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## Lunchtime Talk on Scholarships



A full and enthusiastic audience of Arts students turned out for the lunchtime talk on Fulbright and Government Scholarships, which took place in Room 210 of the Maha Chulalongkorn Building from 12 till 2 p.m. on Friday, August 27, 2010. The audience's eagerness was rewarded when the two prominent speakers, Ms. Porntip Kanjananiyot, Executive Director of Fulbright, and Mr. Phanu Sungkhavon, Director of the Recruitment and Selection Center of the Office of the Civil Service Commission, took the podium to deliver engaging, informative presentations.

Dean Assistant Professor Dr. Prapod Assavavirulhakarn and Deputy Dean for International Affairs, Associate Professor Surapeepan Chatraporn, warmly greeted the two speakers, who are also Chulalongkorn alumni, before the Dean gave a cordial welcome speech. The two honorable guests were then presented with tokens of appreciation from the Dean in the form of official Arts Faculty memorabilia imprinted with the regal signature of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn.

Khun Porntip gave a dynamic and dramatic presentation in English about becoming a working professional in today's globalized world. She recommended Fulbright scholarships as an excellent way to assist students in their formation as global professionals, offering useful tips on procedures for application and exhorting students to keep trying again and again if their initial applications prove unsuccessful. She also brought with her a number of books on studying abroad to distribute among the event's enthusiastic participants.

With a captivatingly serene but emphatic style, Khun Panu gave an informative and detailed PowerPoint presentation that covered the various fields of study available to Arts students, application procedures for appropriate Government scholarships, as well as strategies for success in securing a scholarship. He advised students to regularly visit the website of the Office of the Civil Service Commission in order to acquire up-to-date information because the number and target field of scholarships vary from year to year in response to shifting requirements of the government sectors with which scholarship awardees are contracted to work following completion of their overseas studies.

After the presentations, the floor was open to lively, and frequently imaginative, questions from the audience. Student queries ranged from available areas of study and preparations for securing a particular scholarship to personal questions about strengths and weaknesses that may affect future study abroad and so forth. These questions helped illuminate the myriad aspects of scholarship procedures with a few of the more unexpected queries even evoking mirth from guest speakers and audience alike.

The session was, as one student participant remarked, a rare and valuable opportunity to interact with the authorities who are in charge of scholarship selection procedures, and requests have already been made for similar such events to be held again in the future. The audience of this event comprised approximately 100 seniors who had pre-registered and also a few parents who attended on behalf of their children. Ajarn Mathurin Leelasethakul and Ajarn Scott Humphries were the vibrant emcees who added considerably to the overall success of the event.





## Lunchtime Talk on Scholarships

(continued)

Khun Porntip, who received Ed.M and M.A. Degrees from Columbia University in the USA, as well as a B.Ed with First Class Honors from Chulalongkorn, is currently the Executive Director of the Thailand-U.S. Educational Foundation (Fulbright).

Khun Phanu, who holds B.A., M.A. and M.P.A. degrees from Chulalongkorn as well as a Diploma in Personnel Management and Industrial Relations from the University of Manchester, is the current Director of the Recruitment and Selection Center of the Office of the Civil Service Commission in Nonthaburi.

For more details about these scholarships contact Khun Porntip by email at [ptk@fulbrightthai.org](mailto:ptk@fulbrightthai.org) or Khun Phanu at [phanu@ocsg.go.th](mailto:phanu@ocsg.go.th).



## The International Symposium on Japanese Studies 2010: JST 2010

The Japanese Section, in collaboration with faculty members and students from Osaka University, will hold an international symposium on Japanese Studies 2010: JST 2010 titled, "Toward the Creation of New Japanese Studies" on October 26, 2010 at the Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Building. Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn will graciously preside over the opening ceremony at 9:00 a.m. and will join the keynote session. The keynote speaker is Professor Ikegami Yoshihiko, Professor of Graduate School of Letters, Showa Woman's University and Professor Emeritus, University of Tokyo. The keynote speech is titled, "On Prejudice against 'Alien' Languages and How to Forestall It."

