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MFU International Newsletter



**Exclusive: The Interview with
Emeritus Prof. Dr. Kevin Hyde**

**Director of Center of Excellence
in Fungal Research (CEFR)**

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Exclusive:

The Interview with Emeritus Prof. Dr. Kevin David Hyde

Q1: Can you tell us a bit about yourself and why did you choose scientific research as a career?

A: I come from a poor working class family. I discovered scientific research was my strength during the research project of my BSc. Up to that point I was not that much interested in studying. So once I got a BSc I was able to continue to MSc and PhD with research – my passion. I then worked in Seychelles and Brunei as a high school teacher (as hard to get jobs in research), North Queensland Australia (as a quarantine plant pathologist), Hong Kong as an associate Professor and finally Thailand (MFU).

Q2: What made you so interested in fungal research?

A: My research interest in fungi developed during my PhD, but previous to that I was always interested in fungi. I had a lot of time on my hands in my early career and spent it doing research on fungi. It was like a hobby to take me away from the monotony of teaching.

Q3: Looking back on all your past research activities, what do you think are your most significant research accomplishments? Or the Center's most significant research accomplishments?

A: Seems I have 150+ graduated MS/ PhDs – mostly the latter – I think that was a major achievement. I can be proud that most are of high standard. In 2014, I started to work on several large papers with 100+ collaborators. This has been a major achievement and one of the reasons why I am highly cited. In 2020, we published the first ever outline of fungi which is a milestone in mycology.



Emeritus Prof. Dr. Kevin David Hyde
*Director of Center of Excellence
in Fungal Research (CEFR)*

Q4: What has been the impact of your research and how does it affect the community?

A: Everyone in the world uses my large papers in their research. The community impact of my research is in mushroom growing but that is only 25% of our work in CEFR. Now we are trying to push developing Biomaterials which is important for a bio-circular economy and having carbon sinks in buildings which will reduce global warming.

Q5: How does it feel to be one of the most cited researchers?

A: I have worked hard for this with my team so it is very satisfying.

Q6: What progress/results do you hope to see in your field of research in the coming years, or even a more distant future?

A: Besides continuing with the basic research, I hope to develop new biomaterials from fungi and new mushrooms for eating. It would be nice to develop biofertilizers from Agricultural waste.

The Center of Excellence in Fungal Research (CEFR)

The Center of Excellence in Fungal Research (CEFR) was established at Mae Fah Luang University, aiming to become a leading research center in Thailand, Asia and the world. Center of Excellence in Fungal Research is a group of concurring academics who are interested in Mycology.

At present, CEFR emphasises on biodiversity, taxonomy and utilisation of fungi. CEFR has brought together staff from other Schools and several visiting professors for the coordinated research efforts. The academic staff members at CEFR have expertise in several areas, such as microbiology, molecular genetics, biochemistry, mycology, plant pathology, post-harvest diseases and agro-industry.



Moreover, one of our main goals is to prepare future mycologists. There are 102 post-graduate students from China, Indonesia, Iran, Laos, Mauritius, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand studying their doctoral degree, making CEFR an international research station in Asia.

Our Achievements

Throughout the years, **CEFR** has been recognised for the contributions made towards Mycology. In 2018, **CEFR has been ranked by the Center for World University Rankings (CWUR) as the first out of 1,000 universities worldwide in the Mycology category** and still holds this position. In 2019, **CEFR received the Science and Technology Award for the year 2019 from the Toray Foundation for the Promotion of Science, Thailand.**



Emeritus Prof. Dr. Kevin D. Hyde was awarded the MFU INNO Prize 2020 and 2021 for the most research papers published for a year at MFU Innovation Day in 2020 and 2021. Emeritus Prof. Dr. Kevin D. Hyde has been recognised as a highly cited researcher by Clarivate, web of science since 2016 and as a researcher with a career-long citation in the **'World's Top 2% Scientists'** ranking by Stanford University. Also, Dr. Ruvishika S. Jayawardena was recognised as a highly cited researcher by Clarivate, web of science from 2018-2020. Also, Emeritus Prof. Dr. Kevin D. Hyde, Dr. Saranyaphat Boonmee, and Dr. Ruvishika Jayawardena were recognised as researchers with 2020's highest citation impact (single-year citation impact) in the 'World's Top 2% Scientists' ranking by Stanford University.



