

2006: Building for the Future

As an educational institution, MUIC traditionally observes and celebrates the beginning of each academic year. This 2006 calendar year, however, ushers in a significant development, one that introduces another change of pattern on our campus.



An architect's rendering of the new MUIC extension on the west side of Building 1.

MUIC Building 1, which was completed and officially dedicated in 1998, was designed to accommodate 2,000 students. Seven years later, that calculation is no longer operative, given our present demands. With the recent arrival of 112 incoming students for the second trimester, the full-time student body stands at 2,110, not including inbound international visiting and

exchange students.

Anticipating this increase in numbers, the administration, under the leadership of Dr. Chariya Brockelman, Interim Dean, and in collaboration with Mahidol University, formulated a plan in 2004 to expand MUIC's physical landscape (reported in a previous issue of *kaleidoscope*). The initial design consisted of a

(continued on page 3)

Prospects for the New Year

This new calendar year marks a milestone for our college: for the first time in its 19-year history MUIC is accommodating over 2,000 full-time students.

An even more striking feature of 2006 will be the ongoing construction of a new extension to the present MUIC complex. This major project will no doubt interfere with the daily rhythm of our campus life, but I can assure you that the long-term benefits will far outweigh any short-term inconvenience.

I have consistently reiterated MUIC's mission: to prepare our students to meet the challenges they will face in their careers and to instill in them the importance of life-long learning. These objectives can only be achieved if we continue to provide our students, faculty and staff with the best possible resources.

This coming year will require some tolerance and patience on our part. I want to thank all of you in advance for your cooperation and extend my best wishes for a prosperous and happy new year.

**PROFESSOR
CHARIYA BROCKELMAN**
Interim Dean

New Administrative Appointment

DR. YAOWALARK SUKTHANA has recently been appointed Assistant Dean for Planning, Research and Development. She is a medical doctor, Associate Professor at Mahidol University's Faculty of Tropical Medicine and Head of the Department of Protozoology. Apart from her teaching and administrative responsibilities, Dr. Yaowalark is currently engaged in the research of toxoplasma and supervises the research of master's and doctoral students.

Dr. Yaowalark was invited to join the MUIC administrative staff by Dr. Chariya



Brockelman, Interim Dean, who has expressed her determination to encourage more research and assign it a high-profile status. During her brief tenure at MUIC, Dr. Yaowalark has already met with members of the five academic divisions in an effort to promote new research projects.

Given her experience and expertise in quality assurance, Dr. Yaowalark also expects to contribute to the ongoing procedures of evaluation and self assessment in the future planning of MUIC.

staff profiles...

MRS. KANYARAT SATHIRAKUPT arrived at MUIC in 1997 as a staff member in Human Resources. Two years later she was assigned to the Office of Admissions, a position she has held until the present.

As an Admissions officer, Ms. Kanyarat is required to confront pressing deadlines, particularly during MUIC's four application periods when long lines of prospective students and their parents request the necessary forms and documents. Additionally, there is the constant interruption of telephone calls from other students and parents wanting detailed information about our application and admission procedures.



Through it all Ms. Kanyarat manages to maintain her composure and professionalism -- so much so, in fact, that the Office of the Dean has received a number of calls and correspondence complimenting Ms. Kanyarat on her efficiency, thoroughness and thoughtful manner. In response, Interim Dean Chariya Brockelman has awarded Ms. Kanyarat a special certificate of recognition for her contributions.

During her time away from work, Ms. Kanyarat enjoys reading and spending quality time with her husband, Thitiwat, and their two children.

Building for the Future *continued*

six-storey extension. However, Dr. Pornchai Matangkasombut, President of Mahidol University, recommended an additional two floors, an unmistakable sign of his commitment to and support of MUIC's growth and development. Subsequently, revisions were made, new designs submitted and the process of approval finally completed.

In order to provide a consistency in style and form, the architectural firm, Design Peak, was employed. The Bangkok company, Christiani and Nielsen, is responsible for the construction of the new extension, which begins this January.

The new building, which will adjoin the west side of Building 1, is expected to be completed by the beginning of 2007 - in time for the third trimester. Before construction began there was a special ceremony on January 5th to honor the spirits and guardians of the land.