Following the keynote speech, the morning session will be a panel discussion of new approaches and methodologies in Japanese Studies that have emerged in recent years as the field has grown and diversified beyond its traditional core of Japanese, American and European scholars to incorporate academics and researchers from other regions and countries. The afternoon schedule will be paper presentations in three parallel sessions addressing Japanese literature, Japanese language and language learning, as well as Japanese culture. The invited presenters include scholars from Japan, Italy, India, Russia and Thailand. Generous financial support for the International Symposium on Japanese Studies 2010: JST 2010 has been made by Toyota Motors Thailand Company Limited and the Japan Foundation. Approximately 100 to 150 participants are expected to attend this symposium. Apart from being an ideal forum for all scholars of Japanese Studies to exchange expertise, this symposium will also be the inaugural event and first international symposium to be held in the freshly completed Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Building, the new pride of the Faculty of Arts.



## Schedule for Next Semester

Second semester commences on Wednesday, October 27, 2010 and ends on February 26, 2011. The midterm week will be from Monday, December 20, 2010 to Friday, December 24, 2010 and the final examination period will run from Monday, February 28, 2011 till Friday, March 11, 2011. As Chulalongkorn University will host the 38th Interschool Games, titled Chamchuri Games, from January 15 to 22, 2010, there will be no classes during this period.

## Retirement Ceremony and Party



On September 17, 2010, the Faculty of Arts held a retirement ceremony and party in Room 205, Maha Chulalongkorn Building in honor of 8 professors and 2 supporting staff members namely Associate Prof. Dr. Surangsi Tonseingsom, Associate Prof. Chalong Soontravanich, Assistant Prof. Ukrit Patnoi, Assistant Prof. Dr. Pratoom Angurarohita, Assistant Prof. Dr. Varunee Padmasankh, Assistant Prof. Suchada Sadyapongse, Associate Prof. Dr. Pachee Yuvajita, Associate Prof. Nopamat Veohong, Ms. Savinee Kraithong and Mr. Prasit Yuniam. Despite a torrential downpour, the occasion drew a full house with many faculty and supporting staff members joining to express their fond farewells, gratitude, and good will to the retirees. Against the roar of bucketing rain, the Dean, Assistant Professor Dr. Prapod Assavavirulhakarn, remarked poignantly in his opening speech that even “the sky shed tears” as the Faculty of Arts bade farewell to the retirees.

The atmosphere ranged from sadness at having to say goodbye to academic solemnity and even to hilarity as the retirees gave short, friendly speeches sharing heartfelt memories with the audience. Tokens of appreciation for the retirees comprised royal gifts bestowed by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, crystal trophies from the Faculty, as well as personal gifts provided by the Dean himself. The air was filled with beautiful songs from the Arts Choir and enchanting melodies from the Arts Chamber Music Group. Artistically bedecked with pink, purple, and white flowers in standing vases and trellises at each corner, as well as sprays of orchids and other blossoms hanging profusely from the walls and doors, the room was magically transformed into a breathtaking floral wonderland that, in the words of one of the honored retirees, Associate Professor Nopamat Veohong, looked for all the world like “a gorgeous ballroom of some well recognized five-star hotel.”

The food, an integral part of any social gathering, was no less impressive. Deliciously prepared and artistically presented, it was a sumptuous feast for both the eye and the stomach. All of us at the Faculty of Arts were deeply grateful to Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn for her kindness in sending wine, salami and dates to enhance the dining tables at this event. Unsurprisingly, the royal ambrosia was widely enjoyed and disappeared in next to no time. The air at this memorable event was filled with love, friendship and bonding amidst the fragrant beauty of decorative flowers and rhythmic strains of melodious music.



### 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, Donald Scott Humphries, Dr. Julispong Chularatana, Dr. Nurida Hayiyakoh, Pawit Mahasarinand, Dr. Piriyaudit Manit, Dr. Saseporn Petcharpiruch, Dr. Sirivan Chulakorn, Mathurin Leelasetakul, 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.