One of the honours that we have is the naming of the common mushroom *Auricularia thailandica* by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn as 'Musikarat'.

Academic Activities

- CEFR organised a special session with the theme **"Improving Thailand's Economy with Fungal Biodiversity"** on 8 October 2019 as part of the 45th Congress on Science and Technology of Thailand (STT45). A biannual conference was organised by CEFR for the affiliated postgrad students as a platform to share their research experience and to train themselves in giving excellent scientific presentations.

- Visiting professors around the world come to CEFR to train and disseminate their knowledge to postgraduate students.

- More than 900 SCI scientific research and review articles have been published by CEFR.

- We have established collaborations with different universities and institutes in Thailand as well as other countries, including China, Germany, Italy, Mauritius, and the Philippines. **CEFR has established 14 memorandums of understanding and their respective agreements to share the research knowledge.**



The Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation (MHESI) Praises MFU for Pushing the University Forward with Global and Frontier Research

Prof.Dr. Supachai Pathumnakul, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation stated that the ministry has been pushing forward the 'Reinventing University' project among Thai universities to elevate their operations in response to the changing world. The universities are expected to produce graduates and provide academic excellence which will contribute to nation development and strengthen the universities' competitive advantage at both the international and national levels. Moreover, the universities have to cooperate with other sectors such as business, industry and civil society in response to area-based development. This project will help upgrade and drive Thai university's quality to an international level.

Mr. Punpermsak Arunee, Head of Strategic Management Mission Group, the Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation (MHESI) added that Mae Fah Luang University has displayed outstanding performance that exceeds the project's expected outcomes.



Prof.Dr. Sujitra Wongkasemjit, Vice President of Mae Fah Luang University expressed that MFU has implemented this project from April 2021 – October 2022 through conducting frontier research, improving research skills of young researchers and seeking the network of international collaboration with a fund of 44,054,000 baht from Thailand Science Research and Innovation (TSRI). The important activities under this project are **1.** programme accreditation; **2.** establishing

a collaboration network; **3.** establishing research and teaching collaboration with private sector; **4.** promoting research standard accreditation; **5.** Innovation day management; and **6.** awards for researchers. All activities are driving force for establishing a collaboration network both at the international and national levels in order to become a leading university in ASEAN and beyond.

Prof. Wongkasemjit added that **the Center of Excellence in Fungal Research** and **the Medicinal Plant Innovation Center** of Mae Fah Luang University have produced several research papers published in the international journals. The achievement of the project has been reflected by international recognition and rankings released this year.



What is Reinventing University

The Reinventing University project is an initiative of **the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research, and Innovation (MHESI)** aiming to reinvent Thai universities by reforming the administrative system, improving instruction and programmes to catch up with the social changes, strengthening the universities' competitive competence and upgrading Thai university quality toward the international level. Universities all over the country will be encouraged to classify themselves into one of the 5 strategic clusters based on their proficiency. The five clusters are: Global & Frontier Research, Technology & Innovation, Area-Based & Community, Moral & Intellectual Cultivation, and Specialised & Professional. It is expected that Thai universities will be upgraded and become comparable to the world-class universities by the year 2023.

MFU: Global & Frontier Research Cluster

Mae Fah Luang University has participated in the Global & Frontier Research cluster under the Reinventing University System project. The universities in this cluster mainly focus on conducting frontier research or research in a specific field and helping talented people to initiate research that will contribute to international collaboration. The universities also highlight producing graduates who will be researchers or publish papers in the international journals in order to answer the need of global labour market.

To achieve the goal of becoming the Global & Frontier Research University, MFU has set different KPIs under 21 activities in five areas: teaching, research, international outlook citations and industry income.



MFU Alumnus Wins the First Prize with an Award of 50,000,000 Baht



Mr. Pollawat Deeunkong is an alumnus of the Multimedia Technology and Animation programme, the School of Information Technology, Mae Fah Luang University.

MFU alumnus, CEO of the Image Engine Company Limited, Mr. Pollawat Deeunkong and his team **'Campfire'** won the first prize worth 50,000,000 baht in Metaverse Thailand Hackathon presented by TECHTORO held in Thailand Crypto Expo 2022 at Bangkok International Trade & Exhibition Centre (Bitec) on 12 May 2022.

