, respectively.
In order to contribute to Thailand’s current innovation in higher education and to meet the criteria for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award (MBNQA), Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University, in cooperation with the Commission on Higher Education (CHE), the Office for National Education Standards and Quality Assessment (ONESQA), Office of the Public Sector Development Commission (OPDC), Thailand Productivity Institute and SEAMEO RIHED, co-organised the International Conference on Higher Education: Global Challenges and Prospects during 14-16 May 2007, in Bangkok, Thailand.

The objectives of the conference are to facilitate the establishment of a network of higher education for development and to create a forum where the experience on global higher education quality development models and best practices can be shared among distinguished participants from Thailand, Korea, Australia, United Kingdom, and the USA.
A Research Project on "A Study on Higher Education Innovation"

The project, sponsored by the Knowledge Network Institute of Thailand (KNIT) and the Commission on Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand aims at conducting a comparative study on policy innovation in higher education institutions in Singapore, China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Australia, the UK, Finland and the USA. The policy innovation examined in this study includes the aspects of education policy, university governance, teaching and learning, personnel development and the use of ICT in higher education.

The research team conducted interviewing sessions at Keio University, Hitotsubashi University, and Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan during 18-21 April 2007.

The research team went to Korea during 29 April-1 May 2007 and conducted in-depth interviews at the Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development, Seoul National University, Korea University, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, and Yonsei University. The research team also visited P.R. China and conducted interviews at the Ministry of Education, Peking University, University of Science and Technology Beijing and Beijing Foreign Studies University during 6-9 May 2007.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Seminar on University Leadership: Building, Leading and Implementing Strategies

Organisers: Siriraj Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, Mahidol University and SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED)

Date and Venue: 7 September 2007, at Siriraj Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand

Objectives: The objectives of this activity are to form a loose network among the participants from the 2006 and 2007 UK Education Trips and create a venue for casual exchange of experiences in university management among senior university administrators.

Regional Seminar on Making a Difference: ICT in University Teaching/Learning and Research in Southeast Asian Countries

Organisers: Ministry of National Education, Indonesia and SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED)

Date and Venue: 24 August 2007 in Jakarta, Indonesia

Objectives:
1) to share knowledge and experience concerning the uses of ICT in University teaching, learning and research in Southeast Asian Countries
2) to gain and update the university administrators as well as those students and scholars in Southeast Asian Countries on the ICT and higher education situation in the region.
3) to create an opportunity for future dialogues, the exchange of information and ideas among scholars, administrators and other parties interested in higher education.

Contents:
1) Background Information/Overview
2) ICT at National/Policy Level
3) ICT at Higher Education Institutions Level: Identify leading universities/institutions and their ICT implementation and integration
4) Problems and Issues: ICT implementation in Higher Education
5) Future Direction of the Development of ICT in Higher Education

For more information, please contact:

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