



THE PARK

MFU International Newsletter

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MFU Happy Life



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Students, Parents, Faculty, Staff,

Message from the President



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Sirichana'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a light green background.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vanchai Sirichana
President

Welcome to the fourteenth issue of 'The Park' newsletter. Mae Fah Luang University aims to be the world leading University in the Greater Mekong Sub region. MFU continues with the journey of being a University with outstanding international academic standards, offering excellence in both sciences and arts, while cultivating human resources for Thailand and the Greater Mekong sub-region. The University continues to develop and utilize knowledge for the betterment of the community and society, while conserving natural resources and the environment.

In this academic year of 2016, MFU has welcomed over 4,200 new students from every region in Thailand including 213 new international students and exchange students from various countries in several continents around the world. Since its establishment, MFU uses English as a medium of instruction, and all new students have registered to participate in both the intensive English programme and 'How to Live and Learn on Campus 2016' programme during the summer session.

Both programmes have been organized annually to help students prepare themselves for English speaking programmes in an international environment as well as enable them adapt to this new transition of their lives. Every year the programme receives excellent feedback, with students reporting increased confidence in English speaking skills and a high level of inter student friendship. They become more familiar with the university, and learn many important skills from the activities. The programme successfully helps to motivate students, while stimulating their ambition and drive to learn. In addition to the aforementioned two programmes, all new students also join several kinds of activities that MFU uses to encourage novices to learn something different, work together as a team and ease their way of life, thus enabling them to learn happily at MFU.

MFU is determined to continue in its concept of 'Producing globally competent graduates' and will continue to lead its students to strive for the utmost levels of success and accomplishments through research and teaching.

View from The Park



Cooking Up 'Modernized Thai Cuisine'

MFU's School of Management organised the 3th cooking competition under the title 'MFU Junior Iron Chef 2016' with the theme of 'Modernized Thai Cuisine' at M-Square, MFU, on 12 - 13 May 2016. The aim of the event is to provide students with the opportunity to practice their skills and teamwork to gain direct experience in surroundings that would closely resemble their future working environments.



Tea Tasting 2016

Tea Institute of MFU hosted the 'Tea Tasting 2016' on 28 - 30 May 2016 at M-Square, MFU. It provides the entrepreneurs a clear understanding for increasing a good quality and world class tea. In addition, the entrepreneurs also have the opportunity to learn and share experiences with specialists and discussed the health benefits of tea as an antioxidant, protect against cancer, reduce the risk of heart disease, and also protect oral cavity.



The 3rd Diplomatic Protocol Workshop

The Centre for Academic Services, MFU, hosted 'The 3rd Diplomatic Protocol Workshop' by H.E. Isorn Pocmontri, Ambassador Attaché to the Ministry, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand, on 3 June 2016 at M-Square, MFU. H.E. Isorn Pocmontri discussed the practical purposes of a diplomatic protocol. Like the proper procedures to welcome and entertain dignitaries with official and unofficial visits or meetings. Also to conduct proper procedures should be well planned and followed in accordance with the set rules that are formally, socially and culturally accepted, and expected by the parties involved.



Chinese Brush Painting Competition

The Sirindhorn Chinese Language and Culture Centre, and Confucius Institute of MFU, conducted a 'Chinese Brush Painting Competition' between Primary and Secondary Schools of the northern part of Thailand, on 10 June 2016, at the Sirindhorn Chinese Language, MFU. The aims of the activity are to promote Chinese language and culture, support local Chinese teaching internationally, and facilitate cultural exchanges.





How to Live and Learn on Campus 2016

New first year MFU students enjoyed their first week on campus with the 'How to Live and Learn on Campus 2016' programme, organised annually to help students adjust to university life and prepare them for their studies and MFU's international environment. The programme combines social and academic aspects into fun, relationship-building activities that allow students to become more familiar with learning techniques, campus life, and self-management, while also introducing them to the MFU and the university's various support centres, facilities, and resources.

