



THE PARK

MFU International Newsletter

Volume 22
May - July 2018

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The 3rd Thai-Yunnan Education Cooperation & Exchange Sub-Forum

MFU President Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vanchai Sirichana, Vice Presidents Asst. Prof. Dr. Romyen Kosaikanont, and executives participated in the Thai-Yunnan-Guizhou-Hunan Educational Cooperation project held by the Royal Thai Consulate-General in Kunming, the Yunnan Provincial Department of Education, and the Office of the Higher Education Commission from 11 - 15 June 2018 in Yunnan, China.

This Thai-Yunnan-Guizhou-Hunan Educational Cooperation project consisted of three following main activities:

1. Thai-China (Guizhou) Education and Exchange;
2. The Education Exchange and Cooperation Achievement Exhibition & South Asia and Southeast Asia Education Cooperation Forum (EECAE & SSECF): the 3rd Thai-Yunnan Education Cooperation & Exchange Sub-Forum;
3. Thai-Hunan Rail Cooperation.

The purpose of the project was to connect and establish education networking between universities in Thailand, Yunnan, Guizhou and Hunan for further cooperation in the future. In the Thai-China (Guizhou) Education and Exchange on 11 June 2018 at Horizon hotel, Mae Fah Luang University signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Guizhou Normal University for educational and academic exchanges.

Mae Fah Luang University also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Zunyi Medical University for mutual cooperation and exchange in a variety of academic fields. Additionally, in the 3rd Thai-Yunnan Education Cooperation on 12 -13 June 2018, MFU President, on behalf of Thai universities, was appointed the chairperson of the opening of the Thai-Yunnan Universities Network.

Moreover, there were the roundtable discussions on "the vision and model of cooperation" for Thai and Yunnan universities in order to develop collaboration in five pilot clusters covering Languages, Health and Medicine, Agriculture, Tourism, and Digital Technology.



Furthermore, in a parallel session of the Yunnan-South Asia and Southeast Asia Education Cooperation Forum, MFU President Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vanchai Sirichana was a keynote speaker on “The Open Education and the Opening up of Education: Thailand’s Experience”.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vanchai Sirichana stated that borderless education is becoming the new normal for learning experiences which enables students and learners to freely seek new knowledge and search for various kinds of education opportunities in fields of study that are relevant to our lifestyles, interests and desires.

This freedom of study enhances the process of knowledge creation and development of technological innovations. Also, borderless education in the region has created a positive impact in at least four areas including; better international relations between countries, improvement of the quality of life of the people in region overall due to the exchange and sharing of knowledge, the possibility of economic prosperity, and the attainment of regional and global peace.

For Thailand, when the educational system is broadened and opened, universities have recognised and adjusted themselves so that they could reap the benefits. They have also focused on establishing meaningful education collaboration based on three important principles which are equality, win-win cooperation, and fair and just contribution by all parties.

For Mae Fah Luang University, the initial cooperation between MFU and China is in the Chinese language and culture. This is very important because Chinese language and culture serve as a platform for enhancing understanding and ushering in the further cooperation. Now that Thai and Chinese people have better understanding of each other, the second step of collaboration in this high level academic exchange should be pursued to strengthen the academic stability of the two countries.

Altogether, with the commitment to human resource development, MFU has sought and strengthened cooperation with Yunnan in various educational fields in order to create a strong foundation for a better future and sustainable regional development.



A Visit to Myanmar for Short Courses, CSR and Alumni Association

From 3 to 5 June 2018, MFU President Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vanchai Sirichana, Vice Presidents Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chayaporn Wattanasiri and Asst. Prof. Dr. Romyen Kosaikanont visited Myanmar to pay a courtesy call on Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand to the Republic of Union of Myanmar, Mr. Jukr Boon-long at the Royal Thai Embassy in Yangon.

During the visit, the MFU delegations discussed the possibility of holding short training courses for students in Yangon and developing educational collaboration with Myanmar higher education institutes. Ambassador H.E. Mr. Jukr Boon-long suggested MFU focus on the needs of the people in nearby regions especially in Shan State. The Ambassador added that MFU will be collaborating with Kyaing Tong University and offer the courses in Organic Agriculture, Tourism, Hospitality Industry Management and Public Health.

