Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) has tied for the title of the world’s top international university in the U-Multirank 2015 Institutional Ranking. AIT claimed joint top rank in the ‘international orientation’ dimension of the newest global university ranking among 1,200 universities from 83 countries.

In the second edition of the annual ranking announced on 30 March 2015, AIT stood out as the only university in Asia among the top 41 universities in the world to receive full scores under ‘international orientation’. AIT earned straight “A” grades for its student mobility, international academic staff, international joint publications and international doctorate degrees.

Though AIT President Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai deemed AIT’s global number one ranking as “remarkable”, he hastened to add that the result was not entirely unexpected. “AIT will continue to enhance its core strengths, such as our research focus and international orientation, to which no other universities in Asia come close,” President Worsak said.

Overall, AIT received a total of eleven “A” scores out of the 31 criteria, “placing it among the top 12% of the institutions that show a broad range of very good performance,” U-Multirank said. AIT topped the table of five participating universities in Thailand, and was ranked 15th out of 202 selected universities in Asia.
RECENT NEWS / HAPPENINGS AT AIT

MAY 2015

AIT-OHEC deal will extend internet access to thousands of Thai schools

AIT and the Office of Higher Education Commission (OHEC) have joined forces to enable thousands of schools across Thailand to be connected to the internet for the first time. AIT will provide 32,768 IPv4 addresses to be used by OHEC’s subsidiary Office of Information Technology Administration for Educational Development (UniNet).

The MoU was signed by OHEC Secretary-General Dr. Kamjorn Tatiyakavee and AIT President Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai. Dr. Kamjorn said the deal will boost the Ministry of Education’s efforts to promote IT-based learning and research via the internet. As the world is now in short supply of IPv4 addresses, AIT’s goodwill gesture to Thailand will enable many thousands of students to learn and research online from high-end digital resources.

AIT alum Pit Teong Lee commits to help transform AIT Library into a modernized, e-learning wonder

AIT alumnus Mr. Pit Teong Lee, who graduated in 1974 with a Master of Science degree in Water Resources Engineering told AIT officials that the Institute’s flood-damaged facility can once again become a great learning facility for the institute, and he stands ready to help in every way possible.

Invited by AIT President Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai as an honorary advisor to the project, Mr. Lee assured that he can personally “do a lot resources-wise and content-wise” to help the flood-damaged facility become a digital-age learning wonder. His company possesses the very latest e-books, e-journals, and databases for universities, he said, and he was willing to purchase these resources and then personally donate large collections to the AIT library, he informed President Worsak on 21 April 2015.

Myanmar Ambassador witnesses AIT-Myanmar Ministry of Construction MOA signing

H.E. U Win Maun, Ambassador of Myanmar to Thailand, and Ms. Aye Aye Aung, First Secretary Education, visited AIT on 6 April 2015 to witness the signing ceremony of a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) between AIT and Myanmar’s Ministry of Construction.

Director-General Mr. Kyaw Linn signed the MoA on behalf of Myanmar’s Ministry of Construction. In the agreement, AIT will support Myanmar by launching a 1-year Professional Master’s Degree Program on Project Management in Construction in Myanmar. H.E. Ambassador U Win Maung stated that AIT is one of the leading Institutions in Thailand and Asia-Pacific region that has contributed to national and regional development through technology transfer and sustainable development.
April 2015 saw major donations for the AIT Library Modernization Campaign and scholarships

Telecom major Advanced Info Service Plc (AIS) donated two million Baht towards AIT’s Library Modernization Campaign. AIS Chief Executive Officer Mr. Somchai Lertsutiwong handed over the cheque to AIT President Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai on 9 April 2015.

Mr. Tan Chin Nyan, an AIT alumnus from Malaysia donated one million Baht. A student of, Prof. Worsak, Mr. Tan Chin Nyan completed his Master’s degree in Structural Engineering and Construction (SERC) from AIT in 1986.

