

Books and Laureates: Minister of Mexico to Thailand Visits the Faculty of Arts

Austria at Aksorn: A Visit by the Republic's Ambassador

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On the very last day of Bangkok's reign as World Book Capital - April 23, 2014 - Mexico gave both the written word and the Mexican heritage their due via a special kind of donation: H.E. Adolfo Garcia Estrada, the Minister of Mexico to Thailand, and Mrs. Rocio Magali Maciel, the Head of the Cultural Affairs Section of the Mexican Embassy in Thailand, presented Mexican books to the Faculty of Arts. The two prominent visitors were welcomed by Assoc. Prof. Surapeepan Chatraporn, the Deputy Dean for International Affairs, Ajarn Dr. Sukij Poopuang, the Head of the Spanish Department, and Ajarn Dr. Pasuree Luesakul, the Director of the Institute of Latin American Studies.

H.E. Garcia Estrada and Mrs. Rocio Magali Maciel also used the occasion for a talk to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Mexican Nobel-Prize-winning Author Octavio Paz at the Institute of Latin American Studies, Faculty of Arts. The talk received much attention from both BALAC students and as other guests.

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Cultural events co-hosted by the Faculty of Arts and embassies have become a treasured tradition at Chulalongkorn University by now. Austria is the latest country to cooperate with us in this way; in particular, the KAFKA Conference will be held. To prepare for this, Assist. Prof. Dr. Prapod Assavavirulhakarn, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, and Assoc. Prof. Surapeepan Chatraporn, Deputy Dean for International Affairs welcomed H.E. Mr. Enno Drofenik, the Austrian Ambassador, in room 814 of the Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Building on March 14, 2014.

Additional representatives of the Faculty helped ensure success and highlight the importance of the meeting: Assist. Prof. Dr. Neungreudee Lohapon, Head of the Western Languages Department; Ajarn Dr.Aratee Kaewsumrit, Head of the German Department; and Prof. Thanomnuan O'charoen, also from the German Department.



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As important as cultural events and the cooperation with embassies are, the internationalization-focused work of the Faculty would be incomplete without the crucial issue of student exchange. This topic was on the agenda in Room 202 of the Chamchuri 3 Building on March 13, 2014. Assist. Prof. Dr. M.R. Kalaya Thingsabadh, Deputy Dean for Academic Affairs, Assist. Prof. Dr. Kriengkrai Boonlert-U-Thai, Assistant to the Rector for International Affairs (and acting on behalf of the Director of the Office of International Affairs), and Assoc. Prof. Surapeepan Chatraporn, Deputy Dean for International Affairs welcomed Prof. Dr. Tak Watanabe from the Faculty of Liberal Arts, and Mr. Ei Nakayama, an international liaison officer, from Sophia University, Japan.

The purpose of their visit was to facilitate the AIMS Program, which is an exchange program arranged by Chulalongkorn University and Sophia University. Five students from Sophia University will be taking BALAC classes starting in the August-December semester of 2014, and five BALAC students will be taking classes at Sophia University starting in the April-July semester of 2015.

The AIMS Program is a five-year program, from 2014 to 2019. Arts students will be provided with free accommodation at Sophia University.

The AIMS Student Exchange Program between the Faculty of Arts and Other ASEAN Universities

AIMS does not apply to Japan only. On the contrary, it is closely linked to ASEAN, as the full name of the program, ASEAN International Mobility for Students, suggests. Needless to say, it is worth knowing for all our students. Thus, on March 18, 2014, from 12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M., Assoc. Prof. Surapeepan Chatraporn, Deputy Dean for International Affairs organized a talk on "Student Exchange Scholarships under the ASEAN International Mobility for Students (AIMS) Program" for BALAC students. Around ninety BALAC students joined in Room 314 of the Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Building.

AIMS is a student exchange program between Thailand and other universities in the ASEAN region. This talk focused on Malaysia and Indonesia.

The speakers were Dr. Hamam Supriyadi, a lecturer from Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia and special Indonesian lecturer at Thammasat University, and Ajarn Dr. Nureeda Hayiyakoh, Head of the Malaysian Section. Both speakers presented photos and introduced schools and universities in Indonesia and Malaysia. The talk ended with Miss Nareema Sangwiman, a PhD candidate in Literature and Comparative Literature, giving an account of her experience as an exchange student at University of Malaysia.

Therefore, the talk gave students not only the necessary information to participate in this exchange program to gain knowledge and experience abroad, but also a lot of motivation and encouragement.

We are at Your Service.





The Committee Members of the Section of International Affairs, which comprises Deputy Dean Surapeepan Chatraporn, Assoc. Prof. Charunee Hongcharu, Assist. Prof. Dr. Duantem Krisdathanont, Assist. Prof. Dr. Julispong Chularatana, Dr. Sirivan Chulakorn, Dr. Anant Laulertvorakul, Dr. Nurida Hayiyakoh, Dr. Penpisa Srivoranart, Dr. Pasuree Luesakul, Dr.Suebpong Changboonchoo, Assist. Prof. Dr. Ingo Peters, Donald Scott Humphries, Scott Oltmann, and Kankanok Singharerg 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.