Competing against 100 teams under a concept of Meta growth hacking, the Campfire team led by Mr. Pollawat Deeunkong was the winner who received a fund and a three-year contract from Metaverse Thailand supported by the National Innovation Agency, Thailand (NIA) and Asia Wealth Securities Company Limited (AWS).

MFU Students Win the Thailand MICE Youth Challenge 2022 to Represent Thailand at the AFECA Asia MICE Youth Challenge

MFU students from the School of Management, the School of Liberal Arts and their supervisors won the first place in the **Thailand MICE Youth Challenge 2022** organised by the Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau (TCEB) on 15 June 2022 at Swissotel Bangkok Ratchada. The team of MFU students will represent Thailand and continue to the global round at the AFECA Asia MICE Youth Challenge which will be held by the Asian Federation of Exhibition and Convention Associations (AFECA).

Completing against seven teams, the **"WEARE"** team won the first place with their **"InDoi Original International Expo"** project. This project aims at bringing the culture and way of life of the tribes from the north of Thailand through the indigenous fabrics of the tribes and textiles in fashion as the highlight of the event.



The supervisors of winning team were Dr. Athitaya Pathan, Dr. Chachaya Yodsuwan, Ms. Donlaporn Suwanthep, and Mr. Teerapun Tadiyom. And, WEARE team members included

1. **Ms. Varunlapin Kulanunpanit** from Hospitality Business Management programme, School of Management;
2. **Ms. Khomkhai Wiangsaenphu** from Hospitality Business Management programme, School of Management;
3. **Ms. Kanwalai Pairin** from Hospitality Business Management programme, School of Management; and
4. **Ms. Akarima Intan** from English programme, School of Liberal Arts.

Sinology Students Win Awards in the 21st Chinese Bridge Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign College Students

MFU students from the School of Sinology received awards in the 21st Chinese Bridge Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign College Students held online via VooV Meeting Application on 3 July 2022. The competition was arranged by Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation, Center for Language Education and Cooperation, Bangkok (CLEC) and Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Kingdom of Thailand.

Three MFU students smashed their way to the victory in this competition as follows:

the first place belonged to **Ms. Wasita Krongyuth**, a student of Chinese Language and Culture programme;

the second place belonged to **Mr. Khemin Sarning**, a student of Business Chinese programme; and

the honourable mention belonged to **Ms. Panphailin Matchaleela**, a student of Business Chinese programme.



MFU Student Wins the 1st Place in IRONMAN 70.3 Desaru Coast Malaysia



On 22-24 July 2022, Mr. Kenshin Mizushima, the third-year student from the Sports and Health Science programme, the School of Health Science and a member of MFU Triathlon Club won the first place in overall category and the first place in men's 18-24 ages category in IRONMAN 70.3 Desaru Coast Malaysia. He has, therefore, qualified for the IRONMAN World Championship 2023 to be held in Finland in August 2023.

Mr. Kenshin Mizushima showed the outstanding performance by finishing all three challenges in four hours, 18 minutes and 23 seconds (1.9km swim, 90km bike, 21.1km run).

A Visit from the Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Thailand

On 6 May 2022, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Chayaporn Wattanasiri, the President of Mae Fah Luang University and MFU executives warmly welcomed a courtesy visit from H.E. Mr. Mohammed Abdul Hye, Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Thailand and the delegates from the Embassy of Bangladesh.

The purposes of this visit were to strengthen relations and discuss possible academic cooperation between Mae Fah Luang University and the Embassy of Bangladesh. During the discussion, the Ambassador has interested in developing collaboration with MFU in the field of nursing. Altogether, this visit is the first step towards the collaborative activities between Thailand and Bangladesh in fields of mutual interest in the future.



MFU President Pays a Courtesy Visit to Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Thailand

On 18 May 2022, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Chayaporn Wattanasiri, President of MFU, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nantana Gajaseni, Vice President, and Dr.Teerarap Predeepoch, Acting Dean of the School of Sinology paid a courtesy visit to H.E. Mr. Han Zhiqiang, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Thailand and at the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Bangkok. The purposes of this visit were strengthen relations and discuss possibilities to initiate projects to enhance further cooperation with China.



