



# IAC International Newsletter

Prince of Songkla University, Phuket Campus, Thailand  
<http://www.iac.phuket.psu.ac.th>  
Issue 23

(May 2016)

## RECENT EVENTS:

### 1 APRIL: DR. NANCY STEVENSON, UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER, LONDON, UK, VISITS PSU PHUKET

On Friday, 1 April, 2016, Dr. Nancy Stevenson, The International Director for the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment and Principal Lecturer in Tourism at the University of Westminster, in London, United Kingdom, visited PSU Phuket Campus. Dr. Nancy had a meeting with PSU Phuket administrative and faculty/department representatives to discuss future collaboration opportunities between PSU Phuket and the University of Westminster.

### 5 & 8 APRIL: HISTORICAL FORUM

Students from Ajarn Pimpaporn Suwattthigul's course "History and Thai Society" organized a Historical Forum. Students shared their presentations and very creative installations about different periods in Thai History, including the Ayutthaya, Rattanakosin, Thonburi and Sukhothai Periods. It was a great lesson in Thai History and Culture, with fun games and activities, and students demonstrating their presentation and English language skills.

### 11 APRIL: TRADITIONAL SONGKRAN CELEBRATION AT PSU PHUKET

On Monday 11 April 2016, PSU Phuket's Student Affairs Section organized a day of Songkran Celebration activities for staff and students, including the traditional Songkran Buddhist Ceremony in the morning, and also a special Miss Songkran and Phuket's Got Talent Competition in the afternoon/evening.





**20 APRIL: ENDEAVOUR SCHOLARSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS, AUSTRALIA,  
PRESENTATION 14:00 - 15:00**

Ms. Pasinee Ratanaburi, Project & Administrative Officer of the Department of Education & Training for the Australian Government, visited PSU Phuket campus on Wednesday 20 April 2016 to give an hour presentation about the Endeavour Scholarships and Fellowships. These scholarships provide Thai citizens opportunities to study and/or do research in Australia. The scholarship is open to all fields of study and provides full financial support. The four main types of Endeavour Scholarships and Fellowships include the following:

- Endeavour Postgraduate Scholarship (Master Degree or PhD)
- Endeavour Research Fellowship (Research towards a Master Degree or PhD in home country or Postdoctoral Research)
- Endeavour Vocational Education and Training Scholarships
- Endeavour Executive Fellowship (Professional Development)

For more information on the scholarships and to apply please visit:  
<https://internationaleducation.gov.au/endeavour>

This scholarship is a great opportunity for Thai PSU Phuket staff or students, and we also have fellow staff members and students who have been recipients of Endeavour Scholarships and Fellowships in the past as well. You can also visit IAC's website and go to the Other Scholarships section for further details and information.



**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**MAY: FAREWELL TO ALL OUR EXCHANGE STUDENTS FROM EUROPE, USA, CHINA AND JAPAN**

It was so great having all of you here, we hope that you enjoyed your time in Phuket, Thailand, and thanks again for choosing Prince of Songkla University, Phuket Campus, for your exchange program. We are confident that you enjoyed the many wonders that Phuket and Thailand have to offer. We will miss you all and hope you will visit us again in the near future!



**ICPC 2016 World Finals - Phuket**  
**acm** International Collegiate Programming Contest  
hosted by Prince of Songkla University

**IBM**

event  
sponsor



**MAY 15 - 20, 2016: ACM-ICPC WORLD FINALS (<https://icpc.baylor.edu/>)**

Sponsored by IBM, Hosted by Prince of Songkla University, Phuket Campus, Thailand

Prince of Songkla University (PSU), in cooperation with the Software Industry Promotion Agency (SIPA) will host the global computer programming ACM-ICPC World Finals 2016 in Phuket between 15 - 20 May 2016, to develop the skills of IT professionals and inspire the young generations. There are expected to be around 1,500 participants from all over the world, including South America, North America, Europe, Middle East, Asia, etc. This is an international competition event involving higher education in computer programming. Attendees will be coming from leading universities around the world.

## IMPORTANT ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN

### ROAD SAFETY: "BEWARE CAMPAIGN"

Students from the Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism are currently running the "Beware Campaign" Project, to create awareness about road safety in Phuket. This is a very important campaign and is beneficial to all of us who drive cars or motorcycles on the Phuket roads. You may visit the International Affairs Centre (IAC) to pick up a Beware sticker to stick onto your motorcycle or car, as well as a brochure. Drive Safely!

(Announcement on behalf of FHT student  
Warut Suwannsai, Head of the Beware Project)



## HOLIDAYS IN MAY

### THURSDAY 5 MAY: CORONATION DAY

This day is a public holiday commemorating the coronation of King Bhumibol Adulyadej in 1950.

### FRIDAY 6 MAY: EXTRA HOLIDAY

### MONDAY 9 MAY: ROYAL PLOUGHING CEREMONY DAY

This public holiday is to commemorate the beginning of the rice growing season. The ceremony is of Hindu origin. In the ceremony, two sacred oxen plough a groove in ceremonial ground while Hindu priests (Brahmins) sow rice seeds. The oxen are then offered plates of food, including rice, corn, green beans, sesame, fresh-cut grass, water and rice whisky. Depending on what the oxen eat, court astrologers and Brahmins make a prediction on whether the coming growing season will be plentiful or not. The ceremony is held to guarantee a good harvest.

### FRIDAY 20 MAY: VISAKHA BUCHA DAY

Visakha Bucha Day in Buddhism commemorates the birth, enlightenment and the passing away of Gautama Buddha. The Buddha was born on this day in Lumpini, Nepal. 35 years later on this day he attained enlightenment in Buddhagaya, India. And 80 years after his birth, on the same day, the Buddha passed away in Kusinara (Kushinagar), India. On Visakha Bucha Day, Buddhists offer alms to monks, visit temples, make merit, and observe meditation. The day is also a reminder to Buddhists of the Buddha's most important teachings.

## IMMIGRATION MATTERS

### 90 DAY REPORT ONLINE!

Must be done 8 - 15 days **BEFORE** the 90 day due date stamped in your passport.

On the IAC website (<http://www.iac.phuket.psu.ac.th/>) under "MEDIA" you can find a link titled "Online 90 Day Report Instructions" to guide you to doing the online 90 day report. You can also contact IAC for further information and if you have any questions.

**IMPORTANT: INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND FULL TIME STUDENTS, DON'T FORGET TO CHECK YOUR PASSPORT TO SEE WHEN YOU MUST DO YOUR 90 DAY REPORT EITHER ONLINE (8-15 DAYS BEFORE DUE DATE) OR AT THE IMMIGRATION OFFICE IN PHUKET TOWN.**



### CONTACT US

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