Activities are divided into two major objectives: 'How to Live' on 21 – 24 June 2016 and 'How to Learn' on 8–12 August 2016. Students learn how to live independently with their peers and to manage their responsibilities in 'How to Live', which features exciting activities such as practical first aid lessons, and sure before share on social network. In 'How to Learn', students are taught important study skills, and have the opportunity to hear from famous successful celebrities in 'The Inspiration'. MFU alumni are

also willing to help first year students, providing first-hand advice from their university experience in 'Meet the Alumni'.

Every year, the programme has received excellent feedback, with students reporting that they made new friends, became more familiar with the university, and learned many important skills from the activities. The programme successfully helps to motivate students, stimulating their ambition and drive to learn, while also helping students adjust to their new freedom and learn more about themselves and the world around them.



Events and Activities

Shanxi Province Symphony Orchestra Thailand Concert Tour



On the occasion of the 41th Anniversary of Thailand and China Diplomatic Relations, MFU and China Cultural Centre had collaboratively organised the 'Shanxi Province Symphony Orchestra Thailand Concert Tour' on 10 May 2016 at C4 Princess Mother Auditorium, MFU.

Shanxi Province Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1952, is the only state-owned professional symphony orchestra in the region with its orchestra members and choral. In 2013, the orchestra commenced its music season, and invited the German conductor Elahiu von Erlenbach as its Music Director, and honored to be commissioned a symphonic suite A Preliminary Sketch of Yellow River by renowned composer Wang Xilin. In the past 66 years, the orchestra has collaborated with conductors and musicians both from home and abroad, and presented numerous premiers and concerts. The orchestra has been presenting near 200 repertoires, the Circle of Beethoven, Schubert, Bizet, Tchaikovsky had attracted the audience from all walk of life from the Province.

Elahiu von Erlenbach, the music director, was born

in Germany and got his music education in Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst Frankfurt and Hochschule fuer Musik 'HannsEisler' Berlin, studied under famous conductor Sergiu Celibidache. Mr. Erlenbach participated in the creation of the 'German Frankfurt Music Performing Arts Association' and served as its Artistic Director. Mr. Erlenbach is the only Foreign Expert as the conductor approved by the Ministry of Culture.

Dr. Romyen Kosaikanont, MFU Vice President, presented the report prior to the formal opening of the event. Mr. Zhu Jian-An, Concert Master, and Mr. Chao Xiaoliang, Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Chiang Mai, opened the ceremony, remarking on the performances, and history of Shanxi Province that will help to enhance our understanding of Chinese's culture especially Shanxi Province. The highlights of the performances were Liu Feng (Celebrating), Yan Jinxuan (The White Haired Girl – Ballad), Bao Yuankai (Selections from Yan Huang Suite), Duet by Shun Jun & Guo Lanwen. The event went successfully with over 1,400 participants.



The Foreign Affairs Executive Programme, Batch 8/2016

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand designed the Foreign Affairs Executive Programme on 19 May to 11 August 2016 (12 weeks full time course) from 09.00 to 15.30 hrs., for diplomatic executives to enable them to meet the high expectations arising from their new roles. As in the context of a globalised world with its concomitant process of international integration and the interchange of worldviews, trade, capital and investment, migration and movement of people, and the dissemination of knowledge via digital technology and social media, countries must face and adapt to the many new opportunities and challenges of the modern time. Diplomatic executives, as representatives of their countries, whose responsibilities encompass not only traditional foreign service but also other dimensions of bilateral and multilateral cooperation, are expected to grasp the breadth and depth of contemporary issues and be able to synergize and implement the best policies and practices. They need to be well-equipped with the leadership and management skills for the effective administration of overseas missions as well as to develop specialized competencies as the scope of their work expands in the future. Dr. Romyen Kosaikanont, MFU Vice President is one of the participants in this programme.

This programme aim at sharing the knowledge of trends and developments in the current world affairs and emerging issues, as well as related opportunities and challenges. The knowledge of Thailand; Thai foreign policy, economic outlook, as well as historical and cultural aspects of Thailand. The knowledge of leadership and management skills; organisational management and administration, decision-making and conflict management. The knowledge of diplomacy and diplomatic skills; diplomatic protocol and public diplomacy. Experiential learning, group discussions, study trips (both domestic and overseas study trips), active learning, best practices learning, and individual study are used as the methodology.