As reported earlier, this new eight-storey structure will provide not only additional classrooms, offices and studios but also extensions to the college's Atrium Canteen, the Salaya Pavilion Hotel and the Herb Garden Restaurant.

Significantly, the new extension

has been specifically designed to provide easy access for people with disabilities, a recognition of their social right to an education as stipulated in the Constitution. Minor revisions in Building 1 will also support that same kind of access.

The ongoing construction during the course of this year will undoubtedly prove disruptive, particularly for those classrooms and offices located on the west side of Building 1. Consequently, several initiatives have already been implemented in order to accommodate both faculty members and students.

The three underground rooms in Building 2, which were initially designated for the Music Club, an exercise center and storage, were converted into classrooms and have been utilized as such since the first trimester. In addition, MUIC has rented five modular classrooms, comfortable air-conditioned units which can accom-



The January 5th pre-construction ceremony.

modate 25 students each; they are situated on the landscaped area in front of Building 2.

There is one additional inconvenience; given the nature and location of the construction, the road on the west side of Building 1 will be inaccessible.

Fortunately, all of these measures are temporary - at least until the new extension is completed. This new and ambitious project is not so much a matter of choice as it is of necessity, particularly if MUIC is to maintain its reputation for providing the best available resources for its students.



Signposts leading to the converted underground classrooms in Building 1.



The temporary modular classrooms and newly-constructed walkway located in front of Building 2.

> social science

A Dialogue Across Borders

Two years ago MUIC's Social Science Division and the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities, Universiti Kabangsaan Malaysia (UKM), embarked on a joint venture: to engage in a series of academic conferences (scheduled at two-year intervals). These meetings are meant to provide an exchange of research and ideas and promote dialogue and cooperation between Malaysia and Thailand.

The first conference, entitled *Malaysia and Thailand in the 21st Century: Opportunities and Challenges*, was hosted by MUIC on the Salaya campus in 2003. This year's conference was sponsored by UKM in Selangor, Malaysia, from November 29 to December 1. Its theme, *Dialogue Across Borders: Cooperation Amidst Crisis*, took on a decidedly regional focus. The specific aims were (1) to promote a discourse across borders on issues of common interest, (2) to take stock of human preparedness in times of crisis and (3) to gauge the challenges that confront the



MUIC representatives departing for the conference.

Southeast Asian region and the implications on the nations' well being.

Interim Dean Chariya Brockelman and Chairman Peter Smith led a contingent of five faculty members and four Social Science majors to the conference. Assistant Professor Marja-Leena Hekkie Horn, who coordinated our college's contributions, delivered a paper on "Burmese Muslims in Thailand." Dr. Dale Rorex addressed the issue of "Health Tourism in Thailand." Assistant Professor Eugene Jones presented an insight into "Consumerism and Communism in Vietnam" while Ajarn Takayoshi Fujiwara explored "Language Learning Beliefs and Educational Experiences." In addition, Associate Professor Wariya Chinwanno of Mahidol University's Faculty of Social Science and a part-time instructor for the MUIC Social Science Division delivered a paper on "Buddhism and Thai Society."

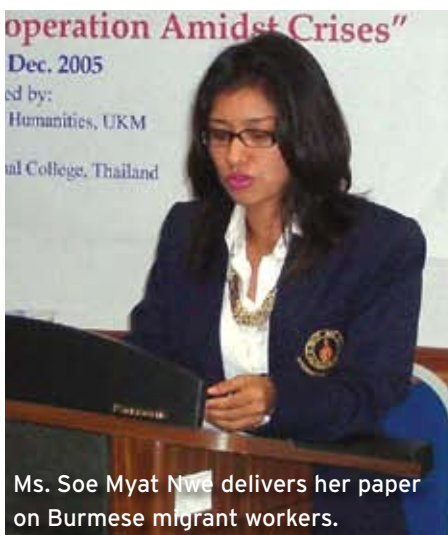
A new and innovative feature of this year's conference was the inclusion of four MUIC Social Science majors. Their participation was substantial inasmuch as they, too, delivered papers which were

as diverse as those by their faculty counterparts.

Ms. Pattaka Sa-ngimnet and Ms. Soe Myat Nwe focused on the specific regional issues of "Human Trafficking in Thailand, Burma, Cambodia and Laos" and "Burmese Migrant Workers in Thailand," respectively. Ms. Natanaree Posrithong offered a broader perspective in her presentation, "The emergence of ASEAN and Its Development into a Prosperous Regional Organization," while Mr. Kunnaya Wimoontanon tackled the issue of "The Effects of Weapons on Southeast Asia and the Global Community."

