

TOP STORIES

Dr. Kao Kim Hourn

*Receives the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology University
Most Prestigious Honorary Doctorate Degree*



Ambassador Dinesh K. Patnaik, Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, and Dr. Achyuta Samanta

*"There is no
guarantee in life,
but everything
is possible.
So, learn
to make the
impossible
possible."*

In a Commencement Ceremony conducted by the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) at Southeast Asia Television Studio, Dr. Kao Kim Hourn (Minister Delegate to the Prime Minister and President of the University of Cambodia) received an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Literature.

"This is the most prestigious honor the Kalinga Insti-

tute of Industrial Technology University gives out to who we believe are the most outstanding individuals giving back to its community," Dr. Achyuta Samanta (Founder of KIIT University and KISS, India) said. This year we are happy to bestow the Honorary Doctorate Degree onto Excellency Dr. Kao Kim Hourn.

In Dr. Kao Kim Hourn's acceptance speech the mes-

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UC Commencement 2013

Conferring of an Honorary Doctoral Degree, Master's and Bachelor's Degrees



By Sam Sophorn

The University of Cambodia proudly hosted the 2013 Commencement Ceremony: Conferring of an Honorary Doctoral Degree, Master's and Bachelor's Degrees at Southeast Asia Television Studio on November 1, 2013.

In his welcome speech, H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn (Minister Delegate to Prime Minister and President to the University of Cambodia) congratulated the 371 graduates (149 females) for successfully completing their studies at the University of Cambodia. He noted UC's commitment towards academic excellence, research, training and publications. The evidence of this commitment has been shown by the competitiveness of UC graduates in the job market.

"96 per cent of UC 2011-2012 graduates got job, while another 4 percent are pursuing degrees abroad,"
said Dr. Kao.



He also emphasized the University's commitment to look for more scholarships: since 2003 the University has given out 2,520 full scholarships, thanks to generous donors such as Dr. Haruhisa Handa, Dr. Rikhi Thakral, Unigent Corporation in US, Khmer Brewery Company, Borei Peng Huot Investment Co., Ltd. and China Fairwind Cambodia Investment Company Limited.

In his speech, Dr. Haruhisa Handa (Founder and Chairman of the International Foundation of Arts and Culture, Chancellor of the University of Cambodia) congratulated H.E. Dr. Hang Chuon Naron for his new appointment as Minister of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and thanked him for his continuous support of the University of Cambodia. Dr. Handa congratulated UC graduates on successfully completing the most rigorous English education program in the country. In his address he provided advice for a successful life.

"Follow your heart, know yourself and trust yourself... learn to love what you do, it is through the love of what



you do that greatness and happiness is found," said Dr. Handa. He added to "never stop learning, reading academic books, develop creative and persuasive writing." Four years at university are the golden years of most people's lives. All students should learn to gain as much knowledge and understanding of the world as they can through dialogues with their peers, faculty, and professionals in their field.

"A successful life should not be measured on accomplishments and failures, rather in happiness and the many people's lives that have been positively changed."

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THAKRAL

*Procures Medical Books to Broaden
Student Medical Understanding*

Relentless Support

On Saturday morning 14th September 2013, the University of Cambodia (UC) received a shipment of books donated from Dr. Rikhi Thakral (Executive Director of Thakral Group of Companies, the Singapore Holding Group) on behalf of Dr. William Clyde Lane. Ms. Sonia Poddar (Senior Manager) represented the Thakral group of Companies in handing over the 147 medical books to H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, in efforts to expand the UC Toshu Fukami library depository.

“These medical books will serve to broaden student knowledge and understanding of the medical field and provide much need medical resources for students and medical practitioners who are currently doing medical research and are interested in medicine,” said Dr. Kao.



Dr. William Clyde Lane, (pictured left) a personal friend of Dr. Thakral, donated his personal medical books in an effort to open young minds into the medical field. It is hoped that these books will



Ms. Por Malis, Sonia Poddar, Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, Dr. Sovathana Sokhom pose for picture with donated medical books

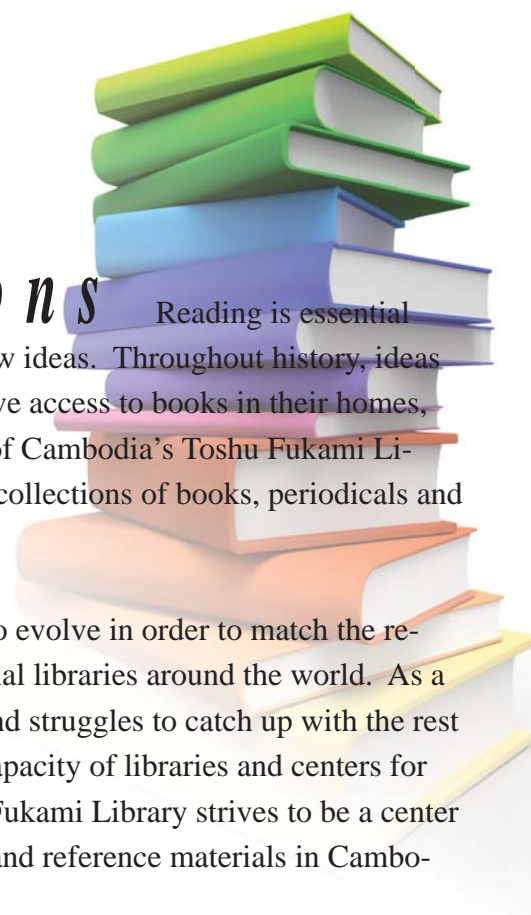
help inspire young inquisitive minds to become future nurses, doctors, and medical practitioners in order to help improve the health of everyday citizens.

Dr. Rikhi Thakral has relentlessly supported the University of Cambodia throughout the years and in various ways such as providing student scholarships, financial resources to develop programs, book donations, etc.

Call for Book Donations

Reading is essential in learning. Reading helps develop a creative mind, imagination, and new ideas. Throughout history, ideas have changed the destiny of nations. The reality is that not all people have access to books in their homes, especially in their schools to develop creative thinking. The University of Cambodia's Toshu Fukami Library is open to the entire community and has one of the most extensive collections of books, periodicals and reference materials to help foster learning.

Nevertheless, the library is limited in resources. It still has a long way to evolve in order to match the resources, standards, and wealth of knowledge available at other institutional libraries around the world. As a member of the WTO and ASEAN, Cambodia grapples with modernity and struggles to catch up with the rest of the world due to a lack of resources, especially books. Building the capacity of libraries and centers for learning is crucial for developing the entire society. As the UC's Toshu Fukami Library strives to be a center of learning and knowledge and largest depository of books, periodicals, and reference materials in Cambodia, we call upon donors, like you, to help make this vision a reality.