On 28 June 2016, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vanchai Sirichana, MFU President was invited by Devawongse Varopakarn Institute of Foreign Affairs (DVIFA), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand to be a guest speaker. The topic on this event was 'Education Management for Sustainable Development' for participants at M-Square, MFU. After this session, they were divided into 5 groups for study trips at Doi Tung Development Project and the other parts of Chiang Rai.



French National Day

French-Upper Mekong Sub-region Academic Cooperation Centre organized 'French National Day Activity' at Police General Pow Sarasin Building, MFU, on 14 July 2016. The day was honored by Prof. Dr. Pairojana Kampusiri, Dean of School of Law, MFU, who was the guest speaker. He shared his academic experiences from France, on this event. France Educational Fair, cooking, games, historical and cultural activities were exhibited. Many of the participants were really enthusiastic and energetic

in knowing about the France as well as diversity and multicultural perspectives.

French-Upper Mekong Sub-region Academic Cooperation Centre at MFU is a centre for knowledge exchange between France, Thailand and other countries within the Greater Mekong sub-region. The centre has a mission to promote academic cooperation between France, Thailand and GMS countries in the areas of science, technology, language and culture.



International Symposium on One Belt One Road and Thai-Sino Literature

Literature and Art Writing Society of Thai Alumni Association of China's Universities, Confucius Institute at MFU, School of Sinology organized an event called, 'International Symposium on One Belt One Road and Thai-Sino Literature'. The event was held at M Square, MFU, on 25 July 2016. The day was honoured by Mr. Kampol Srethbhakdi, President of Thai Alumni Association of China's Universities, who was the guest speaker. He shared his

experiences in literature and art writing.

This event aimed at bringing writers around the globe together for experience sharing in literature and art writing to enhance creativity in writing of Chinese literature of Thailand. The event further aimed at building good relations and networking. The end of the session was capped by performances from alumni that were a very enjoyable to the attendees.

Spotlights



Honours in Independent Study

MFU congratulates Dr. Romyen Kosaikanont, MFU Vice President, for awarding a distinction of her Independent Study on 'Roles of the Education Institution at the border in supporting the Foreign Affairs Strategies' which was a part of the Foreign Affairs Executive Programme Batch 8/2016 that organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand from 19 May - 11 August 2016 for diplomatic executives to enable them to meet the high expectations arising from their new roles.



Grant for Japan-Related Research Project 2015

MFU congratulates Dr. Nittaya Pasukphun, lecturer, School of Health Science, for awarding 'Grant for Japan-Related Research Project 2015' with cash prizes worth USD 6,100 from the Sumitomo Foundation, Japan, in the research project theme 'A Comparative Study of Municipal Solid Waste Management in Chiang Rai Province, Thailand and Uonuma-Niigata, Japan' which consist of 614 research projects from 16 countries in Asia and awarded 77 research projects in this year.



The Best of Excellence Award of Presentation

MFU congratulates Mr. Kriangsak Loisaeng, Mr. Nattawut Moungrmai, Mr. Prakasit Nanthakiri, Mr. Anan Saengchan, and Ms. Thanutchaya Boonma, upon winning the award of, 'The Best of Excellence Award of International Presentation' at 'The 4th ASEAN Undergraduate Conference in Computing (AUC2-2016)'. The event was hosted by Burapha University, Sakaeo Campus from 27 - 29 April 2016. These five winners are fourth year students majoring in Software Engineering from School of Information Technology, MFU.



Global Undergraduate Exchange Programme

MFU congratulates Mr. Tongchai Saelee, third year student, School of Nursing, who has been awarded a scholarship of Global Undergraduate Exchange Programme (Global UGRAD) to experience the U.S. educational system in the United State for 5 months. The Global UGRAD is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA). This programme brings future leaders to the United State to experience the U.S. educational system, enhance their knowledge, and explore U.S. culture and values.



