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KaleidoScope

Mahidol University International College Newsletter

October 2009



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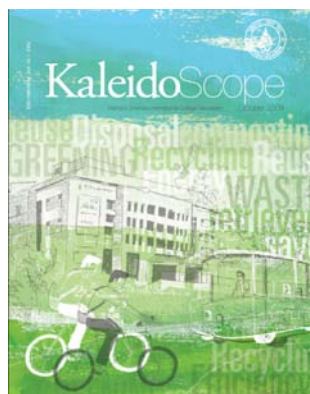
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Editor's Note

This issue of kaleidoscope is featuring the environment, highlighting not only the physical landscape of the Salaya campus but also the college's mandate to teach and inspire its students to become stewards rather than masters of our planet. Our coverage also includes the MUIC Environment Program, a major research project on coral restoration as well as the individual and collective efforts of our students in addressing environmental matters.

The last page is dedicated to correcting an error from July's Graduation issue (3.09). The list of First Class Honors recipients in that issue was printed with the wrong majors for several students. The corrected list is on page 15.

Cover Art



The cover design is by Ajarn Dale Konstanz and Ajarn Dynaya Bhutipunthu from the new Communication Design Program in the Fine and Applied Arts Division. The design is based on the theme of "Greening the Campus".

A Farewell to Dr. Fouquet

Assistant Professor Gerard Fouquet, Chairman of the Fine and Applied Arts Division, recently announced his retirement, effective September 30, 2009. Over the past ten years he has served the college in a number of capacities.

Dr. Fouquet began his tenure at MUIC in 1999 as both a full-time lecturer and Director of the Foreign Language Program. Three years later he was appointed Chairman of the Humanities and Foreign Language Division.

Under his leadership the division underwent a series of changes in its growth and development, among which was the inclusion of the Entertainment Media Program and its three majors in Television, Film and Animation Production. In addition, Dr. Fouquet not only initiated efforts to expand the Humanities courses and to restructure its general education offerings but also incorporated Thai, for foreign nationals, and Spanish into the Foreign Language Program. Finally, the division instituted a minor program, two in English Studies and five in languages.

Dr. Fouquet had every intention of retiring last year. However, at that time the college had just established the Fine and Applied Arts Division (consisting of the Entertainment Media and Communication Design Programs) and asked Dr. Fouquet to exercise his organizational and leadership skills in laying the foundation for that new enterprise.

Apart from his contributions to MUIC, Dr. Fouquet has been involved in other activities as well, including the promotion of Thai cinema in France. In 2008 he was made Chevalier of the Ordre des Arts et Lettres for his "sig-



nificant contribution of French cultural heritage” and his efforts in facilitating Thai-French cooperation.

On September 18 the college hosted a special farewell reception at the Salaya Pavilion Hotel to honor Dr. Fouquet’s service, express its gratitude for his many contributions and to wish him well in the next chapter of his life.



Dr. Surapong

New FAA Chairman

Dr. Surapong Lertsithichai is joining the FAA division as a part-time administrator this fall. On February 1, 2010 he will officially replace Dr. Gerard Fouquet as FAA Chairman, leading the Entertainment Media and Communication Design programs. Ajarn Surapong has a degree in Architecture from Yale University, and a doctorate from Harvard University. Dr. Surapong worked at Silpakorn University in Bangkok prior to this appointment.

New Program Director

Dr. Charles Windish has been Director of the English Studies Program for the past five years. At the beginning of this academic year he tendered his resignation as Director but will continue to serve as a full-time lecturer in the program.

Ajarn Jonathan Green, who has been involved in education for over 13 years, the last five as instructor in the English Studies Program, has been designated new Director. His graduate studies have been in Applied Linguistics and Education Management; he is currently working towards a doctorate in Education. Ajarn Jonathan’s background in experiential education in South Africa has served him well at MUIC where he has taught the full range of English Communication courses and coordinated Introduction to Linguistics and Advanced English Communication classes.

Ajarn Jonathan’s vision for the program is to position it as the “literacy hub” of the college. “Students



Ajarn Jonathan

in the English Studies Program do much more than learn just about grammar. Complex literacy tasks like referencing, critical reading and evaluating sources are the kinds of crucial academic skills we hope students will use as they continue their studies in the college and beyond, recognizing the shifting nature of literacy in this Information Age.”

On a more personal note, Ajarn Jonathan is married to MUIC’s Japanese instructor and coordinator, Ori Green; they have a son, Joshua, who is just over a year old.

