



IAC International Newsletter

Prince of Songkla University, Phuket Campus, Thailand

Http://www.iac.phuket.psu.ac.th, facebook/iacpsuphuket

Emails: iacpsu@gmail.com, iacpsu@phuket.psu.ac.th

Tels: ++6676276014, ++6676276096-7

Issue 4/2017

(May 2017)

RECENT EVENTS:

APRIL 11: PSU PHUKET CELEBRATES THE SONGKRAN FESTIVAL AND ORGANIZES A FAREWELL CEREMONY

On April 11th , PSU, Phuket celebrated the Songkran Festival by organizing a Buddhist ceremony to show respect to the PSU Phuket representatives, followed by a Farewell Ceremony for our former Vice President, Assoc. Prof. Puwadon Butrat who had worked for PSU for almost 35 years. Assoc. Prof. Puwadon gave his appreciation speech to all Phuket distinguished guests and PSU Phuket staff. Congratulatory remarks were also made to his successor, Assoc. Prof. Worawut Wisutmethangoon, Ph.D. Farewell gifts were presented by different departments and all guests were invited to join a nice farewell lunch.



APRIL 19: LEARNING ENGLISH WITH AJ. ADAM BRADSHAW

On April 19th, over 200 students and staff were absolutely thrilled to have Ajarn Adam Bradshaw at PSU, Phuket for his inspiring talk on “How can I improve my English”? As an experienced and popular English teacher and TV host, Ajarn Adam shared his tips and encouraged all attendants not to be afraid to speak English. The auditorium was filled with non-stop laughter. Not only were PSU, Phuket students and staff inspired by his talk, but they also enjoyed games to win prizes.



APRIL 26: IBM & PYXERA GLOBAL, WASHINGTON, USA VISIT PSU, PHUKET

On April 26, Assoc. Prof. Worawut Wisutmethangoon, Ph.D., Vice President for Phuket Campus and other representatives warmly welcomed delegates from IBM and PYXERA, Washington, USA. PYXERA Global is looking for potential host organizations for the IBM Corporate Service Corps Program (CSC) and has expressed its interest in potential collaboration with PSU, Phuket Campus. The purpose of this visit was to discuss more details of the potential collaboration under the IMB CSC Program, to be held between July 21 and August 19, 2017.



APRIL 26: PSU MOVIE'S DAY

On April 26th, IAC organized a second Movie's Day. Around 40 Thai and international staff and students enjoyed *Now You See Me*. Not only they learned something new, but they also won little prizes to take home. Please remember there will still be three more great movies to enjoy. Be on the lookout for our next movie ad.



APRIL 26: HAPPY UNIVERSITY, HAPPY BODY

Responding to the Thai government's Workout Wednesday, PSU Phuket has kicked off its Happy University Project by organizing an exercise session from 03.30 to 04:00 pm. every Wednesday, led by Ajarn Akom Wangmuang, Assistant to the President for Special Affairs. Around 50 Thai staff joined the first Workout Wednesday on April 26th and some won little prizes from the drawing. Please remember this activity is weekly held on Wednesday on the 1st floor of the President's Office Building, (Bldg.7).



APRIL 28: VICE CONSUL GENERAL OF CHINA VISITS PSU, PHUKET

Assoc. Prof. Worawut Wisutmethangoon, Ph.D., Vice President for Phuket Campus and Asst. Prof. Nuwan Thaptiang, Ph.D., Assistant to the President for International Affairs, Phuket Campus warmly received Ms. Ma Cuihong, Vice Consul General from Phuket Consular Office of the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Songkhla. Ms. Cuihong visited Phuket Campus to congratulate the Vice President on his new position and kindly offered assistance to PSU, Phuket. Tokens of gratitude were exchanged.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

MAY: FAREWELL TO ALL OUR EXCHANGE STUDENTS FROM EUROPE, USA, KOREA, INDONESIA 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!



AIMS STUDENTS' OVERSEAS EXCHANGE EXPERIENCES

From August 2016 - January 2017, 9 Thai students from PSU Phuket spent a semester overseas as part of the ASEAN International Mobility for Students Program (AIMS). Here are some of the personal testimonials from the students who did their exchange at Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia (UPI) and BINUS University, INDONESIA.