Food Innovation Asia Conference 2016

MFU congratulates Ms. Pimonpan Kaewprachu, Ph.D. student, School of Agro-Industry, MFU, for winning the First Runner-up of the 'Oral Presentation Award' in 'Food Innovation Asia Conference 2016' the topic of 'Properties of fish myofibrillar protein film incorporated with catechin-kradon extract', under the supervision of Asst. Prof. Dr. Saroat Rawdkuen, lecturer, School of Agro-Industry, MFU, at Bangkok International Trade & Exhibition Centre (BITEC), Bangkok, on 16 – 18 June 2016.



Active Citizen: Geek So Good

MFU congratulates 2 students; Mr. Nattapop Ruksasin and Mr. Nutthaphon Kittiphichayakun, fourth year students from School of Information Technology, majoring in Software Engineering upon emerging as the best of the four teams that got cash prizes worth 50,000 Baht at The Stock Exchange of Thailand, Bangkok, hosted on 9 June 2016. The two were recognized for their efforts in the successful development of software application called 'Vaccine Pocket'. Using this application, vaccination data for children aged 1-3 years.



International Conference on Language Development

Ms. Phimpawee Treesorn, lecturer, School of Liberal Arts, MFU, and her senior project students attended 'The First International Conference on Language Development: Learning, Teaching, Researching, and Testing' at Ton Duc Thang University in Vietnam, on 17-19 June 2016. Ms. Phimpawee presented their studies in the topic of 'Improving Paragraph Writing through the Traffic Lights' and Ms. Chayanisa Surasorn presented their studies in the topic of 'Using Colours to Enhance Students' Subject-Verb Agreement Usage'.



Robot Design Contest 2016

MFU congratulates 2 students; Ms. Nattha Thipwangmek, a third year student at School of Information Technology, majoring in Computer Engineering, and Mr. Korn Siritantiwat, a first year student at School of Information Technology, majoring in Information and Communication Engineering, have been selected as representatives of the northern of Thailand to compete in Robot Design Contest 2016 at Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre, Bangkok on 25 - 28 July 2016.

Visiting Scholars Programme



The programme is designed for international scholars who wish to be at MFU for 3 - 4 months or one semester, during this time they will interact with MFU faculty members, students and staff. The programme allows scholars to expand their academic and personal goals. Scholars have the opportunity to take advantage of abundant resources to enrich their developments, while contributing their own knowledge and insight to the learning of others.

During May - July 2016, MFU consist of 6 visiting scholars are as follow;

Name	Institution	Duration
School of Health Science		
Dr. Rodney Alan Lambert	 University of East Anglia, UK	20 May - 6 June 2016
School of Science		
Prof. Dr. Ton Peijs	 Queen Mary University of London, UK	25 April - 6 May 2016
School of Sinology		
Asst. Prof. Dr. Lim Chee Men	 Universiti tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR), Malaysia	15 March - 15 May 2016
Institute of Excellence in Fungal Research		
Dr. Eric Hugh Charles McKenzie	 LANDCARE RESEARCH MANAAKI WHENUA Landcare Research-Manaaki Whenua, New Zealand	26 June – 31 July 2016
Dr. Jayarama Darbhe Bhat	 Goa University, India	12 June - 11 July 2016
Dr. Rajesh Jeewon	 UNIVERSITY OF MAURITIUS University of Mauritius, Mauritius	11 July – 27 August 2016

H.E. Mr. Paul Robilliard, Australian Ambassador to Thailand



H.E. Mr. Paul Robilliard, Australian Ambassador to Thailand paid a courtesy call on Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vanchai Sirichana, MFU President on 26 May 2016. The MFU president together with the administrators and faculty members are welcomed the Australian Ambassador and his delegates. The ambassador was impressed not only the beautiful building and its surrounding, but also the operation of the university especially MFU has a strong and unique academic programme that attracts foreign students to come and study desirable courses.

The ambassador will further bridge the possible of educational activities between MFU and other Australian institution. MFU has very good relations with Australia over the years. Both MFU and the Australian Embassy to Thailand coorganised seminar 'Way Forwards on Thailand - Australia Relations' in occasion of 60-year relationship Thailand-Australia. MFU also support and encourage faculty member participate in the Endeavor Project, a scholarship offered by Australian Government to promote the education, as well as encourage for collaboration.