Moreover, the delegations discussed the progress of a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) project that will offer mobile dental services for people in Shan State with the Ambassador. The Ambassador will further discuss the details of this project with the Director of the hospital in Kyang Tong Township.

Furthermore, the MFU delegations met Myanmar alumni and had a meeting with former Union Minister for the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism and Ph.D. alumni of MFU, H.E. U Htay Aung to discuss three main issues:

the establishment of the MFU alumni association in Myanmar, the offering of short courses, and an invitation to the 20th year celebration as an MFU honourable alumni.

The alumni association is expected to be the hub for arranging activities and meetings for MFU alumni and will serve as a representative of MFU in Myanmar. On this matter, H.E. U Htay Aung will be the first President of the MFU Alumni Association and MFU will offer the financial assistance for the establishment and the activities of the MFU Alumni Association in Myanmar.

Additionally, H.E. U Htay Aung recommended that MFU cooperate with the Myanmar investors in offering one-month courses in Tourism, Business Administration, Hospitality Industry Management and Nursing. Apart from the collaboration, MFU Vice President Asst. Prof. Dr. Romyen Kosaikanont was invited by the Managing Director Mr. Saw Lin and the Marketing Manager Mr. Thurein to visit AEC Private High School for providing information on Mae Fah Luang University, facilitates, programmes to Myanmar high school students.

Altogether this visit to Myanmar showed MFU's strong effort in furthering cooperation in education and community services for improving the quality of life of the people and supporting sustainable development in the region.



MFU Young Ambassadors 2018

From 21 - 24 May 2018, the International Affairs Division held a special training programme "MFU Young Ambassadors 2018." The purpose of this programme was to provide an exceptional opportunity for Thai and international students and staff to develop their skills and competence in international diplomacy, diplomatic protocol and etiquette as well as increase their cross-cultural awareness and intercultural communication skills.

In addition, this workshop prepared students and staff to represent MFU and welcome international guests on the special occasion of "The 20th Anniversary of Mae Fah Luang University" and on other occasions. Twenty eight participants including students, lecturers and supporting staff were selected to attend the four-day intensive training programme.

The programme was divided into three parts including lectures, workshops and practical scenarios. The programme offered useful information about MFU, the interesting places on the campus, presented international home stay activities. Participants also gained more information about the history and tourist attractions of Chiang Rai Province, so they could arrange informative and entertaining trips for their future guests. Sessions of English for diplomacy and international communication as well as cross-cultural awareness were arranged for participants to increase their understanding

of cultural differences. The participants also learned how to communicate with people from a variety of cultural backgrounds and nationalities in order to avoid some misunderstandings and maximise the positive outcomes of intercultural interactions. By using real situations and experience as case studies, the course offered insights and practical knowledge on diplomatic protocol, etiquette and table manners.

Moreover, the participants visited the Mae Fah Luang Chiang Rai International Airport to observe how to receive and see off the guests. This course was to ensure that diplomats, officers and honourable guests of each country will be honoured and properly treated while they are visiting the university. These practical activities helped the participants develop their confidence, communication, teamwork, time management and problem solving skills.

On the whole, The participants said that the workshop served as a tremendous resource for them to broaden their knowledge and acquire skills in diplomacy, protocol, etiquette and communication all of which they can apply to their studies in Hospitality Industry Management and International Development. This workshop also prepared them to receive honourable guests on all occasions, as effective and impressive MFU ambassadors.



The Eighth World Youth Buddhist Symposium

On 25 July 2018, Mae Fah Luang University held the opening ceremony of the Eighth World Youth Buddhist Symposium at the Princess Srinagarindra Auditorium (C4). The Eighth World Youth Buddhist Symposium was held by World Youth Buddhist Society in cooperation with Chertawan International Meditation Centre, Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University, Chiang Mai Campus, the Centre for the Study of Chan Buddhism and Human Civilization of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, PolyU Buddhist Studies Group PUBSG and Mae Fah Luang University during 25 - 28 July 2018 in Chiang Rai, Thailand. The purpose of the symposium was to help the younger generation to better understand Buddhism and provide a stage for the open communication between different religious and academic groups.