UNIVERSITY PRIDE COMPETITION

“ Why Select The University of Cambodia ? ”

September 26-27, 2013

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

TO

ALL

OUR

CANDIDATES!!!



Ms. Heng Malyka won the University Pride Competition focused on the topic: “Why Select The University of Cambodia?” Second place runner-up was Mr. Huy Sambath and third place runner-up was Ms. Seang Sok Cheng, all from the College of Management and all were outstanding.

The University of Cambodia invited the entire student body to show their school pride and spirit by participating in the University Pride Competition.

We were enthusiastic to have received over 120 registrants in the competition. Each student was unique in their own way, showcasing their creativity and public speaking ability to convince the audience and judges as to “Why Select The University of Cambodia?”

In the final round of competition, the ten finalists made it nearly impossible for judges Dr. Sokhom Sovathana, Dr. Angus Munro, Mrs. Por Malis, Mrs. Gina Lopez, and Mr. Bandol Lim to choose three absolute favorites. A tenth of a point separated the best of the best.

But after much deliberation three outstanding students impressed us with their creativity, clarity, personality, and overall performance. Showing the best UNIVERSITY PRIDE:

- In first place, **Ms. Heng Malyka** from the College of Management took home the grand prize of 1,000,000 riels.
- In second place, **Mr. Huy Sambath** from the College of Management took home 800,000 riels.
- In third place, **Ms. Seang Sok Cheng** from the College of Management took home 500,000 riels.

Apart from the prize money, winners also received a certificate of recognition for a job well done, and deservedly so.

The competition was conducted to help promote the University of Cambodia and its dynamic student body. The University encourages all our students to dream big and help build a better tomorrow. Thanks so much to all of our students who participated in the University Pride Competition and made this event a success!

sage was simple,

“Your life journey is what you make of it...Live your life to the fullest...Dare to do what others only dream of doing, and remember that nothing is guaranteed, but everything is possible...learn to make the impossible possible.”

At the end of his address he informed everyone that “the University of Cambodia and the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology University have been pioneering a new relationship in the education sector, with the aim to enhance knowledge and understanding through faculty, staff, and student

exchanges. I am excited about the educational opportunities that lie ahead for all of us. Dr. Samanta, Ambassador Dinesh Pattnaik, I accept this Honorary Doctorate in Literature with great honor to help forge our educational commitment to our students and our respected countries,” Dr. Kao said.

Prior to the end of the closing ceremony, Lok Chum Teav Khem Rany (Director-General of SEATV) presented gifts to Dr. Achyuta Samanta, Ambassador Dinesh Pattnaik, and Mr. Dwiti Vikramaditya.

The Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology Honorary Doctorate has been given out to only an elite few individuals throughout the world. This list include His

Excellence Lyonchhen Jigmi Y. Thinley (Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Bhutan), His Excellency Mr. Ghulam Farooq Wardak (Minister of Education of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan), Dr. Kee Sun Ham (President of Hanseo University, South Korea), Dr. Baidyanath Mishra (Eminent Economist, Bhubaneswar), Dr. N.L. Mitra (Chancellor, KIIT University), Dr. P.P. Mathur (Vice Chancellor, KIIT University), and now His Excellency Dr. Kao Kim Hourn (Minister Delegate to the Prime Minister and President of The University of Cambodia).

On behalf of all of us from the University of Cambodia, congratulations Dr. Kao Kim Hourn on receiving a Honorary Doctorate Degree from KIIT University.

Technical Meeting at MOEYS

By Pay How

Dr. Sokhom Sovathana & Mr. Pay How joined 30 participants from various Cambodian universities and institutes in a technical meeting at the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports. Excellency Mak Ngoy (Director General) chaired the meeting which was aimed at exploring the situation on English training and curriculum development in Higher Education Institutions in Cambodia.

Excellency Mak’s opening remarks stressed the importance of the English language for all ASEAN member countries. As English is used for communication, research, medical studies and of course it is the language taught in all universities and institutions. The Higher Education Department and MoEYS has been pushing for capacity building in terms of curriculum development, and there is a need to work collaboratively with Cambodian universities and educational institutions in order to organize a workshop on English training and curriculum development. It was mentioned that a workshop would probably be organized and conducted in two stages: the first in January 2014 and the second in July 2014.

During the meeting participants worked in group to discuss the following points:

1. What is the general situation regarding English training in your university?
2. What is the curriculum development process for English courses for students whose majors are other than English?

With regards to question number one, the University of Cambodia offers non-degree and degree English Programs. Prior to enrolling in undergraduate and graduate programs, most incoming students must enroll in a one-year Intensive English Program, with six levels of study, aimed at preparing and increasing student’s English proficiency for a rigorous academic studies based on the English language medium. An English placement given to all incoming students helps determine students’ level of proficiency. When students successfully complete the sixed level of the English proficiency courses, they then are able to enroll in an undergraduate or a graduate program in their preferable major, in which they have already chosen and applied from the start.

With regards to question number two, like all institutions, UC has established a curriculum development committee to work on program development. Eng-

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Stop Drinking and Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol

By Meun Pros

Mr. Meun Pros (College Assistant) attended a training course called “Advocacy on Drinking and Driving.” The two day training course, jointly organized by the Advocacy and Policy Institute and the Coalition for Road Safety (CRY) aimed to trained participants to become advocates for road safety policy, especially to advocate against drinking and driving under the influence of alcohol.

According to WHO’s Global Status Report on Road Safety (2009) and second Road Safety Status Report in 2013, Cambodian roads are among the least safe roads to drive on, due to many reasons: for example poor driver training, lack of understanding of road and vehicle safety, poor legislation and enforcement of road policy, alcohol-related drinking and driving, etc. It was pointed out that most accidents were alcohol related. People driving under the influence of alcohol made Cambodian roads unsafe. Coupled with poor legislation and inadequate law enforcement, Cambodian roads are outright dangers to drive on.

Even more, the 2013 Road Safety report showed little improvement over the last four years, to incorporate new road safety legislation into law and reinforcement of road safety policy. Plus there are few effective programs to deter alcohol-related substance abuse and drinking and driving under the influence of alcohol.



Various participants from civil society organizations, educational institutions, private companies, the Redcross of Cambodia, radio FM 102, and advocacy agency members convened to change all that. The training provided participants the opportunity to learn how to become vocal advocates seeking legal methods to make Cambodian roads safe for everyone.

The main message of the training was to stop people from:

“drinking and driving under the influence of alcohol. Driving under the influence of alcohol is dangerous and deadly.”

There needs to be tougher road safety legislation and enforcement of road safety policy in order to help reduce traffic accident and make Cambodian road safer for all of everyone.