This student participation injected a new and welcome dynamic into the conference's proceeding. Their performance also underscored another factor, namely, the academic strength of the Social Science Division.

All of the participants expressed their satisfaction with the outcome of this second conference. They returned to MUIC with a deeper understanding of regional issues and a determination to offer an even more meaningful conference for 2007.



Ms. Soe Myat Nwe delivers her paper on Burmese migrant workers.

> social science

Dialogue of Another Kind

Under the leadership and initiative of its Chairman, Dr. Peter Smith, the Social Science Division continues its growth and development with the addition of new courses, new faculty members and the recruitment of new students, whose numbers presently stand at 124.

Social Science is the only division that conducts regular trimester meetings for students and faculty alike. These sessions enable Social Science majors to keep abreast of

> social science

New Courses

The Social Science Division is offering two new courses beginning this trimester: European History and Archeology. Another recently-established course, Industrial and Organizational Psychology, a scientific study and application of psychology to the workplace, is being offered in the second and third trimesters and is taught by Ajarn Ute Baeuchl.

current academic activities; they also serve as a forum in which students can express their concerns, submit recommendations and initiate student projects.

The agenda for the first trimester meeting, which was held on October 31, included the announcement of new courses, a briefing on the Malaysia-Thailand Conference and a discussion on developing non-credit internships (a matter that will be covered in a subsequent issue of

kaleidoscope). There was also an update on the progress of the new Social Science catalogue and a student-initiated project: the production of a promotional VCD under the direction of Mr. Viriya Twishri, a fourth-year Social Science major.

This promotional vehicle, to be completed this trimester, will be utilized for MUIC's annual Open House along with other recruitment efforts in order to maintain the division's continuing growth.

Ms. Katesava Boonprasert, Mr. Viriya and Ms. Apiya Wittayanukorn review the VCD's story book.



> travel industry management

A Class Project: Learning by Doing

Ajarn Naphawan Chantradoan, an MUIC alumna who was recently appointed full-time lecturer for the Travel Industry Management Division, teaches the ICTM 326 course, Meeting Incentives: Convention and Exhibition Management. Last trimester the 34-member class, an even mix of full-time, visiting and exchange students, engaged in a major project by translating theory into practice.

They applied their organizational and managerial skills in present-



Ajarn Naphawan (right) and students at the reception area.

ing "Fusion: Food, Fashion and Fun", an event which was held on the ground floor of Building 1. The program featured music by members of the MUIC Music Club as well as outside bands, a fashion show and an assortment of international foods.

This special event was not only well managed but also well received by the crowd who attended. Any proceedings from the affair were donated to the MUIC Volunteer Club.

Editor's Note

In featuring the Office of Student Affairs, kaleidoscope acknowledges that most of the MUIC students, faculty and staff are already familiar with its many contributions to our college. This mainly informative report, however, is meant to target our overseas university partners, parents, friends and more seasoned, if not exactly geriatric, alumni who may not be that well acquainted with the role and function of Student Affairs. An exploration of these matters will also serve as an avenue by which we can report on recent MUIC activities.



An Enterprising Resource: Office of Student Affairs

The Office of Student Affairs is unlike any other at MUIC. Perhaps the sign posted on the office window says it all:

Need Help or Advice? See Us.

That open invitation attracts a steady stream of visitors, both students and faculty alike. The atmosphere is welcoming and the working style predictably casual as staff members respond to a wide range of student needs.

According to the MUIC Student Handbook, the mission of Student Affairs is "to meet the needs of MUIC students from admission through graduation." That daunting challenge is the responsibility of Advisor Anchalee Pongpun, Chief Officer Jutharat Thipboonsup and staff members Sasithorn Rojsongkran, Praewthip Wongpaiboon and Ubonwan Songkrantanon, all of whom devote their energy and time, including frequent weeknights as well as weekends, in fulfilling this task.

The scope of their responsibilities is considerable and includes providing counseling services, addressing disciplinary issues and offering a wide range of student services.