Special Projects

The College hosts a number of programs each year that we call Special Projects. Special Projects are classes for students of a foreign university, taught by their teachers and MUIC faculty, which take place in Thailand. Foreign teachers design these trips with help from MUIC's International Relations Office to include classes, seminars, guest speakers, field trips, and community outreach projects.



Subjects covered this year included stem cell research, viral epidemics, HIV, genetic testing, medical tourism, abortion and reproductive health, and the integration of Western and Eastern medicines. By studying these issues in an internationally mixed group, the students explore how culture and religion affect medical ethics and practice.

The schedule for BIOCEP included academic lectures, discussions, and professional visits to public and private hospitals and research labs including Mahidol University's Siriraj Hospital, Ramathibodi Hospital, and Golden Jubilee Hospital; the Faculty of Public Health; the Institute of Nutrition; the Neuro-Behavioural Biology Center and

MUIC. The group also toured Thai cultural sites and visited a rural hospice care center. After the two week program, four of the Columbia University students stayed in Thailand for a short medical internship at Yanhee Hospital, which has a reputation for medical tourism and cosmetic surgery.

As part of the program, the Thai and international students collaborated to write papers on what they discovered about cross-cultural bioethics. Their papers may be published in the yearly Columbia University Bio-Ethics Journal, which has published BIOCEP papers co-authored by Mahidol University students in past years.



Since the ASEAN in Today's World training program in April, MUIC has hosted nine such projects. The one we were most excited about this summer was called the Bioethical Cross-cultural Educational Program (BIOCEP), which was held July 30 to August 14, 2009. BIOCEP was a collaborative effort of Columbia University and Mahidol University, and it brought together students from Columbia University, Cornell University Medical School, Barnard College, New York University, Yeshiva University, Touro Medical School, Kyoto University and Kyushu University of Japan, MUIC, and Huazhong University of China.

BIOCEP aims to educate future medical professionals about how different cultures understand and react to the ethical challenges of modern medicine and medical technology.

Special Projects – Foreign Groups visiting MUIC in Spring and Summer 2009

		Days
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, USA Field of Interest: Social Science 6 students, 1 Professor	April 15 - May 10, 2009	26
Medicine Hat College, Canada Field of Interest: Hospitality Management 14 students, 1 Professor	May 02 - 23, 2009	22
Marist College, New York Field of Interest: Fashion Design 11 students, 1 Professor, 1 Chaperone	May 26 - June 02, 2009	8
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, USA Field of Interest: Ecology 28 students, 1 teaching Asst., 1 Professor	June 24 - July 17, 2009	24
Kyung Hee University, South Korea Field of Interest: Intensive English 28 students	July 18 - August 1, 2009	14
Columbia University, USA Field of Interest: Biomedical Science 17 students	Classes: July 30 - August 16, 2009 Internship: August 17 - 21, 2009	17
Kyushu University - Japan Field of Interest: Thai Class (With Mahidol University) 15 students	August 30 - September 12, 2009	14

English Resources

The English Resource Center and Tutoring Center have new homes in Building 5, also known as the Salaya Center Building. The Resource Center is now located in room 5206, and the Tutoring Center is in room 5207. Students who need extra help can make appointments for tutoring through the online Oasis system.

New Exchange Programs with French Universities

Thanks to two new exchange programs with French universities, four MUIC students are studying in France this year. Two science majors who are enrolled in the Intermediate French Minor program are at EBI (Ecole de Biologie Industrielle),



a school 30 km north-west of Paris, for a seven-month period starting in September 2009. Ms. Hemaka Niyomnaitham and Ms. Narisa

Dawar passed the B1 level of the DELT French language proficiency exam, and will take science classes in French at EBI after a short intensive language program at the Alliance française de Paris.

Two BBA students enrolled in MUIC's Pre-Intermediate French Minor program are at Euromed Marseille for a three-month period starting in September 2009. Ms. Chadarat Sankrit and Ms. Patchara-Orn Bhuntuvech will take Business courses in English at this French Grande École, along with a French language course.

Students Developing iPhone Apps

Computer Science students at MUIC are learning how to create applications for iPhones. iPhones and other mobile "smartphones" provide a new platform with new functions for programmers to explore, and Ajarn Boonyanit Mathayomchan believes that his iPhone Programming class will give his students an edge in an IT job market where emerging technology platforms are increasingly important. iPhone programmers also dream of creating an application that will be purchased and downloaded by hundreds of thousands of users all over the world.