A Warm Welcome for Exchange Students from University of South Bohemia

On 9 May 2022, the School of Nursing and the Global Relations Division, MFU extended a warm welcome to two exchange students from University of South Bohemia. Ms. Alžběta Šmejkalová and Ms. Blanka Vlková are master's students from the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, University of South Bohemia, the Czech Republic.



MFU Signs MoU with Guangxi Vocational and Technical College for Tea Cooperation

On 17 May 2022, Prof.Dr. Sujitra Wongkasemjit, Vice President of Mae Fah Luang University and Prof. CHENG Yunyan, Vice President of Guangxi Vocational and Technical College (GVTC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Mae Fah Luang University and Guangxi Vocational and Technical College, the People's Republic of China. After signing the MoU, the representatives of MFU and GVTC unveiled a plaque of the Silk Road Tea Institute at MFU which was established under the framework of this MoU. This signing ceremony was organised by the Tea and Coffee Institute, MFU and Food Innopolis both onsite at Kham Mok Luang room and online.



MFU Signs MoU with Institute of Acupuncture & Moxibustion, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences

On 7 June 2022, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nantana Gajaseni, Vice President of Mae Fah Luang University presided over the signing ceremony of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the School of Integrative Medicine, Mae Fah Luang University and Institute of Acupuncture & Moxibustion, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, the People's Republic of China. The MoU was signed by Dr. Sulukkana Noiprasert, M.D., Dean of the School of Integrative Medicine and Prof. Jing Xianghong, Director of the Institute of Acupuncture & Moxibustion, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences via online platform.



A Visit from the Phnom Penh International University (PPIU), Cambodia

On 10 June 2022, Prof.Dr. Sujitra Wongkasemjit, Vice President of Mae Fah Luang University warmly welcomed the delegates from the Phnom Penh International University (PPIU), Cambodia which included Oknha Madame Tep Kolap, Rector of the Phnom Penh International University; Dr. Ky Ravikun, Vice-Rector for International Relations and Research; and Mr. Hong Phearin, Director of Community Services.

Moreover, after the discussion, the delegates from the Phnom Penh International University visited MFU academic facilities and on-campus dormitory. It is expected that students from PPIU will come to study in the School of Management, MFU in the upcoming semester.



MFU Hosts the Regional BELC 2022



From 13 to 17 June, 2022, MFU organised the **Regional BELC 2022**, in cooperation with the French Embassy and France Éducation International at Mae Fah Luang University. The BELC training courses were offered to French language teachers and lecturers focusing on four main objectives: improving instruction, improving training, improving evaluation, and improving classroom management.

This event brought together 80 participants from 9 countries: Australia, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Thailand and Vietnam.

MFU Delegates Visit Hospitals in Denmark for Improving MFU Medical Center Management

On 26 June – 2 July 2022, delegates of Mae Fah Luang University led by Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nantana Gajaseni, Vice President; Dr. Chatrudee Jongsureyapart, Vice President and Acting Director of MFU Medical Center; and Prof. Supakorn Rojananin, M.D., Dean of School of Medicine and Director of Medical Center Hospital visited universities and hospitals in Denmark. The purpose of this study visit was to observe and learn about the hospital logistics management.

In addition, on 28 June 2022, MFU delegates paid a courtesy call on H.E. Mrs. Sirilak Niyom, Ambassador of Thailand to Denmark at the Royal Thai Embassy in Copenhagen and had a discussion with the Ambassador on a project to enhance collaboration between the School of Medicine and Mae Fah Luang University Medical Center and the University of Copenhagen.



MFU Attended the ASEA-UNINET Plenary Meeting, Austria

On 25 – 29 July 2022, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Chayaporn Wattanasiri, President of MFU, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nantana Gajaseni, Vice President and Dr. Panom Winyayong, Vice President attended **the ASEAN European Academic University Network (ASEA-UNINET) Plenary Meeting** at Johannes Kepler University Linz (JKU), Austria.

The ASEAN European Academic University Network (ASEA-UNINET) is a network of universities, consisting of European and South-East Asian universities with the goal of promoting the continuous internationalisation of education and research. ASEA-UNINET was founded in 1994 by universities from Austria, Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam as Austrian-South-East Asian University Network and consists today of more than 80 universities from 18 different countries.