The Philippine Commission on Higher Education



During the visit in Bangkok on the occasion of the 3rd Retreat Meeting between Executive of the Thailand Office of Higher Education Commission (OHEC) and the Philippines Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Dr. Patricia B. Licuanan, Chairperson of CHED led the delegates to pay a courtesy call on Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vanchai Sirichana, MFU President on 31 May 2016. During the meeting, the MFU President extended a warm

welcome followed by a brief introduction about MFU who is presented by the MFU Vice president, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chayaporn Wattanasiri. The delegation was very impressed of MFU operation, location and international atmosphere environment, and its programmes on different market strategies including the exchange programme promoted by the university. CHED is ready to mediate in linking MFU and University of the Philippines.



Consul General, Consulate-General of Japan in Chiang Mai

Dr. Romyen Kosaikanont, MFU Vice President proudly welcomed Mr. Shinya Aoki, Consul General, and Mr. Atsushi Okazaki, Vice-Consul, Consulate-General of Japan in Chiang Mai. They were discussed the academic collaboration between MFU and Higher Education Institutes in Japan, and Japanese retirement long stay in Chiang Rai, on 18 May 2016.



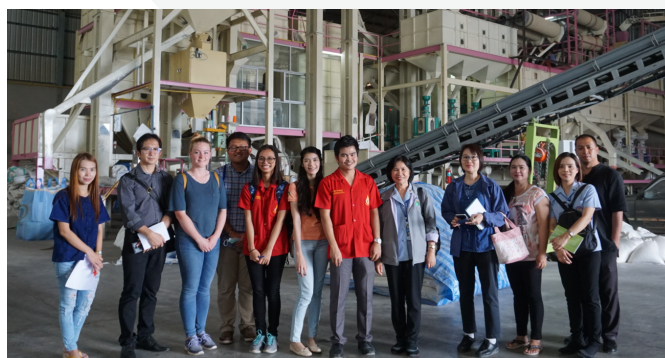
University of Pennsylvania, USA

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chomnard Potjanamart, MFU Vice Dean, School of Nursing, welcomed the delegations from School of Nursing, Mahidol University and students from University of Pennsylvania, USA, on 10 May 2016, discussed the healthcare administration management in Thailand, also visited health care units under the Royal Development Projects in Chiang Rai.



Phnom Pehn International University, Cambodia

Dr. Prapassorn Damrongkul Eungwanichayapant, MFU Vice President welcomed Mr. Hin Sam Ath, Vice President in charge of General Affairs with Executives from Phnom Pehn International University (PPIU), Cambodia on 27 May 2016. The delegations visited MFU and successfully discussed the possibilities in collaborating with the School of Management especially the Tourism Management programme. PPIU was founded in 2006, it is a private university located in Phnom Pehn, Cambodia. This completed mission was continued after MFU executive visited Phnom Pehn in March for seeking collaborations with institution in Cambodia.



A Practical Training of Exchange Students from USA

Asst. Prof. Dr. Kowit Nambunmee, Ms. Nicharuch Panjaphothiawat, lecturers, School of Health Science, MFU, Mr. John Cho, exchange student from University of Michigan, USA and Ms. Claire Cote, exchange student from Haverford College of Pennsylvania, USA, had a practical training with local entrepreneurs in Chiang Khong on 3 June 2016, which is an educational cooperation between MFU, Chiang Rai Prachanukroh Hospital and Chiang Khong Crown Prince Hospital. This activity is meant to support Occupational Health Management in preparation for the Special Economic Zone in the near future as a part of student exchange programme of School of Health Science, MFU, majoring in Occupational Health and Safety.