**Friends Don’t Let Friends
Drive Drunk**





FTMS Top Job Competition 2013

By Gina Lopez

On 7 November 2013, Ms. Gina Lopez (Associate Dean of the College of Management) joined university students and young professionals in launching the “FTMS Top Job Competition 2013” held at UC Conference Center. The competition aimed at recruiting the best and brightest university students into the private working sector. FTMS Top Job Competition 2013 was open to all university students in Cambodia majoring in Finance, Accounting, Auditing, and/or Business. Competing students will be evaluated base on their submitted curriculum vitae (CV)/resume and formal interviews. The event is being held from 22 September through 15 December.

The launching event was organized by FTMS Global Academy (Cambodia) in collaboration with the University of Cambodia. Its long term aim is to recruit the best university talents for employers by utilizing high profile events involving all universities in Phnom Penh. Its intermediate goals aimed to provide soft skills for students in understanding and experiencing the job application process, exposure to employers’ expectations, and to aid students in planning their career path.

The Top Job Competition 2013 launching was facilitated by Mr. Long Borint (Business Development Manager of FTMS Cambodia). It included sessions focusing on:

- FTMS Top Job Competition History and the Process, Terms and Conditions and Video Presentation of FTMS Top Job Competition 2013
- Foundation In Accountancy (FIA) and ACCA

Overview for Employers

- Job Offer for FTMS TJC 2013 and Career Path in Cellcard
- Successful preparations for Paper Applications in Job Application Process

Mr. Lao Sheanghai (Cellcard Head of Business HR) gave a presentation on “Career Path in Cellcard,” which captivated eager job seekers in a career opportunity with one of Cambodia’s largest communication companies. He touched on Cellcard’s career opportunities, management trainee program, and the benefits the company had to offer. He also highlighted the importance of how to apply for jobs and develop one’s own career path.

Equally captivating was a presentation by Mr. Ourng Borinn (a representative of Aplus Consulting) on “Successful Preparations for Paper Applications in Job Application Process” touching on how to create an attractive and winning application in order to find suitable jobs.

The launching event indeed succeeded in helping attract talented students, teaching students soft skills, sharing experiences in job search, and aiding students in their career path. Understanding what employers’ recruiting wants and needs of an ideal employee will help university graduates have a better understanding of what employers are looking for and help students market themselves for the work world. The university encourages all UC students interested in working for the private sector, including SBC Bank, Cellcard, and/or interested in a scholarship to study International Foundations in Accountancy to participate in the competition and adhere to the stages and dates provided.

- Submission period of applications – 22 September - 21 November 2013
- Stage 1 – short list announcement – 8 December 2013
- Stage 2 – group interviews – 14 December 2013
- Stage 3 – individual interviews – 15 December 2013

Reward prizes will be given in the following manner:

- 1st place prizes will be awarded to the six top candidates. Winners will receive job offers from SBC Bank (3) and/or Ernst & Young (3)
- 2nd place prizes will be awarded to six runner-up candidates, who will receive USD \$800 scholarships to study FIA with FTMS
- 3rd place prizes will be awarded to the six most impressive CVs. Candidates will receive USD \$150 scholarships to study FIA with FTMS
- Other prizes will include a scholarship in the amount of USD \$3000, to study FIA with FTMS, to the university that has the highest number of students participating in the competition.

FTMS Global Academy (FTMS) was formed in Singapore in 1986, offering professional accountancy courses. Since then, the FTMS Global Group of

Companies has expanded to deliver training courses in 13 countries in Asia and Africa, and now offers professional training courses, academic courses in addition to its core activity of professional accountancy training. FTMS has gained a strong foothold in Asia and Africa in providing tuition for the ACCA and FIA. In Asia, ACCA UK has awarded Gold and Platinum recognitions to FTMS Global centres.

FTMS Global Cambodia recognizes the importance of workplace equality and non-discrimination practices. Throughout this competition, FTMS Global Cambodia observes these values and provides equal opportunity to all talented applicants. The company does not discriminate against candidates based on age, color, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status, or any classification. Recruitment and selection will be based on talent, ability, knowledge, skills, and other relevant factors.

FTMS selected universities in Cambodia to be their partners in disseminating the information and assist the government in providing the quality education especially in the accounting and finance sectors. The University of Cambodia is one of the co-organizers.

(Technical Meeting Continue from page 6)

lish program for Non-English-Major students has been developed and designed under the academic committee's mechanism. Associate Deans propose the courses, select the contents, textbooks, teaching materials, and also develop the course syllabus. Apart from Foundation courses (ENG101 AND ENG102), Non-English-Major students have to do 3 extra English courses such as ENG 107(The Written Language), ENG122 (Further English for Non-Majors) and ENG219 (English for Business Communications). These courses are compulsory for students across all UC colleges apart from COAA.

Each group presented what they had found and shared their ideas to the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports. Deputy Director General Dr. Nith Bunlay facilitated the group meeting to collect information and ideas to develop a future workshop on concepts aimed at helping Higher Education Institutions improve the English language curriculum.

After collecting the necessary information, Deputy Director General Nith asked all participants to return to their respected institutions and to follow up on the group meeting. Dr. Nith asked all participants to

speak with university management to help provide additional information on the following questions and send answers to the Ministry.

1. What's the general situation on English training in your university?
2. What are the strong points of your university in teaching English?
3. Who or which unit is responsible for developing English curriculum to be used for students doing majors other than English?
4. What are the shortcomings/ weaknesses your university faces in teaching English to those students?
5. What kind of technical support do you need in order to improve the English teaching situation in your university?

It is hoped that the information and ideas gathered from the meeting can be used to help prepare a workshop project proposal to help improve the English curriculum in all institutions and to help prepare Cambodia for ASEAN integration as well. Finally Excellency Mak Ngoy informed the participants that MoEYS would invite all participants back to attend the workshop, if and when the project is approved.

Promoting Vocational Training as an Economic Drive

Developing Partnerships to Support High Quality Skills Training Programs

By Dr. Sovathana Sokhom

On 7th November 2013, Dr. Sovathana Sokhom (Vice President for Academic Affairs) participated in the “Promoting Vocational Training as an Economic Drive Developing Partnerships to Support High Quality Skills Training Programs,” organized by the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports and supported by Development partners which had been included in the Education Strategic Plan (ESP, 2009-2013) and approved by the Royal Government of Cambodia in September 2010.

The program’s objectives were to expand participants’ understanding of emerging and potential new directions for Cambodia’s job market and economic development, with focus on light manufacturing, infrastructure, and the hospitality sector. Also, to share information and insights about the importance of high quality vocational and technical education as a driver for Cambodia’s future economic growth. And, to promote vocational and technical training through partnerships among educational institutions and with the business community.