Altogether, **being a member of the ASEA-UNINET will help MFU enhance academic collaboration with member institutions in Europe and South-East Asia especially in initiating projects and programmes of mutual interest and benefit for faculty members, staff and students.**



Dean of the School of Management Participates in the AACSB's Annual Accreditation Conference: Asia Pacific (In-Person)

On 8 – 10 June 2022, Dr. Piyatida Pialuprasidh, Dean of the School of Management and Dr. Pratsanee Na Keeree, Assistant Dean of the School of Management were invited by Dr. Geoff Perry, Executive Vice President, Global Chief Membership Officer & Managing Director, Asia Pacific at AACSB International to join "Annual Accreditation Conference: Asia Pacific (In-Person)" at Singapore Management University, Singapore.



MFU President Pays a Courtesy Visit to Ambassador of Bhutan to Thailand

On 7 July 2022, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chayaporn Wattanasiri, President of Mae Fah Luang University; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nantana Gajaseni, Vice President; Asst. Prof. Dr. Chompunut Sopajaree, Acting Dean of the School of Nursing; and Mr. Wangchuk Rabtan, Bhutanese lecturer of the School of Management paid a courtesy visit to H.E. Mr. Kinzang Dorji, Ambassador of Bhutan to Thailand and Mr. Kinley Dorji, Second Secretary at the Royal Bhutanese Embassy in Bangkok. The purposes of this visit were strengthening relations and discussing possibilities to initiate projects to enhance cooperation with Bhutan.



MFU Wellness Center Cooperates with FUJIFILM (Thailand) in Providing Tuberculosis Screening Unit in Remote Areas of Thailand

On 28 June 2022, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chayaporn Wattanasiri, President of MFU; Dr. Phunrawie Promnart, Vice President; and Asst. Prof. Dr. Tawatchai Apidechkul, Director of MFU Wellness Center warmly welcomed delegates from Fujifilm (Thailand) Ltd. led by Mr. So Maruo, Managing Director.; Mr. Yuto Kumagai, Assistant Managing Director; and Mr. Thapakorn Jittilerdwut, Head of Business Unit of Medical Systems.

This visit was a part of the collaborative project 'Mobile Medical Unit in remote areas of Chiang Rai province' in Lao Liew and Pangmahan villages, Mae Fah Luang District, Chiang Rai Province from 25 – 26 June 2022.



The 2nd International Conference on Integrative Medicine (ICIM 2022): Integrative Medicine: Trusted Care



In the opening ceremony, Dr. Sulakkana Noiprasert, MD., Dean of the School of Integrative Medicine reported an overview of ICIM 2022. Then, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Nantana Gajasen, Vice President of Mae Fah Luang University gave the opening remark.

Altogether, participants could get a clearer view and updates on new techniques and knowledge in the field of integrative medicine.

On 20 – 21 July 2022, the School of Integrative Medicine organised the 2nd International Conference on Integrative Medicine (ICIM 2022) under the theme of **“Integrative Medicine: Trusted Care”** via Zoom meeting. This conference aimed to be a way of interpersonal and inter-organisational communication among academic scientists and researchers that focused on numerous international interests and contemporary issues in research based on a diversity of traditional, alternative and modern medicines.



MFU Staff Joins the 12th International Staff Training Week in Nysa, Poland



During the training week, Ms. Warunee Kaewbunruang presented Mae Fah Luang University, conducted lectures on Thai Culture and visited one of the primary schools in Nysa – Szkoła Podstawowa nr 1 im. Kawalerów Orderu Uśmiechu to learn about educational system in Poland. Moreover, she discussed possibilities of expanding and deepening academic cooperation including student mobility programme, visiting scholars programme and research collaboration between Mae Fah Luang University and participating universities.

On 16 - 22 May 2022, Ms. Warunee Kaewbunruang, an Administrative Officer of the Global Relations Division participated in the 12th International Staff Training Week on **“Crisis Management - Personal, Institutional and Global Aspects”** with the ERASMUS + Programme Staff Mobility for Teaching at the University of Applied Sciences (UAS) in Nysa, Poland.



