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An Interview with Her Excellency Hillary Clinton



On July 22, 2009 the U.S. Embassy invited representatives from the Faculty of Arts to attend a special interview with Her Excellency Hillary Clinton on the topic of "U.S. Foreign Policy and Thai-U.S. Relations" held at Phaya Thai Palace. Associate Professor Surapeepan Chatraporn, Ajarn Dr. Sasiporn Petcharpiruch, and Ajarn Dr. Mattanee Palungtepin together with 11 student representatives participated in this event. During the Q&A session from the floor, approximately 50 questions were submitted but only 2 questions were to be selected by the Secretary of State. To our delight, a question from one of our students, Ms. Kanokrat Namasondhi was chosen. H.E. Clinton commented that she thought it "a wonderful question!" before responding in careful detail.



Kanokrat Namasondhi is currently the President of Arts senior students. She was also elected President of Arts junior students in 2008 and was a former recipient of a SEASREP (Southeast Asian Studies Regional Exchange Program) scholarship. She was recently named 'distinguished undergraduate student' of the Faculty of Arts for 2009.

Kanokrat was overjoyed at the opportunity to exchange words with H.E. Clinton. "I was deeply pleased and honored to be one of the student representatives to participate in the taped interview with the Secretary of State by Suthichai Yoon. To be the only student selected to ask H.E. Hillary Clinton about U.S. foreign policy and Thai Education was not only a once-in-a lifetime experience but also a memorable and precious moment for me." "I owe a debt of gratitude to the Faculty of Arts for deepening my outlook on life and widening my worldview," Kanokrat reflected with a proud smile.



The year 2008 marks 175 years of diplomatic relations between Thailand and the U.S. Throughout the long history, the people of the two nations share a wide range of interests and values providing a solid foundation for friendship.





A New Partnership with LMU



On August 21, 2009 the Dean, Assistant Professor Dr. Prapod Assavavirulhakarn, signed a cooperation agreement with the Dean of the Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Professor Dr. Walther Sallaberger, Ludwig-Maximilians Universitat Munchen (LMU), Munich, Germany. The agreement covers both student and faculty exchanges between the two universities.

Ludwig-Maximilians Universitat Munchen is the second largest university in Germany with a student population of 45,000 and is ranked No.51 of the world's top universities. LMU is one of the leading research universities in Europe, with a history and unique tradition going back more than 500 years. The agreement was a follow-up to our Dean's visit to LMU in July when he gave a special lecture to students and discussed details of the cooperation agreement

Courtesy Visits by Asian Universities



Associate Professor Dr. Yoshikawa and Professor Yuko Takeshi from Toyo Eiwa University, Japan, paid a courtesy call to the Faculty and met with Associate Professor Surapeepan Chatraporn, Deputy Dean for International affairs, on July 16, 2009 to discuss further academic cooperation and student exchange which will hopefully be implemented in the next academic year in accordance with our ongoing partnership.



Associate Professor Dr. Park Jong Woo, Head, International Study Center, Professor Ikuko Seguchi, Deputy Director, Office for the Promotion of International Exchange, and Ms. Mitsuko Inokuchi, Head, International Student Exchange, Kobe University, paid a visit to the Faculty on September 21, 2009. On this occasion they were cordially received by Associate Professor Surapeepan Chatraporn and Assistant Professor Dr. Chomnard Setisarn, Deputy Dean for Planning and Development. In the course of warm and productive discussions, proposals were raised to explore the possibility of formal academic and cultural cooperation between Kobe University and Chulalongkorn University.

We are at Your Service.

The Committee Members of the Section of International Affairs, which comprises Deputy Dean Surapeepan Chatraporn, Dr. Brett Farmer, Charunee Hongcharu, Dr. Duantem Krisdathanont, Dr. Ingo Peters, Dr. Julispong Chularatana, Dr. Mattanee Palungtepin, Dr. Nurida Hayiyakoh, Pawit Mahasarinand, Dr. Piriyaedit Mani, Dr. Saseporn Petcharpiruch, Dr. Sirivan Chulakorn, Wipada Petcharak, and Walailuk Chorpankul as secretary, welcome advice and suggestions concerning any plans and activities. We aim to encourage a fully internationalized environment and to promote increased networking with overseas institutions and scholars. If you would like to talk to us, you can contact any of the committee members. We would be very happy to hear from you and cooperate closely with you.

Who? What? Where?

Ajarn Scott Humphries is the resident top swimmer of the English Department. His passion for swimming takes him to the CU 500-metre swimming pool every day, rain or shine.

Ajarn Michael Crabtree helped make the English Department happier, and fuller, than usual when he hosted a sumptuous lunch for all Department members on his birthday. Happy belated birthday!

Ajarn Sara Raquel Andre who joined us under a one-year contract with the Portuguese Embassy will complete her term in late September. She has been teaching Portuguese at our Faculty for two semesters. The students will miss her as she says goodbye to them. Bon voyage!

The Spanish Section is delighted to welcome a new instructor, Ms. Catalina Del Rosario Inazunta Marca, who will help teach Spanish to our students. Apart from her language skills in Spanish and English, she is also a specialist in education.

Professor Dr. Roger T. Ames, University of Hawaii, U.S.A. was invited by the Department of Philosophy to present a special lecture on "Post-Marxist New Confucianism in 21st Century China: A Response to Western Philosophy" on August 19, 2009. Those who attended were treated to a stimulating presentation.

The Russian Section will also give a warm welcome to Ms. Raisa Dzanaeva, an experienced teacher of both Russian language and literature, as well as a specialist in linguistics.

Dr. Reiko Ishibashi of the Japanese Section will present a poster "The Effectiveness of the Teacher's Implicit Feedback on L2 Writing" at the 2009 International Conference on Japanese Language Education organized by the Society of Teaching Japanese at Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan on October 11, 2009.

Dr. Brett Farmer is leaving the English Department after two years to take up the inaugural professorial position in the Faculty's international BALAC Program. Dr. Farmer is an experienced and widely published scholar in the areas of cultural and media studies. While he is sad to be leaving the English Department, he is looking forward to continuing his contributions to the Faculty and in particular to developing the BALAC program to its fullest potential as an internationally-benchmarked provider of global arts education.

The Department of Philosophy held a round-table discussion on "Approaches of Buddhism to Contemporary Biomedical Issues" on September 9, 2009. The event was designed as a forum for Thai students and students from Waseda University, Japan, to exchange ideas and views. Feedback from participants was very positive and all said they found it a rich and rewarding experience.

Retirement Reception

The Faculty will hold a farewell reception for retiring faculty and staff members on Friday, September 25, 2009 from 2 to 4 p.m. in Room 111, Maha Chulalongkorn Building. In total, six faculty members from the Departments of Linguistics, Thai, Geography, English and Eastern Languages, as well as two staff members from the Administrative Office will be leaving us shortly. The reception gives us an opportunity to honour their years of devoted service and celebrate their many professional achievements and contributions. Please make a note in your diary and join the event.