Eighty alumni of transportation engineering joined hands to donate 1 Million Baht in memory of their teacher, the late Prof. Yordphol Thanaboriboon. Prof. Yordphol passed away in June 2006 in his sleep while leading a group of 15 students and research staff to the Volvo Car Research Center in Gothenburg, Sweden. Also donating that day (2 April 2015) was the AIT Alumni Association (Thailand) with a pledge of 1 Million Baht, and Panya Consultants who gave 500,000 Baht. Mr. Supachai Rakpanitmanee, Vice President of AITAA (Thailand) and Managing Director, Panya Consultants Ltd, handed over the donation on behalf of Mr. Chusak Gaywee, AITAA (Thailand) President.

Dr. Verapong Chaiperm (D.Eng ’91), Governor of Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand (IEAT), along with Deputy Governor Ms. Srivanik Hasdin made two donations of 500,000 each (one from IEAT and another from friends of Dr. Verapong) on 23 April 2015.

Ambassador of Bangladesh to Thailand H.E. Ms. Saida Muna Tasneem brought a donation from the personal contributions of the Embassy of Bangladesh to AIT.

Mr. Chaiwat Kovavisarach, President, Bangchak Petroleum Public Company (BCP) handed over 5 million Baht on behalf of BCP for the AIT Library Modernization and 3 Million Baht for 3 scholarships at AIT.
CTCN describes AIT as a “key consortium partner”

Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) has described AIT as a “key consortium partner.” In a meeting at AIT on 28 April 2015, Dr. Matthew Kennedy, Chair, Advisory Board, CTCN stated that “CTCN is a link between technology, finance and capacity building, and technology is a key pillar.” Mr. Jukka Uosukainen, Director, CTCN, added that AIT is touching many aspects of science, technology and environment, and this is critical for CTCN consortium partners. Rajiv Garg from UNEP also joined the deliberations.

“There could not have been a better launching pad”

Mr. Kamal Kishore, an AIT alumnus, who has been appointed to the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA), India’s top disaster body, has described the Institute as a great launching pad. Appointed to NDMA earlier this year, Mr. Kamal Kishore has served as a Policy Adviser in Climate Change and Disaster Resilience at the Bureau for Policy and Programme Support in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). “AIT provided me unique opportunities to build my expertise in the area of Disaster Risk Reduction,” Mr. Kamal Kishore remarked.

“While the academic programme (MSc in Urban Development, 1996) allowed me flexibility to focus my research work on disaster issues, my peer group which constituted early to mid-career professionals from over 12 Asian countries provided me valuable insights on the ground realities in the region,” he said. “The presence of outreach centers enabled me to build connections with practitioners. There couldn’t have been a better launching pad,” Mr. Kamal Kishore added.
PHOTO GALLERY

MAY 2015

AIT Photo Competition 2015 (#AITStudentLife)


AIT Selfie Competition 2015 (#AITSelfie)

AIT’s first female faculty member gets a room in her name

For 13 long years, she was the only female faculty member at AIT. Introducing her was her former student Dr. Thammarat Koottatep, who is now an Associate Professor at EEM: “Prof. Samorn Muttamara joined AIT in 1968, and she was teaching when AIT had still not moved to its campus in Pathumthani.”

“We are here to honor Prof. Samorn’s contribution,” AIT President Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai said as he invited her to inaugurate a room which was earlier called ‘W-128,’ but is now rechristened as the “Samorn Muttamara Meeting Room.” Amidst the presence of senior AIT functionaries, Prof. Samorn thanked everyone at AIT saying: “This gesture means a lot for me.”

AIT reaches out to Nepal

AIT is reaching out to Nepal by organizing the following activities:

- AIT Fund Raising Campaign
- 3 people are already in Nepal for providing emergency communication
- Disaster map making by AIT’s GIS team
- intERLab to deploy mobile wireless network
- 3-member team to visit Nepal
- Student Union candle light vigil
- AIT4Nepal charity football match

Financial donations:

AIT Fund Raising Campaign for Nepal Disaster

Account Number: 178-2-54143-7

Bank Address: KASIKORNBANK
Klong Luang Branch
58/1 Moo 9, Paholyothin Road, Klong Nueng, Klong Luang
Pathumthani 12120 Thailand

SWIFT: KASITHBK

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