This year, over 1,300 participants from 36 countries around the world gathered together to share and discuss under the theme of "Artificial Intelligence and Buddhism." In the opening address, President of Mae Fah Luang University remarked that Artificial intelligence is permeating various aspects of our day-to-day lives. In education, social development, and environment aspects, artificial intelligence is being developing to improve the quality of life and support human's work in various dimensions.

Furthermore, Dr. Vanchai believed that the symposium would be very beneficial for enhancing the academic potential by integrating knowledge with the essence of Buddhism in order to develop A.I. for the benefit of the people.



Exploring Aesthetic Arts and Culture through “Landscape of Shan State” Exhibition

On 12 June 2018, the Project on Establishment of Mekong Basin Civilization Museum at MFU held the opening ceremony of the “Landscape of Shan State” project to showcase study results on indigenous wisdom, arts, culture, and ethnic groups in Taunggyi, Shan state in Myanmar from 27 July - 1 August 2017.

Under the Landscape of Shan State project, there were two activities including a travelling exhibition and a museum talk by Head of project, Asst. Prof. Dr. Pollavat Praphattong and lecturer of the School of Law, Dr. Nuttakorn Vititanon.

The exhibition of Landscape of Shan State has displayed the diversity, the aesthetic arts and culture, and the beautiful landscapes of Shan State through the landscape and portraits photography. This exhibition will run until September 2018.

All in all, the exhibition is one of the main activity of the Museum in order to be a centre for a study, research, development, and provide information of arts and culture in the Mekong basin area.



System Development Cooperation with SCB for MFU Smart University

On 5 June 2018, the President of MFU Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vanchai Sirichana and the Executive Vice President and Head of Corporate Banking 3 of the Siam Commercial Bank Mrs. Metinee Jongsaliswang signed a Memorandum of Understanding for “MFU Smart University” system development.

The agreement was aimed at developing a fast and efficient internal management system for MFU’s students, staff and the medical center through modern innovations supported by SCB applications and services including a MFU application for students, Virtual Classroom, Virtual ID, Geo-Time attendance, one-stop service kiosk and QR Code payments. With this smart and time-saving system, the learning environment, teaching methods and student services will be upgraded in order to increase the efficiency of teaching, boost service standards, and provide convenience in all dimensions for students, personnel, and the community. Moreover, the smart university project will also prepare students and staff to move towards Thailand 4.0 as well as a cashless society.



Seminar on “Mass Casualty Incident Preparedness”

On 9 July 2018, the School of Medicine at MFU held the seminar on Trauma Centre Development and Mass Casualties/Disaster Management in collaboration with the Embassy of Israel in Bangkok at M-square building. Dean of the School of Medicine, Lt. Gen Emeritus Prof. Dr. Nopadol Wora-Urai, said that the purpose of this seminar was to provide knowledge and experience about mass casualty incident for medical staff, students from MFU and other medical institutes in Chiang Rai. The seminar also enabled participants to learn and apply mass casualty incident for practical use. There were a series of interesting presentations about hospital preparedness for mass casualty incident, mass casualty situation medical aspect and a table top exercise simulating a mass casualty incident presented by Israeli experts Dr. Odeda Benin-Goren, Dr. Nimrod Aviran and Mr. Ram Nechemia respectively.

Furthermore, there was a disaster/mass casualty incident management rehearsal session for medical personnel to know how and what they have to in the real situation in order to ensure the best result especially in the patient evacuation for the earthquake or building collapse situations. Altogether, MFU has put it effort to provide the opportunity for medical staff to expand their point of view and prepare themselves to deal with mass casualty incident and disaster in order to take care of patient effectively.



Exploring Aesthetic Arts and Culture through “Landscape of Shan State” Exhibition

On 25 – 28 July 2018, Dean of the School of Law, Asst. Prof. Dr. Rung Srisomwong and Asst. Prof. Dr. Chukeat Noichim attended the 13th ASEAN Law Association (“ALA”) General Assembly in Singapore. Moreover, in this conference, the School of Law became a member of the ASEAN Law Association.

The ASEAN Law Association, formed in 1979, is a non-government organization which brings together under one roof all the different branches of the law profession – judges, law teachers, law practitioners and government lawyers to promote close relations, cooperation and mutual understanding amongst lawyers in the ASEAN countries.