Although the most famous iPhone applications are simple games that only cost a couple of dollars to download, Ajarn Boonyanit says that his class focuses on teaching students to create applications for business. A company might hire an iPhone programmer to create a proprietary email program for its employees, or a commercial airline might order an application that updates its customers on flight delays.

Outside of class time, however, Ajarn Boonyanit's students are using their new skills to create applications for fun. The applications show the students' individual interests, such as playing poker, killing insect pests, understanding the physics of light, and destroying ships.

BBA Student Wins Scholarship to Study in Japan

Mr. Takrit Pua-Ariya, an MUIC Finance major, has received a major JASSO scholarship to study in Japan. Mr. Takrit will study at Osaka University for the whole school year, starting in October 2009.

JASSO, the Japan Student Services Organization, provides scholarships and support funds to both Japanese and International students who study in Japan. The awards are based on academic motivation and financial need.

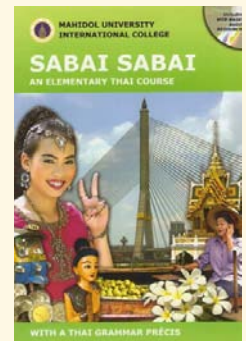


Ajarn Boonyanit is also using his mobile platform programming expertise to teach at the True App Center, a new partnership between MUIC and

True Corporation. Since June of 2009 the App Center has provided workshops, resources, and training courses for any programmers who would like to learn this new platform. Encouraging Thai programmers to create mobile applications means that there will soon be more applications designed specifically for Thai smartphone users, making it more fun to use an iPhone in Thailand.

Thai Language Textbook Published

A team from the MUIC Humanities and Language Division has produced "Sabai Sabai: an Elementary Thai Course," a text book



for foreign students studying Thai. Asst. Prof. Gerard Fouquet, Asst. Prof. Anchalee Pongpun, and Ajarn Arpaporn Iemubol are listed as co-authors of the book, which aims to provide a sound, fundamental knowledge of the Thai language for new learners, including everyday communication and reading and writing in Thai.

Sabai Sabai is available at Asia Books and Kinokuniya outlets in Thailand, and can also be purchased from the MUIC website. It is already being used by language instructors at MUIC for Thai language courses.



France



China



German

Foreign Language Summer Trips

MUIC's long summer break allowed many students to travel to foreign countries to improve their language skills. Members of the Foreign Language Department faculty led three programs this summer that combined intensive language instruction with travel.

The largest group, which included 72 students, spent the month of August

studying Chinese at Capital Normal University in Beijing. On weekend breaks from their classes, Aj. Pratheep, Aj. Zhang Bo, and Aj. Nita took the students to the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the 2008 Olympic Stadium, and the southern cities of Shanghai, Suzhou, and Hangzhou.

In similar programs, four students studied German at Freie Universität Berlin, and seven students went to the International Summer University of Nice-Antepolis in France for a one-month French course.

European Film Festival

The 2010 European Film Festival will be held in the MUIC Auditorium from January 18th to 22nd, 2010. This is the festival's fifth year. The festival will include films from France, Germany, Spain.



Graduate Programs

The Master of Management (MM) in Tourism and Hospitality Program will no longer conduct its operations at MUIC; instead the MM Program will join the Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Business Modeling and Analysis at its facilities at Sathorn City Tower, now designated as the MUIC Graduate Center.

The two graduate programs held a joint orientation session on September 12 at the Graduate Center on September 12, 2009, for 35 new MBA and 21 MM students.

Faculty Development Workshop

The Office of Educational Affairs conducted a Faculty Development Workshop at the Salaya Pavilion Hotel on September 10-11 for 45 full-time MUIC lecturers. Associate Professor Nemuel Fajutagana from the University of the Philippines, Manila, engaged the participants in a number of issues, including teaching methodologies, large group teaching skills and small group teaching strategies.

Briefing for Parents

Student enrollment for the first trimester of this academic year was the largest ever, with 374 full-time students and 85 visiting and exchange students, representing North America, Europe, Australia and Asia.