MFU Holds How to Live & Learn on Campus 2022 for New Students

On 4 July 2022, the President of MFU, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Chayaporn Wattanasiri welcomed first-year bachelor's students of academic year 2022 or the 24th batch of lamduan of Mae Fah Luang University in the opening ceremony of **How to Live and Learn on Campus 2022 (HLLC) and New Student Orientation** at the Queen Sirikit 72nd Jubilee Sport Arena (Indoor Stadium).

Asst.Prof. Sugul Kritalukvong, Assistant to the President and Acting Head of the Student Development Affairs Division reported that MFU organised the How to Live and Learn on Campus for all first-year students to help them learn how to live a happy university life and know their lecturers, study plan and seniors of their Schools before the start of the semester. This year, there were 3,799 new students participating in this activity during 4 -10 July 2022.



Moreover, Assoc.Prof.Dr. Chayaporn Wattanasiri, the President of MFU said in the opening ceremony that MFU community was pleased and excited to welcome new members of Mae Fah Luang University. The university aims to produce graduates with MFU characters including knowledgeability, language proficiency, leadership skill and ability to work in multicultural environment. To achieve the goal, MFU will help students develop essential soft skills which are adaptability, volunteering, relationship, creativity, emotional intelligence, positive communication, well-being, management, problem solving and teamwork throughout their study. Also, the university provides facilities and services to promote the quality of student life and improve students' learning and academic development. To ensure that all students will live happily on campus, staff members especially the Student Development Affairs Division are willing and ready to provide counselling services and assistance for academic, health or personal concerns.

New International Student Orientation 1/2022

On 26 August 2022, the Global Relations Division (GRD) held the **New International Student Orientation** at E4 Building in order to help new students smoothly adjust to new learning and living environment.

In this first semester of academic year 2022, MFU has welcomed over 340 new students from many countries such as Australia, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Togo and the USA.

The orientation provided new international students with campus tour and important information about MFU's services including registration system, immigration rules and

regulations, MFU 333 course, health insurance, internship programme, library, exchange programme, and scholarships through the presentations from relevant divisions and the seniors.



MFU Staff Members Join the Inbound Staff Mobility (ISM) 2022 in Indonesia



On 6 – 11 June 2022, Asst.Prof.Dr. Chutamat Niwat, Assistant to the President and Ms. Wannapha Thippayasak, Acting Head of the Global Relations Division, as the representatives of Mae Fah Luang University, participated in the **Inbound Staff Mobility (ISM) 2022** (for non-academic staff) at Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember (ITS), Surabaya, Indonesia.

This annual Inbound Staff Mobility (ISM) aimed to provide platform for non-academic staff from ITS' partner universities and ITS' prospective partner universities to build networking and enhance their skills in pursuing internationalization. Also, the participants were equipped with knowledge about human resources, student affairs, archives and records management, global engagement through the campus visit and discussion about Journey Staff Mobility & ITS Improvement Sharing presented by Prof. Maria Anityasari. In addition, there were several interesting Indonesian cultural activities such as a basic conversation in Bahasa Indonesia, Saman and Poco Poco dance. Moreover, the programme covered all costs of an individual's participation.

Chiang Rai-Yunnan Sister Cities Youth Virtual Exchange

On 28 – 30 August 2022, Mae Fah Luang University led by the Global Relations Division in collaboration with Chiang Rai Province and Yunnan Province, China arranged the **"Chiang Rai-Yunnan Sister Cities Youth Virtual Exchange"** in a hybrid mode: online and onsite at Mae Fah Luang University.

The main purposes of this youth virtual exchange were to enhance knowledge, increase understanding and raise awareness on the SDGs among participants and to promote the establishment of youth network from Thai and Chinese higher education institutions.

This virtual exchange programme brought together 56 students from Yunnan Minzu University, China who participated via zoom programme and 100 participants from Chiang Rai Rajabhat University, Rajamangala University of Technology Lanna Chiang Rai and Mae Fah Luang University who joined on campus.



All in all, this programme has been a promising success and has produced fruitful outcomes. Participants shared ideas and created solutions for reaching the Sustainable Development Goals.

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Driving to Become a Leading University in ASEAN with International Recognition

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