Ms. Buntita Supthong

"It was a great experience and opportunity to study abroad under AIMS. I've got a chance to meet new friends, see new places and learn a lot there. Not only studying in the class but living abroad taught me a lot. I learnt how to live abroad without parents and had just only 2 Thai friends. I learnt how to adjust myself with new environment. And the most important is Indonesian friends, they were very nice, friendly and helpful. It's called 'ibuddy' they advised me at the beginning, then we became friends and we still keep in touch even I am already back to Thailand. The other exchange students; Japanese, Korean, Malaysian, Taiwanese and European, are very nice as well. We exchanged the experiences and became friends. It was a great chance for me to go there, I would regret if I refuse this chance. So I would like to say thank you to AIMS"

Ms. Napatsorn Puttisarn

"First of all, I would like to say thank you to this program AIMS which gave me a good chance to explore and expand my experience. I really appreciated to accept this opportunity. This program made me learn more about their culture, their way of life, and it made me know how to adapt myself to new society which was very important thing. Bandung is very different with Thailand for example the religion which is most of them are Muslim and we learn their ceremony. The popular food in Indonesia is Nasi Goreng (Fried rice) which was very delicious fried rice which I ever taste it. I got many new friends from Malaysia, Laos, and also Indonesia friends. I really impressed with our buddies in UPI because they were very nice to us they took care of us everything and they helped us everything also. The most thing which I learned from them was third language which was Bahasa Indonesia because most people in Bandung spoke only this language and it was very good chance for me to learn new language. The weather there was very nice at night time was very cold even if day time still hot but less than Thailand. Location of Bandung was full of mountains and forest which made the weather nice. And I visited volcanoes in Bandung and Jogjakarta which were very interesting places and beautiful. And I visited many cities in Bandung with Indonesia's friends and Malaysia's friends. It was very good memorized for me forever the time during I was an exchange student in Bandung"

Ms. Chawisa Nittayo

"One of my dreams was to be an exchanged student because in my opinion it was the way to learn and practice myself. And one day, I got an opportunity to exchange in Bandung. I was rather excited, so I searched the information about that country. I was one of the students in the International Mobility for Students (AIMS) program during four months in Indonesia, I learned a lot of things like experiences, knowledges, and friendship. Firstly, the varieties of experiences from Indonesian's cultures. Indonesia was a big country and it had different ways of life. I had a chance to perform an Indonesian song, and it was great that we sang and enjoyed together with friends and lecturers. Another thing was adapting to society because it was different for us, but it was fun to learn about it. For the knowledges, not only improving English speaking skill, but also other languages. I enrolled Bahasa Indonesia course - which was their common language in routine life. When I went shopping I tried to communicate with them by their language, so I felt excited and very impressed. The last was friendship, all Indonesian friends were nice. They took care and helped us well. And for the international friends from the same scholarship we passed everything together, we helped and gave advice each other. They were more than friends, they were special for me. Finally, I would like to say thank you so much for this opportunity. I could learn in many things, knew many great friends, I will never forget this experience"

Ms. Pawanya Saethong

"During that time in Indonesia, I would like to say thank you for this scholarship that gave me a chance to go to Indonesia and joined AIMS scholarship, from this scholarship. During 4 months in Indonesia, I have got many best experiences since the first day - the people are very friendly, they tried to have a conversation with us even if at first we cannot understand each other. And also our friends who came from Malaysia and joined AIMS as well.

I don't know how to explain about the people there, but I would love to say that they are very kind to me, they are friendly, and generous. Especially, our buddies and friends from Malaysia, our buddies tried to take care of all of us as good as they can, they took us to anywhere that was very interesting, and gave advice for living there, came to our dorm to have a silly conversation, brought things - traditional snacks and foods, traditional cloth, for us to taste, also taught us Bahasa Indonesia which we needed. Then our Malaysia's friends, first time when I saw them I don't think we will be closed to each other, but after time passed we have a close and good relationship, we did lots of things, also traveled together, cooked and had a meal together, we look like a family, I feel that, we love each other too much. So when the end of time came, I feel so sad that we have to separate.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to everyone who gave me this opportunity to learn lots of things, learn new culture, build new relationship, get good friends, thank you for the lecturer there for giving information, warmly welcoming, and taking care of us, thank you for everything. If I have a chance to go there again, I will not let a good opportunity away"



IMPORTANT Notice and Information

ALWAYS Obey Traffic Regulations

1. Wear a helmet at all time
2. Never drive/ride drunk
3. Never use your mobile phone while driving/riding
4. Never exceed speed limits
5. Only park at designated areas

****Smoking is strictly prohibited on university premises**

If violated, a fine of maximum 2,000 baht will be levied.



HOLIDAYS in May

WEDNESDAY 10 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.

FRIDAY 12 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.



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 "Useful Information" 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: FULL-TIME INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND STUDENTS, PLEASE REMEMBER 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

International Affairs Centre (IAC)
PSU Phuket - 2nd Floor Bldg. 7
W: <http://www.iac.phuket.psu.ac.th>
T: 076 276 014 E: iacpsu@gmail.com