These incoming students participated in the usual Orientation and Freshman Seminar on September 16-18, which included the relatively new feature of briefing parents. Ajarn Udomrat Tivasub, Assistant Dean for Educational Affairs, Mr. Songpole Santhong, Chief of Educational Affairs, Ms. Koonthida Ekpoom, Acting Chief of International Relations, Ms. Jutharat Thipboonsup, Chief of Student Affairs, Ms. Pathita Suwanwong, Registrar, and Ms. Arunee Korsawaspat, Finance Department Officer, briefed interested parents on a full range of issues pertaining to university life, including academic offerings, scholarships, expectations concerning student behavior, counseling, extracurricular activities, housing accommodations and safety on campus.

Maldives University Fair

Dr. Pakorn Bovonsombat, Chairman of the Science Division, accompanied by Mr. Pongphan Chungwattamongkol, Academic Service Officer, represented MUIC at the Maldives University Fair on August 14-16. Universities from Malaysia, Australia and Sri Lanka also participated.

Apart from recruiting prospective students, the two MUIC representatives visited the Maldives Ministry of Education and Accreditation Board, the Ministry of Housing, Transport and Environment, the State Trading Organization, the Ministry of Human Resources, Youth and Sports, among others.

Maldives representatives from both the public and private sectors expressed a strong interest in MUIC providing short and long-term training programs for students and staff alike in the areas of business, finance, travel and hospitality as well as negotiating and human resource skills.

Greening the campus

From the very onset, one of MUIC's most attractive and compelling features has been its location. The Salaya campus, the largest of the four Mahidol University campuses, is both expansive and scenic, with 620 acres of environmentally-friendly managed parklands, gardens and canals, and provides easy access to the cosmopolitan life of Bangkok.

In spite of an increase in its student population and the construction of new facilities, including buildings and parking lots, the campus has managed to both maintain and enhance its distinctive character.

Recently, the stretch of land in front of MUIC, the President's Building and the Faculty of Engineering has been converted into a tree-lined thoroughfare, providing a shaded walkway for pedestrians. Moreover, the canal, which runs parallel to this newly-landscaped area, has been dredged and cleaned; its banks have been renovated and a series of fountains installed.

In addition, the university has recently introduced not only a free three-line tram service that covers the entire campus area but also a shuttle service that connects the Bangkok skytrain at Wongwien Yai Station to and from the College of Music. Both services are meant to persuade members of the Mahidol University community to refrain from driving cars lessening congestion both on and off campus.



MUIC's Contribution

When the college was allotted land for the construction of its very first facility (the current Building 2 which was dedicated in 1992), it was mindful of its responsibility to maintain a landscape that was compatible with other sites on the Salaya campus.

At that time Mr. Wichit Naksupan became the college groundskeeper and has served in that capacity for the past 17 years. He single-handedly manicured and watered the lawns, trimmed and pruned trees, procured potted plants and flowers and cultivated new arrangements of plant life until, in 2003, he was assisted by Mr. Suchat Choensangchan who presently works as part-time groundskeeper.

Over the years Mr. Wichit has had to be resilient and adaptable as MUIC expanded its physical facilities. While the new buildings may have reduced some of the college's landscaped areas, there is more than enough space to occupy Mr. Wichit's time and efforts.



Given the relatively recent construction of the new extension (Building 3), MUIC was able to remove the five modular classrooms this past April. This garden area in front of Building 2 has been returned to its original status and provides an aesthetic touch to the college's surroundings.



An Academic Mandate

A concern for the environment, however, transcends the mere care and maintenance of an aesthetically pleasing campus area. There is – and has always been – that mandate to educate.

Mahidol University's Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies offers several degrees in environmental studies on the undergraduate, master's and doctoral levels, including international programs.

In 2001 MUIC established an Environment Program in collaboration with MU's Faculty of the Environment. The program provides educational and technical services in the fields of the environment and natural resource management. With two concentrations in Environment Science and Ecology, the program trains students to explore environmental issues and to conduct research projects with an aim towards sustainable development.

Environment majors are expected to confront a wide range of issues such as habitat protection, ecosystem restoration, global warming, waste management, ground and surface water contamination, pesticide toxicity, degradation and the effect of environmental stress on terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.

In conjunction with classroom and laboratory requirements, environment majors also engage in hands-on experiences through excursions, field trips and special research projects, all of which highlight the practical dimensions of learning.



Environmental Restoration Project



Three years ago Ajarn Laird Allan escorted students in his Marine Biology class to Ao Soun Yai Bay on Koh Mak Island to explore the condition of the area's coral reefs which, perhaps not so surprisingly, had been damaged, caused by the cumulative effects of siltation, warm sea temperatures and unmanaged tourism.