Counseling and Discipline

In spite of its designation as an official component of any university system, the term "student affairs" is sometimes subject to double entendre, suggesting a romantic entanglement or secret dalliance. These may well be a part and parcel of student life as are the issues of self esteem, failed relationships, academic pressures and even family problems.

When personal problems are compounded or become debilitating, MUIC students can and do utilize the services of Student Affairs by consulting with Ajarn Anchalee Pongpun who offers guidance and support. In the event of more serious cases, students are referred to either Dr. Paul Yablo of the Social Science Division or one of the mental health facilities at the three Mahidol hospitals.

Although students may visit the Office of Student Affairs when they have academic problems, most are referred to Ms. Udomrat Tivasub, Academic Counselor in the Office of Academic Services.

As for disciplinary matters, the Student Handbook clearly stipulates a code of conduct for all MUIC students. All violations are handled by the Office of Student Affairs, which has established a system whereby students are assured of a fair and impartial hearing.

Fortunately, counseling and disciplinary matters do not make unreasonable demands on the Office of Student Affairs. However, student services do since they are extensive and far-reaching, encompassing a broad spectrum of responsibilities in meeting students' personal and collective needs.

Student Services

Student services entails the issue of basic needs. The Office of Student Affairs provides information about housing options, including designated accommodations for international students, on-campus dormitories and condominiums as well as readily accessible

MU's landmark on-campus condominiums.



housing in surrounding villages. In fact, MUIC students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of these housing opportunities on or near the campus so that they can more effectively concentrate on their studies as well as participate in extracurricular activities.

Another basic service is the provision of health care. In the event of minor illness or injury, students have access to either the college's infirmary or the campus clinic. In serious cases, students will be referred to one of the three Mahidol hospitals in Bangkok, a process that is generally supervised by Student Affairs.

Additional demands are placed on the staff, most notably coordinating the Freshman Seminar, organizing special events, providing scholarship opportunities and promoting student activities.

Freshman Seminar

One major responsibility of Student Affairs is the planning and supervision of the Freshman Seminar, a non-credit requirement that introduces all new students to the demands of university life. One important component is the traditional trimester orientation.

On December 14 and 16, 2006, MUIC formally welcomed 112 second-trimester students who are majoring in Business Administration (47), Travel Industry Management (21), Social Science (16), Biological Sciences (11), Computer Science (5), Food Science and Technology (6), Physics (2), Chemistry (1), Environment (1) and Film Production (1) at a special session in the auditorium. Professor Maleeya Kruatachue, Interim Dean for Academic Affairs, and the five divisional chairmen offered an overview of academic requirements, after which the new students met their advisors and subsequently registered for their general education courses.



The new Online-Registration System at student orientation.

Even more time, however, was devoted to non-academic matters, including a special address by Dr. Chariya Brockelman, Interim Dean, a review of MUIC's rules and regulations, a presentation on time management and values as well as an introduction to the MUIC Student Association's role and function, all under the supervision of the Office of Student Affairs. An additional series of ice-breaking activities were also offered as part of the orientation process.

Two other components of the Freshman Seminar are Club Rush, which introduces new students to the college's various extracurricular activities, and the Welcoming Camp, both of which are jointly organized by Student Affairs and the Student Association. This

two-day experience provides incoming students the opportunity to interact with others, engage in activities and acclimate themselves to the many facets of college life.



Welcoming Camp at Baan Phu Waan.

Last trimester's Welcoming Camp was held at Baan Phu Waan, the Pastoral Training Center for the Archdiocese of Bangkok, a facility which can easily accommodate our students; this trimester it will take place at the same venue.

Special Events

The collaborative efforts of Student Affairs and the Student Association enables the MUIC community to observe traditional celebrations, two of which occurred during the first trimester.

MUIC joined other Mahidol University faculties in observing the annual Loy Krathong festival in November. The proceedings began with a parade in which student participants dressed in traditional Thai costume. Prizes were awarded for the most striking display, after which Ms. Loy Krathong was selected, one from the student body and one from the administrative staffs. A student from the Faculty of Public Health was designated Ms. Loy Krathong as was Ms. Ketvaree Patanakaew from MUIC's Public Relations Department.

Later that evening the participants enjoyed traditional Thai food, music and dance, all of which culminated in the floating of floral and candle-lit krathongs along the waterways.