According to the government policy, there are two tracks used to address Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) concerns:

- Track 1 focuses on the basic skills for the rural poor to improve family income and help reduce poverty.
- Track 2 focuses higher level industrial development skills. It is setup to meet industrial demand for qualified skilled labor workforce.

The skills training programs offered by these two tracks include formal and non-formal training methodologies and funding support could be obtained through the Samdech Techo Fund or the National Training Fund.

Formal Training Courses

- Certificate Level I, II, and III
- Diploma Degree
- Bachelor Degree

Non-Formal Training

- Skills Bridging Program
- Apprenticeship Training
- Voucher Skill Training Program
- Special Training Needs
- Post-harvest Technology

However, according to a 2010 World Bank report, TVET Institutes face many challenges including matching employees’ skills with employers’ demand – there is disconnection between what the employers need and training provided. While 77 per cent of employers express their willingness to contribute technically to the TVET curriculum development, 86 per cent are reluctant to make financial contribution. Some 45 per cent of employers widely recognized the lack of dialogue to improve matters, while 21 per cent perceived low benefits of cooperating. Poor curriculum, poor linkages, lack of quality lecturers, inadequate infrastructure, and lack of funding were also cited as obstacles to TVET development in Cambodia.

With that being said, in a 2008 survey by the International Labor Organization and the Cambodian Federation of Employers and Business Associations (CAMFEBA) showed that 50 per cent of high school students intended to continue their academic studies at the university level, 30 per cent aims to find jobs, 17 per cent

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Report Writing on Quality Assurance

By Dr. Y Ratana

From 4-8 November 2013, Dr. Y Ratana (Dean of Undergraduate Studies Division and Director of the Academic Foundation Year Department) joined 71 other participants from Accreditation Committee of Cambodia (ACC), UNESCO representatives, assessors, and representatives from other Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in a three-day plenary workshop called “Report Writing on Quality Assurance,” organized by ACC. The meeting was presided over by Excellency Ing Virak Cheat (Secretary of State, Cabinet Council of Ministers and member of Supreme National Council of Education), Mr. Samon Thiya (Secretary-General of ACC), and a representative from UNESCO.

The aim of the workshop was to share experiences from different ACC and HEIs’ assessors on quality report writing and self-assessment evaluation of higher education institutions. This quality report writing is also good for internal quality assurance of all higher education institutions.

During the workshop participants were divided into five groups. Each group worked together to share their knowledge and understanding of the assessment mechanism, evaluation procedures, assessment indicators, and overall assessment in order to better enhance the knowledge of assessors about evaluation tools and indicators. The workshop main discussion focused on the format of assessors’ assessment report writing, methodology of assessment, and general report writing.

The workshop provided ACC with better knowledge and understanding on quality report writing and self-assessment evaluation conducted by assessors. Benefits from the workshop included:

- Understanding more clearly about the mechanism and procedures of evaluating institutional accreditation;
- Understanding more clearly on contents of the report and quality report writing, and ways of report writing on institutional accreditation;
- Learning about the experiences in preparation and self-assessment report writing for institutional accreditation;
- Understanding what kind of report of institutional accreditation should be; and
- Other related issues about instructional accreditation assessment and recognition.

ACC is in the process of moving from the Cabinet Council of Ministers to the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports. Mr. Samon Tiya and Mr. Ing Virak Cheat said that “ACC will continue to play an important role in higher education, nation building, and enhancing assessors mechanism and procedures.” ACC intends to setup another workshop to train HEIs on writing self-assessment reports and assessment reports for institutional accreditation.

This workshop was a follow-up on last year’s workshop on quality assurance of APQN. Since then ACC has begun the paperwork to implement six minimum standards for Foundation Year programs for accreditation recognition and 9 minimum standards for whole institutional accreditation recognition. However, the implementation lacks practicality. UNESCO is pleased with the work progress that has been made by ACC and HEIs in Cambodia to enhance the quality education and best practice. UNESCO aims to continue to support ACC and HEIs work to improve education.

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at
www.uc.edu.kh

How Intangible Human Capital of Self-Esteem and Motivation Impact Their Perception of Economics, Political, and Social Environment in Cambodia

By Dr. Sovathana Sokhom



Dr. Sovathana Sokhom leads a UC team of researchers (Dr. Y Rantana, Mrs. Gina Lopez, Mr. Pay How, Mr. Sam Sophorn, Mr. Hok Ly, Mr. Chum Chandarin, Ms. Seng Ra) to investigate and understand “How Intangible Human Capital of Self-Esteem and Motivation Impact Their Perception of Economics, Political, and Social Environment.” The one year research project is conducted in joint cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports’ Department of Higher Education Quality and Capacity Improvement Project (HEQCIP) and the University of Cambodia.

The project looks at how the use of motivation can help influence students’ economical, political, and social experiences. The project anticipates enlisting 2,200 student participants. A group of 1,100 student participants will be placed in a treatment group, which will receive three hours of motivation and self-esteem training. The other 1,100 student participants will be placed in a control group with no motivation and self-esteem training. All student participants are then asked to fill out a survey - three surveys will be conducted throughout the course of the research study. The surveys will be used to evaluate the impact of the Self-Esteem and Motivation training on students’ economical, political, and social perceptions.

It is hoped that the project will benefit participants by strengthening their self-esteem, thus their capacity as students and confident young adults. The research project started in November 2013 and will end in December 2014. Analyses and results of the study will be publicly announced the end of next year.

The University of Cambodia encourages and supports faculty and student research into vast field areas to help improve learning, knowledge, and human conditions to build a brighter tomorrow.

Best Practices in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics in Cambodian Higher Education Institutions

By Gina Lopez

For years, the Royal Government of Cambodia has relentlessly worked toward rebuilding Cambodia from year zero. With its win-win policy in place Cambodia is stable and at peace. For the past two decades Cambodia has enjoyed vibrant economic growth and development. As part of the rectangular strategy, the Royal Government’s long-term strategic vision aims to shift and expand Cambodia from agriculture, garments, and tourism to a broad –based industrial and technology-oriented economy. In one attempt to make this vision a reality, the Directorate General of Higher Education organized the Workshop on “Best Practices in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).”

The Workshop is part of the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports’ comprehensive approach to promote STEM in higher education, build quality human resources, and stimulate economic development in the field of science and technology. Three key presenters from the United States, including Dr. Karen Inkelas (Director of Center for Advanced Center for Advanced Study of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education), Dr. David Feldon (Director of STEM Center), and Mr. Christopher Rates (Research Assistant in STEM Education, led discussion to help stimulate dialogue among participants.