According to Ajarn Laird, "the delicacy of coral is due to its unique anatomy. The living part of coral is a soft, paper-thin layer that covers the heavy skeletal structure so that any pressure or stress on the living skin can easily damage it. Since coral grows very slowly, any damage it endures will take a long time to heal. In fact, death occurs as often as healing these days,

given the multiple stresses out there." That discovery of damage prompted the launch of the group's coral restoration project. The first order of business was establishing a coral nursery by constructing a floating platform on which small, young corals could grow, after which they were transferred to their natural habitat.

It was a promising beginning but even that effort was temporarily jeopardized. On one of their visits to Koh Mak last year the research team discovered that the nursery had been damaged by a boat, presumably a pleasure craft, which had run over the corals. Fortunately, the corals were rescued and subsequently moved to a more secure location.



Nursery-raised corals can be numerous but need a solid foundation to mature into full sized colonies. To address this second need, Ajarn Laird and his team of biology and environmental students adopted the technology of concrete artificial reefs. Their version, aptly named "Mak Rocks" and made

with a biologically compatible concrete mix developed by the team, are built on the beach. The young coral from the nursery are attached to supplement the natural recruitment of coral larvae. Moreover, the Mak Rocks support other marine life, such as clams, oysters and different forms of algae and worms and attract fish as well.

This environmental project recently received a grant from the Koh Mak Sub-District government which will provide funding for local residents to build the Mak Rocks under MUIC supervision. The college's coral restoration efforts are not only protecting the marine environment but also generating job opportunities which, hopefully, will stimulate the local economy. Several members of the MUIC chapter of Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), which mobilizes university students to create economic opportunities for others, have volunteered their services for this community outreach project.

In addition, the research team has received private donations along with a number of requests from private resort owners to build and deploy these artificial reefs in their respective areas. Anyone interested in contributing to this on-going volunteer effort, whether monetary or otherwise, can contact Ajarn Laird in the Science Division iclarid@mahidol.ac.th or Khun Pralongyuth Meetheratn, the Project Site Manager at Koh Mak kohmak@gmail.com.

All of these developments ensure that this will be a long term effort and the MUIC research team is more than ready for the challenge. Just this past August the group visited Koh Mak once again to completely upgrade the old platform, build the largest Mak Rocks yet and lay plans for the 2010 construction of an additional coral nursery.



Student Profile

Inexplicably, given the high visibility of matters environmental in our new world order, the college's Environment Program has been struggling in its recruitment of new students. There are signs of hope, however, inasmuch as the majority of the 13 major students have entered the program over the past two years. Moreover, there is a commitment on the part of those more seasoned students who have been in the program over the past several years.

Sirachai Arunrugstichai initially declared his major in Biological Sciences upon arriving at MUIC four years ago. One year later, however, he opted for the Environment major, a not altogether surprising choice, given his

enthusiasm for diving and his interest in the marine environment. He has complemented his studies with an active participation in the MUIC Diving Club. As a former president of the club, Mr. Sirachai promoted not only the skill of diving but also

a number of environmental projects. More importantly, he became a member of Ajarn Laird Allan's research team on Koh Mak Island. As a skilled diver and Certified Instructor of CPR/First Aid, he is responsible for supervising and ensuring the safety of dives and instructing team members on the preservation of corals.

Mr. Sirachai is currently in the process of completing his studies. His last trimester will no doubt be a demanding one. He recently became a Certified Diving Instructor and will continue to serve as a resource person for both the Diving Club and the coral restoration project.

In addition, under the supervision of his advisor, Dr. Wayne Phillips, Mr. Sirachai will devote much of his time to his senior project on the impact of diving on the coral reefs at Koh Tao, a celebrated site that attracts divers from around the world.

Once he graduates, Mr. Sirachai will work for the non-governmental organization, Save Koh Tao, and after two years will likely continue his studies for a master's degree.



Ms. Srichan

Life after MUIC

The MUIC Environment Program ensures its students a variety of career opportunities in the public and private sectors as well as in research and academia. Two of its alumni have taken decidedly different paths in carving out a professional career.

Ms. Srichan Monrakkharam was the very first MUIC student to declare a major in environmental studies. After her graduation in 2006, she became the Social and Environment Manager at the Six Senses Hideaway Resort in Hua Hin, a position to she continues to hold.