Another traditional observance was the Wai Kru Ceremony, which was presided over by Dr. Pornchai

Matangkasombut, President of Mahidol University, and Interim Dean Chariya Brockelman. Ceremonial candles were lit and student representatives from each class and the international student contingent paid their respects. The occasion, however, was not confined to honoring teachers. Student achievement, both academic and otherwise, was also recognized. As is customary, a number of scholarships were awarded.

Scholarships

The Office of Student Affairs is primarily responsible for the dispensation of scholarships which are based on academic excellence and significant contributions to society. Students who participate in activities that enhance the mission and reputation of MUIC are given first consideration.

Among the scholarships awarded are those based on financial need, academic excellence, exchange and foreign language training, continuing studies and participation in the Student Association and its activities. These scholarships, all funded by MUIC, are offered each trimester to the most deserving candidates.

Apart from these internal scholarship, others are available from Mahidol University as well as from various institutions and business enterprises. In the last issue *kaleidoscope* reported on two MUIC students who received scholarships from Siemens Limited. More recently Student Affairs was approached by the National Bank of Thailand which is offering three 2-year scholarships to sophomores and juniors and three 2-year scholarships for juniors and seniors who are majoring in business or computer science and are required to compete with students from other universities.



The Office of Student Affairs also provides other opportunities in the form of student conferences and forums in the national, regional



MUIC's Loy Krathong Festivities.

and international arenas. The Hitachi Young Leaders Initiative, which selects the most promising and

talented students from five Southeast Asian countries, is one conference in which MUIC has been consistently represented. Another is the Annual London International Youth Science Forum. MUIC students have also participated in other meetings, such as the Global Awareness Conference in Thailand, the APECC Leaders Forum in Mexico, the Japan International Student Conference as well as student forums in South Korea and Singapore.

These opportunities are provided by Student Affairs, which selects the candidates on the basis of intellectual curiosity, academic achievement, social skills and leadership ability.

Student Activities

Promoting and supporting MUIC student activities is another major challenge for Student Affairs staff members who provide oversight for the Student Association and its 13 clubs, encourage participation and approve allocated budgets, depending on the scope of each activity. While some clubs engage in regular training and practice sessions, others embark on special projects.

The Debate Club hosted an extemporaneous speaking contest on November 8-9, 2005. The purpose of the competition was not only to promote public speaking but also to recruit new members for the club. Nineteen students participated in the three rounds which consisted of a discourse on general knowledge as well as domestic and international issues. Warisa Neranartkomol was selected best speaker; Supakrith Punyaratabandhu and Patcharapol Jitramontree secured second and third place, respectively.

The Debate Club is currently preparing for two upcoming competitions: the Environmental Debate at Chulalongkorn University in January and the European Union Debate at Thammasat University in February.

Other activities included the Music Club's annual Acoustic Competition, scheduled classes for the Art Club, the beginning of rehearsals for an upcoming production of the Drama Club and practice sessions for the Cheer and Dance Club.

Sports, too, were featured. In October the Karate-Do Club participated in the All Thailand Karate-Do Championship in Phuket where our athletes won a number



MUIC International students at Wai Kru ceremony.

of silver and bronze medals. December, however, ushered in another challenge for the Office of Student Affairs. Mahidol University hosted the 33rd University Games from December 22 to 30, 2005. Over 100 universities competed in the Salaya Games, with approximately 10,000 athletes and spectators participating. MUIC was assigned the task of overseeing the basketball component, under the supervision of Ajarn Michael Naglis, as well as catering for the athletes which was organized by the Office of Student Affairs.

Finally, over that same holiday period Student Affairs coordinated the efforts of 35 student volunteers who participated in memorial services for victims of the 2004 tsunami. Some were assigned to the airport to welcome foreign guests while other were available at various remembrance ceremonies in the tsunami-stricken area.

Commitments Honored

Any such act of volunteerism, participation in student activities, every conference attended or scholarship awarded are all recorded by the Office of Students Affairs so that at the time of graduation MUIC students will receive an official account of their non-academic activities, a matter of some significance



The 33rd University Games at MU Campus Salaya.

when crafting a resume. This service underlines Student Affairs' commitment in meeting MUIC student needs from admission to graduation.

The efforts of the Office of Student Affairs have altered the academic and social landscape at MUIC, especially in contrast to several years ago. Even longstanding faculty members have commented on the dynamic of a more engaged study body.