A General Assembly is generally held once every three years. The venue of each General Assembly is rotated among the member countries in alphabetical order. Singapore was this year’s host of the ASEAN Law Association’s (ALA) ASEAN Law Conference in conjunction with ALA’s 13th General Assembly with the theme “The Power of ONE: Unlocking Opportunities in ASEAN through Law” focusing on current cross-border commercial and legal opportunities and challenges in the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC).



On the whole, the participation and being the member of ASEAN Law Association indicated the MFU’s constructive engagement in the regional cooperation in order to promote the legal integration in ASEAN, and facilitate the economic development in the region.



Excellence in Tobacco Control 2018 Conferred on Nursing Lecturer

Mae Fah Luang University would like to congratulate the lecturer the School of Nursing at MFU, Dr. Ratchanee Mitkitti, who was chosen for the “Excellence in Tobacco Control 2018” award by the Nurse Network on Tobacco Control of Thailand to mark her achievement in tobacco control. Dr. Ratchanee Mitkitti received the award from ML Sarali Kitiyakara who, on behalf of HRH Princess Somsavali on 9 May 2018 at Prince Palace Hotel in Bangkok.



Excellent Performances in 7th Thailand Ultimate Chef Challenge

Mae Fah Luang University would like to congratulate students from the Hospitality Industry Management programme in the School of Management at MFU who seized awards in the international chef competition “the 7th Thailand Ultimate Chef Challenge 2018.”

The 7th Thailand Ultimate Chef Challenge was held in association with the THAIFEX-World of Food Asia 2018, ASEAN’s largest food exhibition, which was organised by the Department of International Trade Promotion, together with the Thai Chamber of Commerce and Koelnmesse at the Impact Exhibition Centre in Bangkok from 29 May - 2 June 2017.

This year, competition brought together more than 1,000 talented chefs of all levels from 11 countries across Asia. This global competition enabled MFU students to show off their culinary skills and expertise since the entries will be judged on a points-based system. That is, all of the process including the preparation of ingredients, professionalism in the kitchen, artistic arrangement of the dish, and the actual taste of the food were evaluated.

Moreover, the contestants had to demonstrate their culinary skills within a specified period of time as well. The achievement of the Hospitality Industry Management students in an international arena shows the MFU’s full effort to enhance students’ culinary skills and broaden their experience in order to prepare students to be professionals in the food and beverage service industry in Thailand, Asia and the world.



MFU Nursing Students Win 2018 Inno Medical Device Award

Mae Fah Luang University would like to congratulate students from the School of Nursing who won the 2018 Inno Medical Device Award for Creativity and a prize of 5,000 Baht.

The Inno Medical Device Awards ceremony was held by the Plastics Institute of Thailand (PITH), the Ministry of Industry on 2 June 2018 in Bangkok. Completing against 81 devices submitted under the concept of "Make it better", MFU Nursing students Mr. Siwakon Sriwicha, Miss Chanyanut Maneechot and Mr. Kritsnapan Yamkate from Faculty of Biomedical Engineering, Rangsit University won the Creative Award for their "Chest Vibrator".

The "Chest Vibrator", with frequencies ranging from 10 to 30 Hz, is used for breaking apart mucus in the lungs and dealing with chest congestion in infants with the goal of preventing Atelectasis (collapse of part of the lung) and Pneumonitis (lung inflammation). Winning this award shows that MFU students are keeping MFU's commitment to promoting health improvement practices, ensuring healthcare efficiency and fulfilling HRH Princess Srinagarindra's intention of providing quality public health services to all Thai people.



Best Practice in International Cooperative Education

Mae Fah Luang University would like to congratulate Mr. Irawin Pengpitak, graduate from the Multimedia Technology and Animation programme, the School of Information Technology who was presented the 2018 National Best Practice in International Cooperative Education Award from Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand, Air Chief Marshall Prachin Chantong in the 9th Thai Cooperative Education Day 2018 on 6 June 2018.