Apart from overseeing the environmental management of the resort's operations in terms of land use management, air quality and energy/water consumption, Ms. Srichan coordinates the environmental efforts of resort partners such as community development

groups, local NGOs and government agencies.

She also coordinates the resort's corporate partnership program, which includes both national and international enterprises, and manages a special fund that benefits environmental projects, all part of the resort's corporate social responsibility.

Ms. Srichan is a committee member of the Sirinat Rajini Ecosystem Learning Center and received the 2008 Touristik Union International (TUI) Environmental Champion Award.

Joseph Santhi Pechsiri, another Environment alumnus, graduated with second-class honors in 2007, after which he pursued his postgraduate studies at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, the major industrial, financial and cultural center of Sweden.

He just received his Master of Science in Sustainable Technology this September. His thesis, "Environmental Implications of Recreational Boating," evolved from work on his MUIC senior project on coral reefs and boating as well



Mr. Joseph

as from his active participation in Ajarn Laird Allan's coral restoration project.

Joseph recently returned to Thailand where he is currently seeking employment at an enterprise that focuses on research and the marine environment. After a few years of practical work experience, he fully expects to begin his doctoral studies, most likely in the United States.

Student Activities



Diving Club

Concern for the environment is not limited to those who may be majoring in the environment or sciences. Other students in other disciplines have been engaging in environment projects over the years, either in the classroom setting or through club activities.

Student clubs have also been generating more interest in environmental matters. During the last trimester members of the Volunteer Club traveled to a mangrove forest in Samut Songkram Province where they learned about that ecosystem and planted trees. Other projects similar to this reforestation effort are being planned for this academic year.

One such example is the agenda of Travel Industry Management students in the Consumer Behavior in Tourism class. Over the past two years they have organized special exhibitions featuring displays, video presentations and the promotion of local products in order to create an awareness of green tourism and a respect for our environment.



Car Free Day



Not surprisingly, the Cycling Club, too, incorporates an appreciation for the environment in its activities, particularly since Ajarn Laird Allan serves as the club's advisor. On September 20 members of the club participated in World Car-Free Day in Nakhon Phathom, an event that promoted energy conservation and highlighted the perils of global warming. The club will sponsor a similar follow-up event in October, targeting cycling and environmental enthusiasts from Mahidol University and members of the greater Salaya community.

Finally, the Diving Club has traditionally made excursions to the Similan and Koh Tao Islands where members not only practice their diving techniques but also engage in clean-up projects that protect the coral reefs and rehabilitate the beaches.

The club recently announced that it is now recruiting non-diving members as well and will promote more projects that address the marine environment. In a demonstration of this new shift of priorities, the club first project this trimester,

for divers and non-divers alike, will be a beach-cleaning operation on Koh Tao Island which will be conducted in collaboration with the non-governmental organization, Save Koh Tao. During the year, members of the Diving Club will return to Koh Tao and target other sites, all in an effort to visit schools and teach children in those respective areas about the value of preserving our environment.



Student Association Strategies

Select members of the newly-elected Student Association joined their counterparts from last year's leadership team on a fact-finding trip to Hong Kong on July 20-22. They visited Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the Chinese Uni-

shortcomings and devising strategies that will better serve the needs of MUIC students.

The new leadership team has articulated several priorities: (1) to establish an interactive on-line community in order to publicize college activities and promote more participation, (2) to initiate a more stringent system of accountability in approving club projects and (3) to incorporate more community outreach efforts in student activities.



Training Program

Tanawat Phaovibul, a Social Science major, and Nattaya Tamrongsakulsiri, a Biological Sciences major, attended the 27th International Training Program on the Integration of Health and Social Development: Thailand's Experience, which was held on August 18-28 at the ASEAN Institute for Health Development on the Salaya campus.

The purpose of the program was twofold: to familiarize students with Thailand's system of primary healthcare and to enable them to observe and analyze the strengths and weaknesses of that system through actual experience.

The student participants, 21 from Japan and 8 from Thailand, engaged in briefings and discussions before and after visiting a number of healthcare venues, including the Bang Khae Home for the Aged, various healthcare centers in Bangkok, the Wat Phra Bhat Namphu Temple for HIV/AIDS patients as well as several remote villages in Korat Province.



versity of Hong Kong to determine how those respective student unions function in promoting student activities.