The University of Cambodia representatives Ms. Gina Lopez (Associate Dean of the College of Management) and Mr. Teav Chhun Nan (Associate Dean of the College of Science and Technology) joined

other universities' representatives (lecturers, instructors, curriculum developers and management) from across Cambodia, along with MoEYS representatives seeking to improve and encourage students in the area of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

“This event also highlights your commitment in promoting STEM in higher education so that quality human resources can be produced to serve new tend of economic growth and national development,” said Dr. Nith Bunlay (Deputy Director General of Higher Education) in his opening remarks.

Dr. Nith also highlighted challenges faced by higher education institutions (HEIs). “In addition to skill mismatch, Cambodia Higher Education is facing various other challenges in transforming HEIs from instruction-oriented to also research and service-oriented institutions...university graduates do not possess sufficient soft skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, team building, and communication skills...lack of research funds, the lack of capital to improve learning and teaching facilities and infrastructure, and lack of qualified and experienced faculty are among the main challenges.”

The Workshop objectives were to identify, analyze and adapt a suitable curriculum, materials and other learning tools for STEM in Cambodia HEIs; prepare instructors, lecturers and other people involved in developing and improvement of curriculum and teaching materials for a better learning approach; and to be able to increase the number of enrolment in higher education institutions in Cambodia particularly in STEM.

The five day workshop focused on the following practical sessions:

- Discussion with participants
- Current Cambodian context
- Strategies to promote awareness and encouragement of STEM fields to students prior to college
- Discussion with audience
- Debunking myths about learning
- Instructional design
- Participant activity
- Developing learning objectives for your course
- Syllabus construction
- Utilizing learner-centered approaches
- Problems with implementation and overcoming

barriers

- Group discussion on STEM Action Plans
- Reporting on STEM Action Plans

Workshop participants explored trends, challenges, shared experiences, and attempted to find solutions to increase STEM enrolment to help promote Cambodia's industrial development. Participants discussed, analyzed and agreed to integrate the learning and approaches shared by the speakers in a suitable manner. Participants were expected promote and enhance students' participation in the field of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics in their respected institutions. In addition, participants were expected to assist in linking academic STEM studies to market demand for qualified human resources focused on STEM, in order to enhance Cambodia's development into the science and technology sector. At the end of the Workshop MoEYS distributed evaluation forms aimed at helping to assist the HEIs to enhance their capacity to offer better learning. The MoEYS has more workshop and seminars planned to continue the improvement and development process of the HEIs in Cambodia in terms of STEM and other related aspects of education.



Ms. Gina Lopez with Mr. Chun Nan

intends to study in TVET institutions, while the other 2 per cent will help their family.

The University of Cambodia could capitalize on TVET program by strengthening the curriculum development in both the College of Management and the College of Science and Technology to target private sector's needs. The aim in doing so is to attract the 50 per cent of high school students who intends to pursue higher education at the university level. The University could also push forth an international language center focus on various international business languages used throughout the world.

All-in-all, I believe that the above should be strategically linked to UC Career Development Center. Where the Career Development Center's function can be to help prepare students for the job market and link job market demand with university labor supply.

Foundation Year Entrance Examination Academic Year: 2013-2014



By Dr. Y Ratana and Song Sophoat

On November 5, 2013, Mr. Kong Dina (official from Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports) joined Dr. Sokhom Sovathana (Vice President for Academic Affairs), Dr. Y Ratana (Dean of School of Graduate Studies), Mr. Song Sophoat (Deputy-Director of AFD), Mr. Sam Sophorn (Assistant of VPAs), and Ms. Sar Sinat (Assistant of HR Office) to invigilate the entrance examination for the Foundation Year Program, promotion 12, Term I in academic year 2012-2013 at the University of Cambodia. This examination was organized by the University of Cambodia and authorized by MoEYS.

The entrance examination covered the following six Colleges: Arts and Humanities, Education, Law, Management, Science and Technology, and Social Sciences.

The examination process was well organized and was in accordance to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. After correcting students' entrance exams, the results were submitted to MoEYS for approval. Overall, the entrance exam was well organized and results were fairly good.

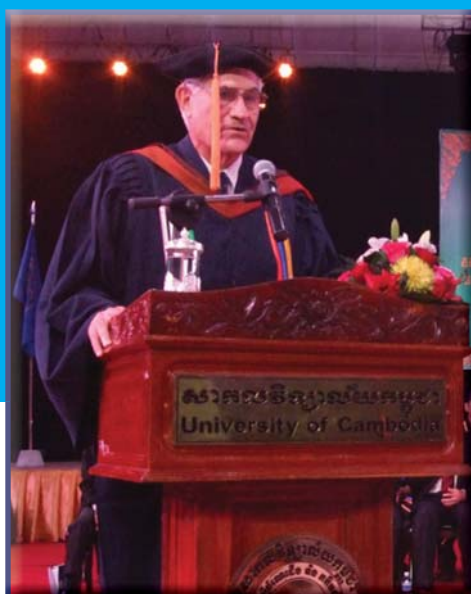
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Minister Naron Inspires Cambodian Education Reform



Lok Chumteav Khem Rany with Dr. Haruhisa Handa



Mr. Ralph A. Cossa - 2013 Recipient of UC Honorary Doctorate

In an inspiring keynote address, H.E. Hang Chuon Naron (Minister, Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport) acknowledged the many contributions of the University of Cambodia in producing qualified human resources for the country. H.E. Naron also provided his personal advice for success in study as follows:

1. Study rigorously your chosen major and improve your general knowledge ability;
2. The importance of quality teachers in transferring knowledge;
3. Strong support from parents and the environment; and
4. Life-long learning to keep with globalization and fast growing of knowledge and technology.

H.E. Naron also emphasized the commitment of the Royal Government of Cambodia towards quality of higher education, as stated in the third mandate of the rectangular strategies:

1. Enhance quality of examination from teacher college to general education and promote teachers status;
2. Reform education system;
3. Reform public and private higher education;
4. Enhance quality of education at all levels;
5. Develop technical skills for youth, particularly

those who have not completed general education (which account for around 63%); and

6. Reform physical education

After the speeches and keynote address, Dr. Haruhisa Handa conferred an Honorary Doctoral Degree in International Affairs on Mr. Ralph A. Cossa; a distinguished individual who has sought to promote peace and stability in the greater Asia-Pacific region. In his appreciation speech, Mr. Cossa noted that:

“the mind is like

a parachute.

It is important

to have a reliable one that

opens when you need it,

to be successful in life.”

Finally, H.E. Dr. Hang Chuon Naron, Dr. Haruhisa Handa, H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, and Lok Chum Teav Khem Rany conferred degrees to the 371 graduates in academic year 2012-2013.