Mr. Irawin took a co-ops programme at the Phosworks Digital Ideas in Sweden for 16 weeks as a Junior Graphic Designer who was responsible for design projects for the company's clients. Mr. Irawin was assigned to work together with the design team and sometimes work individually under the direct supervision of a more senior designer on website design, photo retouching and outdoor photoshoot. Then, the company reviewed, ensured his work's quality, and presented it to client.

Moreover, during his co-ops period, Mr. Irawin joined the design project of the company which later won the Standard of Excellence – The Web Marketing Association 2017 and International Visual Identify Awards 2017 in Healthcare category in Sweden. With the multi-cultural and supportive environment, Mr. Irawin has not only gained cultural understanding but also got the valuable work experience that can effectively be applied to his work. Therefore, the 2018 National Best Practice in International Cooperative Education Award was given to Mr. Irawin in recognition of his remarkable achievements and experience.



Agro-industry Student Receives Outstanding Oral Presentation

Mae Fah Luang University would like to congratulate Miss Supaluck Kraithong Doctoral degree student from the School of Agro-industry who won the outstanding oral presentation award in the RGJ-Ph.D. Congress 19 on 7 - 9 June 2561 at Jomtien Palm Beach Hotel and Resort in Pattaya.

Miss Supaluck Kraithong received the certificate of appreciation in recognition of her outstanding oral presentation on "Effects of hydrocolloids on the qualities of organic red Jasmine rice noodles" which was supervised by Assist. Prof. Dr. Saroat Rawdkuen.

The Royal Golden Jubilee Ph.D. Congress (RGJ-Ph.D. Congress) was held by The Thailand Research Fund to serve as a forum for RGJ-Ph.D. students to present their research, share their experience, and make new friends and professional connections.

This year, the meeting was held under the theme of "Innovation Challenges toward Thailand 4.0: Research Inspiration, Connectivity and Transformation."



Science Lecturer Win Young BioD Award

Mae Fah Luang University would like to congratulate the lecturer at the School of Science, Dr. Putarak Chomnunti who received Young BioD Award and 10,000 baht in the 5th National Meeting on Biodiversity Management in Thailand during 10 - 14 July 2018 in Suratthani province. Dr. Putarak who has expertise in fungal diversity, taxonomy and molecular evolution, was awarded "Young BioD Award" to mark that her research of "Sooty moulds: understanding the diversity of sap-sucking fungi" has generated new knowledge as well as has great impact/the sustainable management.

This annual meeting was held by the National Science and Technology Development Agency in collaboration with Suratthani Rajabhat University and Prince of Songkla University. The purposes of this conference were to serve as a stage for researchers, lectures, students and communities to discuss and learn about diversity as well as to raise the public's awareness of the sustainable Biodiversity Conservation. This year, the meeting was held under the concept of "BioD5 plus: "People + Utilization + Sustainability"





University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW-Madison) Summer Exchange Programme 2018

Mae Fah Luang University would like to welcome students and lecturers from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (UW-Madison) in the United States who has participated in the summer programme at MFU from 17 June – 4 August 2018. MFU and UW-Madison have been implementing the summer programme at bachelor level since 2015.

This summer programme aims to provide an opportunity for MFU's students and UW-Madison's students to extend a range of academic experiences and cultural understanding by together learning and sharing knowledge in different culture and environment.

In this academic year 2017, Mae Fah Luang University has welcomed 10 exchange students and two lecturers who has studied with MFU students in the Public Health and Sustainable Development and Microbiology courses.





Asia University (AU) Summer Exchange Programme 2018

On 2 July 2018, Mae Fah Luang University held an orientation programme and a campus tour for exchange students from the Asia University for helping new international students become more familiar with MFU and each other. Mae Fah Luang University and the Asia University in Taiwan signed an agreement for academic cooperation and student exchange since 2011 and have been implementing a student exchange including the summer programme at bachelor level in Information Technology.

In this summer programme, all students from both universities received a full tuition fee waiver. In this academic year 2017, Mae Fah Luang University has welcomed 23 exchange students from the Asia University who enrolled in Film and Video Production course at the School of Information Technology while 12 students from the School of Information Technology has been nominated to study at Asia University from 3 - 26 July 2018.

This exchange programme not only provides a range of academic experiences but also an opportunity for students from two countries to be globally competent students by learning and fully submerging themselves in foreign culture and environment.