The group was particularly impressed with the student activism at the Chinese University which has implemented a housing system not unlike that of Hogwarts in the Harry Potter saga and receives additional funding from private firms, enabling the student union to sponsor a variety of student projects.

The following week, on July 27-29, both teams, including past and current club presidents, participated in the annual Training and Evaluation Camp at the Rayong Chalet Hotel and Resort. The participants reviewed the performance of last year's Student Association efforts, assessing the achievements as well as

Women's Debating Championship

The brevity of the Summer Session generally precludes the scheduling of any student activities. This, however, does not deter the MUIC Debate Club, one of the college's most active student enterprises.

Wen-Yu Weng, Khadijah Charmthai, Kanjampa Bureepakdee and Praew Tantivanich, along with Niphaporn Sachdev who served as adjudicator, participated in the Women's Intersarsity Debating Championship at the International Islamic University, Malaysia, on August 1-3, a competition that attracted female debaters from all over Asia.

This tournament is one of the largest debating events, with a dis-



tinctive focus on the role of women in today's world. While the host university won the championship, the team of Ms. Wen-Yu Weng and Ms. Khadijah Charmthai secured the runner-up position.

The following students graduated in July, 2009 with 1st class Honors

	First Name	Last Name	Program Code	Graduate Status	Grade
Ms.	Chananya	Huangteerakul	Biological Sciences	Graduated First Class Honors	3.95
Mr.	Witcha	Kiettipirodom	Biological Sciences	Graduated First Class Honors	3.92
Ms.	Pattamon	Rungchavalnont	Social Science	Graduated First Class Honors	3.91
Mr.	Bin	Wieringa	Biological Sciences	Graduated First Class Honors	3.87
Ms.	Manita	Vivatsethachai	Biological Sciences	Graduated First Class Honors	3.87
Ms.	Sathita	Ongarjphanchai	Finance	Graduated First Class Honors	3.82
Mr.	Jaruchat	Sirichokchatchawan	Social Science	Graduated First Class Honors	3.81
Ms.	Chatchanit	Arif	Biological Sciences	Graduated First Class Honors	3.79
Ms.	Warunee	Adirek	Finance	Graduated First Class Honors	3.79
Mr.	Kong	Ek-Ak	Biological Sciences	Graduated First Class Honors	3.77
Ms.	Chiwannun	Kondo	Biological Sciences	Graduated First Class Honors	3.77
Ms.	Pariyaporn	Lertvanichsutha	Travel Industry Management	Graduated First Class Honors	3.73
Ms.	Thanchanok	Lim	Finance	Graduated First Class Honors	3.73
Ms.	Ratikorn	Sombutpiam	Computer Science	Graduated First Class Honors	3.71
Mr.	Puntep	Bhayakaporn	Information Systems	Graduated First Class Honors	3.70
Ms.	Nadheen	Abdul Razzaq	Biological Sciences	Graduated First Class Honors	3.70
Ms.	Pornpun	Rabiltossaporn	International Business	Graduated First Class Honors	3.70
Mr.	Brijesh	Khemlani	Social Science	Graduated First Class Honors	3.67
Ms.	Amanda	Porcheron	Social Science	Graduated First Class Honors	3.66
Ms.	Chiraphorn	Khan	Chemistry	Graduated First Class Honors	3.66
Ms.	Naru-orn	Klaotien	International Business	Graduated First Class Honors	3.65
Ms.	Chananya	Ariyasrijit	Biological Sciences	Graduated First Class Honors	3.65
Mr.	Yogesh	Chhugani	Finance	Graduated First Class Honors	3.63
Ms.	Temsiri	Samaitoedsak	Food Science and Technology	Graduated First Class Honors	3.61
Mr.	Rameez	Ali	Chemistry	Graduated First Class Honors	3.59
Ms.	Jilamiga	Chalermasuk	Travel Industry Management	Graduated First Class Honors	3.59
Ms.	Waree	Limsukhawat	Food Science and Technology	Graduated First Class Honors	3.58
Ms.	Budsadee	Jirakunpattana	Finance	Graduated First Class Honors	3.57
Ms.	Sorlawan	Lapanavanich	Finance	Graduated First Class Honors	3.53
Ms.	Chayaluck	Tummasiri	Computer Science	Graduated First Class Honors	3.52
Mr.	Patcharapol	Jitramontree	Biological Sciences	Graduated First Class Honors	3.50
Mr.	Supasit	Fhaumnuaypol	International Business	Graduated First Class Honors	3.50

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