

# **Annual Report on the University of Cambodia**

*By*

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*Member of Board of Trustees of University of Cambodia*

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## **My Highly Respect To:**

- **H.E. Dr. Hang ChounNaron**, Minister of Education, Youth, and Sport of the Kingdom of Cambodia
- **H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn**, President of University of Cambodia
- **Excellencies, Lok Chum Teav, Ladies and Gentlemen, Distinguished National and International Guests**
- **Board of Management, Faculty Members, Staff and all Graduates of University of Cambodia**

Today witnesses a very momentous event in which the University of Cambodia is highly honored to welcome the presence of **H.E. Dr. Hang ChounNaron**, Minister of Education, Youth, and Sport, presiding over the University of Cambodia's graduation ceremony to confer degrees of Honorary Doctorate, Doctor of Philosophy, Master's, and Bachelor's to our graduates.

On behalf of the UC Board of Management, faculty members, staff and all graduates of the University of Cambodia, I would like to express my sincere thanks to **H.E. Dr. Hang ChounNaron** for spending very valuable time to preside over this event and to motivate all of us, especially candidates of Honorary Doctorate and other graduates, who will be awarded certificates of completion on this joyful occasion.

## **H.E. Dr. Hang ChounNaron and All Participants!**

Please let me briefly report about the background of the University, academic training activities, and the graduation of students of the University of Cambodia as follows:

The University of Cambodia was established by **Sub-Decree No. 51, dated June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2003**, previously located about 50 meters south of Independence Monument. In September, 2011,

the University of Cambodia relocated to the current campus: **Northbridge Road, SangkatToekThla, KhanSenSok**. So far, the University of Cambodia has been operational for 11 years, consisting of 6 Colleges—**College of Arts, Humanities and Languages, College of Education, College of Law, College of Management, College of Science and Technology, and College of Social Sciences**—offering degree programs from Associate Degree, Bachelor’s Degree, Master’s Degree to PhD degree.

In order to support training and research, the University of Cambodia also launched various centers and institutes such as the **Center for ASEAN Studies, the Center for English Studies, and the Institute of Research and Advanced Studies (IRAS)**. In addition to this, the University of Cambodia established the **University of Cambodia Student Senate (UCSS), UC Debate Club (UCDC), and the University of Cambodia Cambodian Red Cross Youth (UCCRCY)** in order to provide extra-curricular activities, to compete with students from other higher education institutions and to build good relationships with students from other universities. What’s more, students are given the opportunity to contribute to community development.

Currently, University of Cambodia has a total number of **283** staff and faculty members. Among this, there are **98** administrative staff (**29** females) and **185** faculty members (**26** females).

Within 11 years (2003-2014), **2036** students (**825** females) have graduated from University of Cambodia and among this total number of graduates, there have been 3 PhD graduates, 200 Master’s degree graduates (43 females), 1691 Bachelor’s degree graduates (726 females), and 142 Associate Degree graduates (55 females).

According to the last survey on employment opportunity of University of Cambodia graduates in academic year 2012-2013, over 90% of graduates are employed, and 4% are pursuing their studies in graduate programs locally and overseas. University of Cambodia alumni are currently pursuing their academic careers in other countries such as South Korea, China, Japan, Malaysia, The Philippines, Singapore, Australia, Germany, The UK, The US, India, France, New Zealand, Sweden, The Czech Republic, and Hong Kong.

In academic year 2013-2014, there are 345 graduates (145 females). Among this total number, there is 01 PhD graduate, 17 Master’s degree graduates (07 females), and 338 Bachelor’s degree graduates (137 females).

Apart from this, 3059 students (1432 females) are currently studying at the University of Cambodia in academic year 2014-2015.

The University of Cambodia has been training and providing degree programs to students by implementing her own strategic plans in alignment with the policies and strategic plans of the Royal Government of Cambodia under the leadership of **SamdechAkeakMohaSena PadeyTecho Hun Sen**, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Strategic plans of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and the nine minimum standards set by the Accreditation Committee of Cambodia (ACC) in ensuring high quality education in response to local, regional and international labor market needs. To achieve this goal, the University of Cambodia keeps continuously developing and improving its curriculum, physical facilities, and materials to support learning and teaching in order to maintain its status as one of the leading private universities in Cambodia, and to work collaboratively with the government to produce highly-qualified human resources. Significantly, the University of Cambodia also pays much attention on promoting research and publication to produce resources and references for future researchers.

In addition, to ensure high quality education, the University of Cambodia has fostered collaboration and cooperation with developmental partners at the national level such as Cambodian Red Cross, Ministry of Women's Affairs, Cambodian Higher Education Association, Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia, People Health Development Association, and other international institutions in various countries such as the US, Japan, The Republic of Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, Israel, India, Indonesia, and China. This cooperation has given students more learning experiences in addition to the exchange of experiences in management and leadership, teaching methodology, and joint research. This is one of many other priorities which the University of Cambodia has always been focusing on. Obviously, University of Cambodia has worked collaboratively with partner universities to organize workshops in order to share experiences, teaching methodology, and research methodology to faculty members to improve their knowledge in ensuring high quality education. Besides, the university also promotes exchange programs for faculty members and staff to pursue their studies abroad.

More importantly, to contribute to poverty reduction with the Royal Government of Cambodia, so far the University of Cambodia has sought for funds from donors to provide scholarships to 3,002 financially constrained, yet qualified students who passed the high school

exam to continue their studies at the University of Cambodia. (This excludes scholarships offered to senior political figures in the government and tuition fee discounts)

### **H.E. Dr. Hang ChounNaron and all Participants!**

The achievements as briefly mentioned earlier have come into reality because of great efforts made by the UC board of management, faculty members and staff with active support from students' parents and guardians, especially the most generous support from **H.E. Dr. HaruhisaHanda** for granting tremendous amount of scholarships to our students each year. We have also received supports from **Dr. RikhiThakral**, manager of Thakral Holding Ltd of Singapore; China Fairwind Cambodia Investment Company Limited; Khmer Brewery Company; PengHout Investment Co Ltd as well as many other donors.

In 2015, the University of Cambodia will launch a new college—**College of Media and Communications**, offering degree programs from Associate Degree to Bachelor's degree and a new school—**TechoSen School of Government and International Relations**, offering degree programs from Master's degree to PhD degree. The University of Cambodia has already completed working papers and other administrative documents and submitted to MoEYS. Currently, we are waiting for the approval from H.E. Minister and hopefully, H.E. Minister will take our proposal into kindest consideration.

To conclude, on behalf of the UC board of management, faculty members, staff, students and graduates of the University of Cambodia, I would like to express our deepest gratitude to **H.E. Dr. Hang ChounNaron**, Minister of Education, Youth and Sport for spending his very valuable time presiding over our graduation ceremony today.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Excellencies, Lok Chum Teav, Ladies and Gentlemen, Distinguished National and International Guests for attending this special event. I wish you all success, happiness, and prosperity.

**Thank you so much!**