CARECOM Co., Ltd. Japan



School of Nursing, MFU, led by Vice Dean, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chomnard Potjamart, received a delegation from CARECOM Co., Ltd. on 6 June 2016. With a rich history and experience of 60 years in the Nursing Systems industry, CARECOM Co., Ltd. is the largest market shareholding company in Japan. The company provides not only outstanding summit technology for Nurse Call Systems but also Nursing Support Solutions and Systems for efficient nursing care and patient safety widely used in hospitals in Japan. Led by Mr. Mitsuhiro Ikegawa, the delegation from CARECOM Co., Ltd. held bilateral discussions with a team from the School of Nursing, MFU that included Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chomnard Potjanamart, Vice Dean, Asst. Prof. Dr. Chompunut Sopajaree, lecturer, and Asst. Prof. Dr. Somporn Santirasikul, lecturer. Discussed among others in the meeting were improvement in nursing activities, and management research.

Learning and Researching Seminar in Chinese Language



The Sirindhorn Chinese Language and Culture Centre, and Confucius Institute of MFU, conducted a 'Learning and Researching Seminar in Chinese Language' led by Prof. Zheng Tongtao, Dean of Overseas Education College, Xiamen University, on 9 June 2016, at the Sirindhorn Chinese Language, MFU which was attended by approximately 50 participants. The aims of seminar are to promote and exchange knowledge about learning and researching in Chinese language that can help teachers to do the research, and further development.



School of Agro-Industry, MFU Visits Japan for Further Collaboration



Asst. Prof. Dr. Matchima Naradisorn, Acting Dean, School of Agro-Industry, MFU, took a visit to Japan. Among what she discussed was research, exchange students, lecturers and further collaborations between School of Agro-Industry, MFU, and Higher Education Institutions in Japan such as Shinshu University, Kagoshima University, National Agriculture and Food Research Organization (NARO), and Chiba University. Asst. Prof. Dr. Matchima also gave information about Agro-Industry Short Course Programme that most students showed interest 22 August –2 September 2016 at MFU.



Training and Building Relations



MFU has been in a close relationship with many institutions in the Kingdom of Bhutan. School of Cosmetic Science, MFU conducted a training on 'Up-scaling the production of Soap and Hand Sanitizers' with 3 staff of Menjong Sorig Pharmaceuticals (MSP) namely; Mr. Jigme Wangdi, Mr. Kinlay Penjor, Mr. Sangay Wangchuk, at the Scientific and Technological Instrument Centre, MFU, on 13 - 18 June 2016. Dr. Phanuphong Chaiwut, Dean of School of Cosmetics Science, welcomed Mr. Sherab Tenzin, Head of Menjong Sorig Pharmaceuticals, and Mr. Nima Tshering, Production Technician at Scientific and Technological Instrument Centre to MFU on 23 June 2016. These training courses and visitation aim to further development of knowledge and practical laboratory skills for MSP staff, which is one of the purposes for the MoU agreement between MFU and Department of Traditional Medicine Services (DTMS), for the Kingdom of Bhutan.



Lecturer from School of Agro-Industry, MFU Visits Université de Bourgogne, France

Dr. Wirongrong Tongdeesontorn, Lecturer, School of Sinology, MFU took a visit to Université de Bourgogne, AgroSup Dijon, France. Key among the things she visited was a research project by Prof. Frédéric Debeaufort and Assoc. Prof. Thomas Karbowiak. The research titled, 'ActiFoodCoat: Active Edible Coatings/Films for Perishable Foods Preservation', is supported by France-Thai Cooperation in Higher Education and Research 2015/16 with an aim of encouraging exchanges between French and Thai higher education institutions and research bodies, and developing sustainable collaborative research activities. This visit, that took place on 24 June – 25 July 2016, came into effect after Prof. Pascal Degraeve, IUT Lyon 1-site de Bourg en Bresse came to MFU.



University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

Asst. Prof. Dr. Matchima Naradisorn, Acting Dean of School of Agro-Industry, welcomed a delegation from the College of Agricultural and Life Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA that was led by Prof. Sundaram Gunasekaran, Director of International Programme on 25 July 2016. They discussed bilateral issues relating to the academic collaboration, which is a part of the existing MoU. There were also 14 students from the University of Wisconsin-Madison who came to MFU for the summer programme that ran from 2 July - 11 August 2016. UWM students were impressed with MFU campus and facilities including several activities with MFU students.



MAE FAH LUANG UNIVERSITY

GROOMING YOU FOR THE FUTURE