AFD Orientation for New Students

By Song Sophoat

The Academic Foundation Department (AFD) of the University of Cambodia (UC) gave an orientation on the Foundation Year course training, policies and conditions to complete their undergraduate program and other general information for incoming students attending the University of Cambodia on November 21, 2013 at the Conference Center led by Dr. Y Ratana (Dean of School of Graduate Studies and Acting Dean of School of Undergraduate Studies and Director of Academic Foundation Department).

In his presentation, Dr. Y Ratana provided a brief history of AFD and the objectives of its establishment since 2005. He explained that the AFD program is aimed to help ensure academic quality of higher education at the University of Cambodia. AFD programs provide students with fundamental knowledge, through different courses from different fields of studies. He talked briefly about Accreditation Committee of Cambodia as being the national independent higher quality assurance body of higher education in Cambodia. He stated that the Academic Foundation Department complies with all conditions of the Accreditation Committee of Cambodia (ACC).

“The ACC acknowledged and recognized that the education provide by the University of Cambodia is of high quality and consistent with international standards,” said Dr. Y.

Dr. Y Ratana presented various topics regarding the Foundation Year program including Course

Requirements, Policy and Regulation, Changing Major and Study Session Policies, Subjects for Entrance Exam for Each College and Major, Structure of Foundation Year Courses, and the new programs for Khmer track.

He also encouraged students to study hard, complete all requirements for undergraduate program degree and become part of the well-educated and qualified human resources of Cambodia.

At the end of his presentation, Dr. Y advised students to follow up and keep updated on Foundation Year information provided on the board in front of AFD. The section closed with Dr. Y taking and answering a few questions from students.

“The ACC acknowledged and recognized

that the education provide by

the University of Cambodia

is of high quality education

and consistent

with international standards.”

ASEAN Accountants towards ASEAN Economic Community 2015

By Dr. Sovathana Sokhom

On Tuesday, 5th of November 2013, Dr. Sovathana Sokhom (Vice President of Academic Affairs) participated in the “18th AFA Conference on ASEAN Accountants towards ASEAN Economic Community 2015.” The main goal of the conference was to harmonize the accounting profession in ASEAN member countries. A total of eight guest speakers from the Philippines, Singapore, Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia and Cambodia helped facilitate the conference.

The financial crisis drastically reduced investor’s confidence in the financial sector that is poorly regulated. When audited the financial sector showed many flaws and irregular policy regulations. The challenge to rebuild the accountancy reputation, to adopt and implement international accountancy standard (get Professional Accountancy Organizations (PAOs) around the world to make a commitment to the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) through member-bodies), and to restore investor’s confidence still remain to be accomplished in many ASEAN member countries - as member-bodies are required to demonstrate compliance with international accountancy standards through Statements of Membership Obligations (SMOs).

According to International Standards for Accountancy, the following international standards are needed to restore investor’s confidence in the financial sector.

1. International Accounting Education Standards
2. International Auditing and Assurance Standards
3. International Public Sector Accounting Standards
4. International Financial Reporting Standards.

Based on the Statements of Membership Obligations, member ASEAN states are required to have a framework for credible and high quality professional accountancy organization. Also members are to have a clear benchmark to assure high quality performance by professional accountants. And, a monitoring tool on implementation of international standards by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC).

There are seven Statements of Membership Obligations (SMOs) that must be obliged by:

SMO 1 – Quality Assurance

SMO 2 – International Accounting Education Standards (IAES)

SMO 3 – International Assurance and Auditing Standards (IAAS)

SMO 4 – IESBA (International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants) Code of Ethics

SMO 5 – International Public Sector Financial Reporting Standards (IPSAS)

SMO 6 – Investigation and Discipline

SMO 7 – International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

(Source: Dean Estelita C. Aguirre, 18th AFA Conference, November 5, 2013, Phnom Penh, Cambodia).

What is relevant for the University of Cambodia is SMO 2 aimed at promoting International Accounting Education Standards (IAES). The University of Cambodia could promote Bachelor’s degree program emphasizing that UC accounting classes are conducted according to SMO 2.

CES Student Seminar on “An Exchange for Effective English Study”

By Pay How

The Center for English Studies (CES) organized a student seminar on “An Exchange for Effective English Study,” held at the University of Cambodia. The seminar provided the opportunities for 140 student participants to interact and learn practical methods to learn various language skills from 12 CES Student Alums and instructors including Chheng Sovannka, Bou Boeun, Dim Phirun, Roeurn Punnreay, Ven Moniroth, Vong Keovichet, Mao Chanraksmey, Keo Rottanakvisal, Soun Khanra, Sam Satyarith, Khin Sreyneath, Noun Somonika, Heng Savadey, Sok Sreymom, Kong Lina, and Kem Chantha.

The inspiring seminar provided much-needed learning tips to current students so they can be better at listening, speaking, reading, and writing English. Those tips included:

1. Predicting what the topic is going to be about
2. Listening for the main idea and not trying to understand everything
3. Keep writing short and simple
4. Control your shyness and fear during public speaking
5. Set a goal for what you are going to do, practice it again and again, and never give up

The seminar sought to improve students’ good and bad learning habits. Other helpful tips and advice given by alums and instructors included:

1. Good presentation requires rehearsal, a good knowledge of the topic, good preparation and good health
2. Avoid reading forwards and backwards, students have to summarize or write notes on the margin of the paper about what they have read, using their own words
3. Enjoy reading materials of your preference for pleasure



Director Pay How concluded that learners who have purpose and commitment will become active, confident, and successful in what they strive for. Furthermore, learners should identify and know their strengths and weaknesses, and select learning techniques which best fit their of learning styles. He also mentioned that knowing English is a passport to information and communication. Learning English does not end at CES, learning is lifelong.



CES seminar where students help students succeed

ASEAN-India Youth Exchange Program 2013

By Saya Linda



Miss Saya Linda (President of the University of Cambodia Student Senate) participated in the “ASEAN-India Youth Exchange Program 2013.” The program was hosted by the Federal Government of India and coordinated by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). There were 110 youths from five ASEAN member states (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia and Ma-

laysia) that participated in the exchange program. The exchange program aimed to promote ASEAN youth entrepreneur leadership, to enhance and strengthen the cooperation between ASEAN countries and India, and to promote cultural exchange between ASEAN and Indian students. Among these 110 delegates, there were 25 youths from Cambodia.