Advisor Anchalee Pongpun concurs even though she wishes there was more student participation in MUIC activities. Nevertheless, she and her staff maintain that the daily interaction with students already involved constitutes a working environment that is both invigorating and satisfying.

Springboard to Success

In its previous promotional literature, MUIC relied on the slogan "Enrichment Through Diversity," an affirmation that is gaining increasing credibility, particularly with the growing influx of international students (as reported in the last issue of *kaleidoscope*).

More recently, however, a new "mantra" has been introduced, "Springboard to Success," acknowledging the fact that a majority of MUIC seniors are able to successfully secure employment either before graduation or immediately thereafter.

The Office of Academic Services has been conducting surveys over the past four years concerning this matter. While a number of MUIC graduates continue their studies (approximately 30 percent), the majority prefer immediate work experience. According to the response of

last year's graduates who entered the job market, 28 percent were assured of employment before graduation and 24 percent easily found employment within one month of graduating in a variety of positions at prestigious hotels, international airlines, financial and banking firms, advocacy groups and multinational corporations such as ExxonMobil, Unilever and Cosmopolitan, to cite just a few examples.

The survey revealed another significant - and somewhat surprising - statistic: Social Science majors managed to acquire the highest-paid positions.

Employment Opportunities

One means by which MUIC student can gain access to good job opportunities is through the college's various internship programs. Mr. Athataphon Weerawattanakun (05) did his internship in the Human Resources Department at ExxonMobil. He now serves as Compensation Administrator for the company's

Bangkok Service Center.

As for the service industry, Ms. Chanika Lexpoonkerd (05), who interned at the Shangri-La Hotel, was offered employment before she proceeded to pursue her graduate studies. Also, TIM major Ms. Yuwadee Rungpian is completing her internship at the Peninsula Hotel and has already secured a position when she finishes her studies at MUIC.

Another avenue of opportunity for MUIC graduates is the reputation of excellence that has been established by those preceding them. For example, Ms. Anchalee Temphairajana (03), a Business major, is presently working in Singapore with the financial network, Bloomberg Television, which has subsequently expressed an interest in attracting more MUIC graduates.

Other companies, multinational or otherwise, have followed suit, maintaining contact with the college, requesting the names of graduates and participating in the MUIC Job Fairs.

Funding Grant for Special Projects

Over the past few years a number of MUIC alumni have joined the ranks at ExxonMobil Limited, assuming a variety of positions. Their visibility and performance have generated an interest in our college not only in terms of recruitment but also financial support.

On November 8, 2005, Mr. Lokman Baharuddin, Manager of Human Resources for ExxonMobil, and Ms. Yupa Wongvitaya, Personnel Manager, arrived at Mahidol University for a special meeting conducted in the MU President's Office Building and presided over by Professor Sriprasit Boonvisut, Vice President for Student Development. Mr. Baharuddin presented Interim Dean

Chariya Brockelman with a US\$ 20,000 (859,500 Baht) grant. This funding has been designated for (1) MUIC's Study Abroad Program in Japan, (2) funding for the Debate Club so that members can continue to compete in the international arena, (3) the college's

Business Challenge competition organized by the Business Administration Division and (4) additional support for Cup-pa Coffee House.

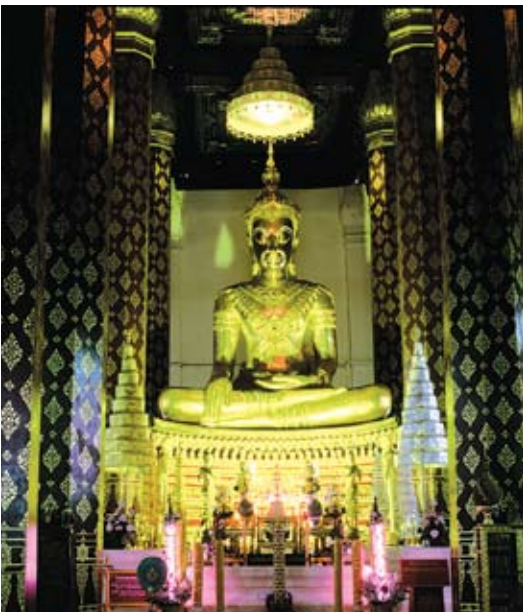
Dr. Sriprasit and Dr. Chariya expressed their appreciation and gratitude for ExxonMobil's support of these projects. After the proceedings concluded, the participants enjoyed a celebratory lunch at the Herb Garden Restaurant.





