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Argentine Ambassador Presents Books to the Faculty of Arts


Argentina and our Faculty have maintained good relationships for quite a while, and one further step was taken on September, 2014. H.E. Ms. Ana Maria Ramirez, the current Ambassador of Argentina to Thailand, visited the Faculty of Arts. Warmly welcomed by Assistant Professor Dr. Prapod Assavavirulhakarn, the Dean of the Faculty, Associate Professor Surapeepan Chatraporn, the Deputy Dean for International Affairs, and Ajarn Dr. Pasuree Luesakul, the Director of the Latin American Studies Center at the Learning Commons, Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Building, Ambassador Ramirez presented books to the Latin American Studies Center, and even observed a Spanish class attended by Arts freshmen. The Ambassador also visited the Latin American Studies Center and the Confucius Institute, and was greeted by Associate Prof. Dr. Han Shenglong, the Director. Assistant Professor Dr. Prapod hosted a lunch for the Ambassador at Water Library, Chamchuri Square. 



Ambassador of Colombia to Thailand Presents Books to the Faculty of Arts



Argentina was not the only South American country to honor us with a diplomatic visit: H.E. Mr. Andelfo Garcia, the Ambassador of Colombia to Thailand, came to the Faculty of Arts on November 11, 2014, and was received—naturally, given the similarities of his and Ms. Ramirez' roles—by a lineup not too different from above: Associate Professor Surapeepan Chatraporn, the Deputy Dean for International Affairs, Ajarn Dr. Pasuree Luesakul, the Director of the Latin American Studies Center, and, in addition, Khun Supariya Lulitananda, the Director of Humanity Information Center.


Ambassador Garcia presented books on Colombian linguistics, history, society, and literature, and a collection of Colombian Nobel Laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez's works to Arts students and faculty. He also visited the Latin American Studies Center, and the Confucius Institute. 

Student Exchange Agreement with California State University, San Bernardino



The cooperation with various branches of California State University, one of the world's largest systems of higher education, is constantly growing. In August, it was CSU San Bernardino's turn. Associate Professor Surapeepan Chatraporn, the Deputy Dean for International Affairs, Assistant Professor Dr. Duantem Krisdathanont, the Deputy Director of BALAC, Ajarn Dr. Lowell Skar and Ajarn Albert Bosch, BALAC lecturers, welcomed Dr. Jack Paduntin, the Deputy Dean of the College of Extended Learning and Executive Director of the International Extension Programs on August 5, 2014, at the Dean's Office.




The purpose of his visit was to discuss the Student Exchange Agreement between Chulalongkorn University and California State University, San Bernardino. The two universities already have exchange programs, but no student exchange agreement yet. This agreement would allow actual student exchanges between the two universities. 

Cooperation between Hiroshima University and the Faculty of Arts

Japan is another great focus of the international outreach. Under the so-called AIMS-HU, ten students from the Faculty of Arts went on an exchange program to Hiroshima University, from March to July, 2014, and seven students from Hiroshima University attended classes at BALAC in the first semester of 2014. Professor Dr. Taiji Hotta, the Vice President for International Affairs, Ms. Saori Nakaie, the Head of the International Exchange Group, and Ms. Tomoko Sasaki, the AIMS-HU Coordinator, visited the Faculty of Arts to learn about the students' visits and their activities, and to acquire information on classes and activities arranged by the Faculty for the Japanese students.




Apart from this, the future was also discussed, in the form of internship opportunities for the Arts and the Japanese students as a part of AIMS-HU. 

Cooperation with Ritsumeikan University, Japan




The importance of AIMS is underscored by another visit from Japan: On September 9, 2014, Professor Dr. Yusuke Toyoda, the Deputy Dean of the College of Policy Science, and Dr. Piyada Chonlaworn from Ritsumeikan University (one of Japan's leading private universities) came to the Faculty of Arts to discuss the cooperation under AIMS. They were welcomed by Assoc. Prof. Surapeepan Chatraporn, the Deputy Dean for International Affairs, Assistant Professor Dr. Duanthem Krisdathanont, Assist. Prof. Thosaeng Chaochuti, Ajarn Dr. Asadayuth Chusri, and Ajarn Dr. Lowell Skar in Room 815 of the Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Building.

Our Japanese visitors wished to discuss the student exchange program, especially in terms of the number of students, the time period, courses with transferable credits, and activities. Professor Dr. Yusuke Toyoda will convey the result of the meeting to Ritsumeikan University. The student exchange program begins in the second semester of 2014. 