During the 10-day program, the delegates from Cambodia visited three cities – Cochin, Jaipur and New Delhi. During the first three days in Cochin city, there was a wide range of activities. First, delegates attended an introduction session about Cochin city and some Dos and Don'ts in India. Then all delegates went on to sight-seeing at Kerala Folklore, a three-style architectural museum, Kerala seashore, Christian churches and Cochin synagogue. The agenda also included visits to School for Community Management Study, Coir Company, and Greater Cochin Development Authority where we had the chance to interact with Indian students. We learned about Coir's products and its economic value. Also, we learned about GCDA's roles in developing Cochin city into an economic hub.

During the next three days in the city of Jaipur, Cambodian delegates visited JECRC, one of the leading college of Management and Engineering school in town. We learned about educational development in India. We were also briefed about the curriculum and facilities at JECRC, as well as an interaction session with its students. The next visit was to Lotus Dairy Enterprise where delegates learned about dairy industry in Jaipur, the company products, and production process in the factory. In addition, there was an interaction session with the Young India Committee (YIC), an institution for young Indian entrepreneurs aged 25-40 which focuses on nation building and individual development. The visit carried on to sight-seeing at two historical sites in the old city of Jaipur - Amber Fort and Jantar Mantar, as well as Chokhi Dhani, a cultural village, for a night out and dining. In the morning we departed to New Delhi for the Opening Ceremony and Gala Dinner.

(Continued on page 31)



ASEAN-JAPAN Youth Leader Forum: *Roles of Youth in the ASEAN-JAPAN Relation in the 21st Century* 30th November - 2nd December 2013

By Song Lin

Three UC student representatives, Miss Song Lin, Mr. Long Youpheng, and Mr. Lim Nguon joined 50 other ASEAN youth participants in the “ASEAN-Japan Youth Leader Forum: Roles of Youth in the ASEAN-Japan Relation in the 21st Century.” The primary aim of the Youth Leader Forum was to have Cambodia host the ASEAN-Japan Youth Leaders’ Forum as one of the commemorative activities to mark the 40th Anniversary of ASEAN-Japan Dialogue Relations in 2013. In addition, the Forum sought to further uphold the importance of people-to-people contracts and cultural exchanges in order to build mutual understanding and friendship between ASEAN and Japan. The Forum’s secondary objectives were to seek ASEAN-Japan Young Leaders’ perspectives on (1) political and security cooperation; (2) economic and financial cooperation; (3) socio-cultural cooperation; and (4) future directions and the role of youth in further deepening ASEAN-Japan relations.

In his opening remarks H.E. Im Koch emphasized the important role of youth in building societies in their individual countries, in building the ASEAN Community, as well as in promoting peace, security and prosperity in the region and the world at large. During the forum, youth recommended ASEAN and Japanese leaders to consider enlarging and extending the current scope of cooperation from the inter-governmental level to the community and people-to-

people levels, and providing a role for youth to play in regional development. After much discussion and brainstorming ASEAN-Japan youth leaders provided the following recommendations on the forum’s secondary objectives aimed at increasing youth participation in regional development.

1. Political and Security Cooperation

- Encourage the Leaders of ASEAN and Japan to continuously engage in development dialogues and consensus building;
- Encourage their governments to strengthen collaboration, promote understanding, education, and human rights among ASEAN and Japan youth;
- Suggest ASEAN member states and Japan promote youth participation in decision-making process through their representatives and the use of new age social network technology
- Suggest that youths should engage more in the area of non-traditional security (NTS) matters, including smuggling and migrations;
- Suggest linking Japan to existing mechanisms and bodies within ASEAN, as well as civil society organizations;

2. Economic and Financial Cooperation

- Recognize Japan’s contribution to economic

(Continued on page 30)



M E A S U R E S To Reduce Alcohol Consumption

By Saya Linda

Five students from the University of Cambodia including Ms. Lorn Thary, Ms. Eang Hangchannimol, Mr. Bun Penghuy, Mr. Leng Hywfi, Ms. Saya Linda participated in a “Recommendation Forum on Measures to Reduce Alcohol Consumption” organized by PDP Center at the Cambodia-Korea Cooperation Center, on October 14, 2013. The main objectives of the forum were to learn about the negative effects of alcohol on health and as a source of traffic accidents, and to find suitable measures to reduce alcohol consumption and traffic accidents.

The forum was divided into two sessions. The first session was a presentation on the effects of alcohol consumption, the consumption of alcohol at the present time, and how to reduce it. The second session provided the opportunity for participants from various stakeholder organizations, including NGO representatives, Ministry of Health, and student associations to raise their concerns at the government level, so that Cambodia can move toward reducing the alcoholic consumption and traffic accidents.

After the brainstorm session, a representative from the NGOs collected participants’ suggestions and read the collection of ideas out. The group suggested the following recommendations to be the most effective measures to reduce alcohol consumption, alcohol related accidents.

RECOMMENDED

MEASURES

1. Reducing the number of alcohol commercials on TV
2. Increasing tax on alcohol products
3. Specificity of alcohol selling shops – only registered and licensed liquor stores are able to sell alcohol products

The NGO representative promised that the gathered information and concerns relating to alcohol consumption and traffic accidents and ways to reduce it, will be raised at the government level, so that we can work towards reducing alcohol related accidents.

We learnt a lot about the bad impacts of alcohol consumption on health and as the main source of traffic accident in Cambodia. Moreover, some possible measures to reduce alcohol consumption were raised and were expected to be brought into the panel discussion between NGOs and the government. We certainly hope that the government would consider our concerns and use our suggestions to develop policy that makes our road safe.

RISK FACTORS

on Driving with No Helmet and Under Alcohol Influence

Influencing exposure to risk
Influencing crash involvement
Influencing crash severity
Influencing post-crash injury outcomes

By Saya Linda

Miss Saya Linda (President of University of Cambodia Student Senate) participated in a two-day workshop called “Risk Factors on Driving with No Helmet and Under Alcohol Influence” at Royal University’s Cambodian-Korean Cooperation Center. The workshop was organized in joint cooperation with the Union of Youth Federation in Cambodia (UYFC) and the National Road Safety Committee and supported by the Global Road Safety Partnership. Forty-five participants, including members of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS) and various university representatives participated in the workshop.

SAFETY TIPS

The Workshop objectives were to train participants to be aware of, pay attention to, and disseminate information on the causes of traffic accidents. The focus was to raise awareness on the risk of not wearing safety helmets and the danger of driving under the influence of alcohol, in order to reduce traffic accidents.

The content of the program main focused on Risk Factors on Driving with No Helmet and Under the Influence of Alcohol. The Workshop program consisted of five main sessions:

- Risk factors in driving with no helmet
- Risk factors in driving under alcohol influence
- Law implementation on driving with no helmet and alcohol influence
- Ten key actions for road safety
- A group discussion on the MoEYS internal regulations over risk factors on driving with no helmet and under the influence of alcohol.