The Arts and Culture of Thailand

Dr. Charles Freeland, Director of the Humanities Program, has been teaching Thai Arts at MUIC for a number of years. By his own admission, one persistent problem has been the lack of suitable texts for classroom use. "Most of the books cater to a general audience. They're expensive and don't have the range of pictures necessary to teach students about the styles and histories of architecture, painting and sculpture. Nor are they scholarly enough."



Consequently, Dr. Freeland began compiling his own slide library but even that presented limitations as a teaching tool. Fortunately, modern technology and the sponsorship of MUIC came to the rescue, enabling Dr. Freeland to make his own DVD-ROM. He traveled throughout Thailand, as well as to Burma, Sri Lanka and Angkor Wat, took countless photographs and spent long hours creating and editing the text.

This project has now become a reality. The DVD-ROM, "The Arts and Culture of Thailand", has over 1,800 pictures accompanied by a text in both English and Thai. "In the future I hope to add French, German, Japanese and Chinese," explained Dr. Freeland, "making it a product with true international appeal,"

In order to launch the sale of the DVD-ROM, MUIC will host a special evening at the Siam Society complex on 131 Sukhvit Road, Soi 21 (Asoke), Bangkok, on Wednesday, January 18. Special invitations have been issued to university representatives, museum directors and embassies; however, the event, which begins at 6:00 p.m., will be open to the general public.

Dr. Chariya Brockelman, Interim Dean, will introduce Dr. Freeland who in turn will ad-

dress the guests concerning the background, process and purpose of the DVD-ROM, after which there will be refreshments and a reception, accompanied by traditional Thai music, in the garden area. At 7:00 p.m. guests will proceed to the gallery in order to view an exhibition of pictures, "In the Presence



of the Spirits", selected from the DVD-ROM; the exhibition will be on display for three weeks.

"The Arts and Culture of Thailand" will be available at MUIC beginning January 19, 2006, and will be featured in one of the display cases in the main lobby. The cost is 1,200 Baht/US\$ 30. Anyone can purchase copies from the Admissions/Public Relations Office adjacent to the lobby or can order the DVD-ROM through icpr@mahidol.ac.th

SCHEDULE

Add/Drop Period | January 12-16

Final Withdrawals | March 6-10

Last Day of Class | March 25

Final Examinations | March 27-April

Recess | April 6-17

THIRD TRIMESTER

New Student Orientation and Registration | April 10-11

Current Student Registration | April 19-20

Instruction Begins | April 24

International Conference

MUIC's Travel Industry Management Division, in collaboration with the Center for Tourism and Service Economics, Innsbruck University School of Management, will conduct a workshop/symposium on March 2-3, 2006 in the MUIC auditorium.

The two-day session, entitled "Destination Rejuvenation Strategies: The Potential Future for New Tourism Products/Services or Experiences," is sponsored by Hochschule Heilbronn - Heilbronn University, Asia Uninet and the Thailand Research Fund (TRF).

The overall aim of the conference is to analyze the constraints

in destination development and to deliberate on the redevelopment of tourist destinations after crises. More specifically, the workshop objectives are to exchange tourism know-how among academics from Asia and Europe, learn from best practice examples in the representative countries and encourage participants to jointly develop future research projects that will benefit all parties concerned.

For further information, contact: icnaphawan@muic.mahidol.ac.th

Job Fair 2006

MUIC's 3rd Annual Job Fair will be held on February 2 and 3, 2006 on the ground floor of Building 1 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

This year's exhibition will be the

largest yet. On February 2, approximately 35 national and multinational companies will be represented, On the second day, February 3, a number of universities, particularly from the United Kingdom, will participate in the event.

Safety Matters

In order to insure the safety of its students, faculty and staff, MUIC conducted a fire drill on November 10, 2005. The unexpected drill went as scheduled. The buildings were evacuated in a matter of minutes due, in large measure, to the monitors who steered groups of people away from the buildings.

After the exercise, Dr. Chariya Brockelman and members of the administrative staff met with the fire marshals for a debriefing and overall evaluation.



MUIC NEWSLETTER

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