Cooperation with Sophia University, Japan, through AIMS

AIMS once again: On October 31, 2014, Assistant Professor Dr. Prapod Assavavirulhakarn, the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, and Associate Professor Surapeepan Chatraporn, the Deputy Dean for International Affairs, Assistant Professor Dr. Voravudhi Chirasombutti, the Head of the Japanese Section, the Department of Eastern Languages, Associate Professor Charunee Hongcharu, lecturer of BALAC's Music and Culture, and Ajarn Dr. Lowell Skar, BALAC lecturer welcomed a delegation from renowned Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan. The delegation included Professor Dr. Tak Watanabe from the Faculty of Liberal Arts, Associate Professor Dr. Davisi Boontharm from the Center of Global Discovery, Faculty of Foreign Studies, and Ms. Hanna Tajima from the Office of Global Education and Collaboration.



The exchange program between the Faculty of Arts and Sophia University, or a discussion of its finer points, was what had brought the distinguished guests here. In this semester, there are five students from Sophia University taking classes at BALAC, with financial support from Sophia University. In the next semester, five students from BALAC will be taking classes at Sophia University. Under the agreement between the two universities, Chula students do not have to pay tuition, but have to pay for their own air fares and accommodation. Because of the very high living cost in Tokyo, the Faculty of Arts asked Sophia University to cover the accommodation cost for Chula students as well. The negotiation went well: Sophia University agreed to cover not only the accommodation cost but also round-trip air fares for Chula students. Assistant Professor Dr. Prapod hosted a lunch for Sophia University Representatives at Jade Garden in the Montien Hotel. 





BALAC New Student Orientation and Parent Meeting




The Bachelor of Arts Program in Language and Culture (International Program), or BALAC of course, is celebrating its 7th year. This year, there are 96 new students, and we have 57 graduates who started their study in 2010. Of these graduates, 10 earned first-class honors, and 18 second-class honors.

BALAC organized a new student orientation and parent meeting for the Academic Year 2014 on August 1, 2014, from 9.00-16.00, in Room 301-302 of the Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Building, to allow new students and their parents to meet with the BALAC Board and faculty, and to attain information on classes and regulations. There were 160 people—new students and parents—attending this event.

The event started with Assistant Professor Dr. Prapod Assavavirulhakarn, the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, delivering his opening remarks, sending warm wishes to new students, and awarding certificates to the above-mentioned ten graduates with first-class honors. These included Mr. Supakorn Yuenyongwannachot (with Gold Medal), Miss Narawal Bunyapisompan, Miss Kanokwan Pornngarm, Miss Chiang Lee, Miss Chananart Feungfusakul, Miss Nisara Sittakarndeck, Mr. Peerapat Ouysuk, Miss Sawita Metiranan, Miss Siriprapa Sapat, and Miss Artita Boonthong.

Assistant Professor Dr. Prapod also awarded certificates to 16 students who carried out volunteer work to benefit society. These included Miss Narawal Bunyapisompan, Miss Kanokwan Pornngarm, Miss Chiang Lee, Miss Chananart Feungfusakul, Miss Nisara Sittakarndeck, Mr. Peerapat Ouysuk, Miss Siriprapa Sapat, Mr. Supakorn Yuenyongwannachot, Miss Chadchanid Setaruji, Miss Tanita Ketkittikhun, Mr. Thanakorn Visetjung, Miss Sutitan Chaotrakulkit, Miss Isara Rachatrachu, Miss Sasisolos Angsutornset, Miss Natmada Chuhawan, and Miss Warintorn Lertnimitpan.

After the awarding ceremony, Associate Professor Surapeepan Chatraporn, the Deputy Dean for International Affairs, and BALAC Director, gave an introduction of the Faculty of Arts and the BALAC Program. Focus was on curriculum development and activities to promote the creation of an international environment. Next, Assistant Professor Sankavat Pradithpongse, the Deputy Dean for Student Affairs, talked about activities and life on campus. Then, three Arts alumni shared their experiences on campus, job opportunities, and success that were built on their study at Arts. The three Arts alumni were Khun Nantiya Sawangwuttham, the Head of the Government Inspector (Level 10), Ministry of Culture; Khun Monrudee Ketpan, the Director of the Bureau of Foreign Affairs, Thai Airways International Public Company Limited; and Dr. Tinsiri Siripo, the Deputy Director of the Management and Communications Unit, SEAMEO. This session was led by Ajarn Panita Silapavithayadilok.

In the afternoon, Assistant Professor Dr. Duantem Krisdathanont, the Deputy Director of BALAC, explained the BALAC program and the courses in more detail, and Ajarn Dr. Lowell Skar and Ajarn Dr. Jaime Moreno Tejada introduced Cultural Studies, the core of the program. The whole session was led by Ajarn Proud Sethabutr. After the session, the new students had the opportunity to meet with their advisors. In this academic year, there are four of those. They provided students with information on classes, registration, and life at the Faculty of Arts. The new student orientation was a success: students and a lot of their parents were interested, and shared comments and opinions. The session was over at 16.00. 



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. Pennisa Srivoranart, Dr. Pasuree Luesakul, Dr. Suebpong Changboonchoo, Assist. Prof. Dr. Ingo Peters, Scott Oltmann, Simon Turner, Dr. Jaime Tejada, 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.