At the end of the program, each participant received a certificate acknowledging their participation in the “Risk Factors on Driving with No Helmet and Under Alcohol Influence” workshop. This certifies participant members to be qualified individuals to disseminate workshop information and speak about workshop content at their workplace and in the general community to help reduce traffic accidents.

Always wear a certified helmet
And never ride a motorbike under the influence of Alcohol
And don't let family or friends drive drunk
Wear bright protective clothing
Avoid driving too close to others
Obey and maintain the speed limit

Using a Helmet to Protect Your Life from Traffic Accident

By Min Seiha



Mr. Min Seiha (Associate Dean for the College of Social Sciences) joined Major Gen Kim Yindeth (Deputy Director of Center Department of Public Order and Deputy Secretary General of National for Road Safety Committee), Mrs. Som Serivath (Deputy Director of Human Resources Department of Cambodian Red Cross), Brigadier General Ty Long (Deputy Director of Order, Ministry of Interior), and Mr. Sim Santran (Representative of Red Bull Company) in a workshop entitled “Using a Helmet to Protect Your Life from Traffic Accident.”

The workshop, supported by Red Bull, was conducted at UC conference center. The purpose of the work-



shop was to raise awareness in wearing safety helmets and obeying traffic laws for staff and students of the University. Students and staff participants each received a safety helmet for their participation in the workshop.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Min Seiha raised concerns on the importance of people being aware of road safety procedures. The Royal Government of Cambodia has been actively involved in campaigning for better road safety conditions. The RGC slogan is “today and tomorrow do not cause traffic accident.” Mr. Min also highlighted the causes and consequences of traffic accidents. He noted that one way to prevent serious traffic accident is by wearing helmets properly.

Major General Kim Yindeth and Brigadier General Ty Long showed the current situation on traffic accidents in Cambodia. They mentioned that for the most part people carelessly wear safety helmets. They updated everyone about the new re-adoption of the traffic law which requires all commuters driving a motor bike to wear safety helmets.

After short welcome speeches from Mrs. Som Serivath and Mr. Sim Santran, a speaker from Cambodian Red Cross presented a photo presentation on the real situation of traffic accident in Cambodia. Towards the end of the presentation the Cambodian Red Cross representative illustrated how to properly use safety helmets to all the participants.

A comedy show on “advantages of a helmet” helped engrain the workshop’s message on the importance of awareness of traffic laws. At the close of the workshop Red Bull Company provided 150 safety helmets to participants.

UC Supports Staff Capacity Building in the People's Republic of China



By Sry Kimhong

Mr. Sry Kimhong (Administrative Assistant of the University of Cambodia) received a Chinese government scholarship through the University of Cambodia to pursue a Master's in Corporate Management at Shanghai University. The scholarship is fully funded by the Chinese government, covering tuition fee, and accommodation, with a living allowance for a period of three years, from August 2013 to July 2016.

The aim of the scholarship is to help build the capacity of young Cambodian managers in order to return and help Cambodia develop.

During the first 18 months of the program, Kimhong will need to complete all his major course work. The remaining year and half will be used to

do field research, write up a research paper, and defend his Master's thesis. There is a possibility of having his research published in a scholarly journal.

Mr. Sry Kimhong has worked for the University of Cambodia as part of UC's dynamic administration team since October 2011. The University is proud to support Mr. Sry Kimhong in his academic endeavors. His pursuit of knowledge will not only bridge Cambodian and Chinese cultural differences, but bond the University of Cambodia to the People's Republic of China.

"I am very grateful for the opportunity the University of Cambodia and the Chinese government have provided me for staff capacity building, inside and outside of the country, in order to enhance my education, skills, and experiences," said Kimhong.

The Best Way to Achieve the Korean Dream

By Song Lin



International Relations students of the University of Cambodia Ms. Song Lin and Ms. Saya Linda attended a public lecture called "The Best Way to Achieve the Korean Dream."

It was presented by Mr. Jong-kil (Founder and President of the Korea International Student Association) and aimed to inform international students on the life in Korea and to guide international students on how to apply to study in Korea.

In his presentation Mr. Jong-kil explained why Cambodian students should choose Korea as a place to study. He stressed several points such as:

- There are scholarships available to international students, provided or supported by the Korean Government
- Academic lectures are conducted in English, which makes it easier for international students to pursue their academic endeavors in any field of study
- Great opportunity to participate in international exchange, sharing one's own culture and learning about the culture and traditions of Korea.
- There is an ASEAN-Korea center which aims to bridge divides between ASEAN member states and Korea.

UC Associate Dean Receives ASEAN Visiting Fellowship Award

By Chheang Sangvath

Mr. Chheang Sangvath (UC Associate Dean for College of Education and Director for Office of Student Academic Affairs) received an ASEAN Visiting Fellowship Award to attend Mahidol University's Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities program in Thailand. The fellowship program is for a duration of 6 months, starting from December 1, 2013 to May 31, 2014. The fellowship is part of Mahidol University program aimed at promoting faculty capacity building in teaching, research, and management at the post graduate level, in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities.

Also the program is designed to help Mr. Chheang integrate and prepare for his academic pursuit of a Ph.D. Last year, Mr. Chheang was accepted into the Doctor of Education Program in Educational Management from Mahidol University. Starting from January 2014 until December 2016, he will be working to perfect his professional and personal

capacity in the educational sector to earn his Doctorate Degree.

During twelve years working with Higher Education Institutions, Mr. Chheang has been involved in teaching, research, evaluation, curriculum development, and other administrative work. At the completion of his program, he will return to the University of Cambodia, share and use his knowledge and experience to help the country constructive develop. The University of Cambodia partially funds the program and fully supports Mr. Chheang's pursuit of his personal and professional development.

In addition, Mr. Jong provided tips on how to successfully adjust and adapt to life in Korea. He focused on three main areas:

1. How to prepare for study in Korea.
2. How to enjoy Korean life style.
3. How to get a job after study in Korea.

In the next 20 to 30 years there will be a decline in Korean student enrolment. The Korean government's plan is to supplement student demand with international student enrolment. By providing scholarships to ASEAN member states, it not only helps increase student enrolment, also diversifies the Korean student body and diversifies perspectives and experience of ASEAN-Korea students studying in all Korean universities.

Students interested in applying for a scholarship to study in Korea should be on the lookout for scholarship opportunities provided by the Korean government through their respected universities, follow KINSA online at www.kinsa.org, and do their own personal research and apply directly to Korea universities of their interest.

The University of Cambodia Introduces KHMER TRACK to its academic program in 2013.

We are keeping our original degree programs (taught through the medium of English) as the international track. We are introducing selected parallel programs taught in Khmer: the quality is the same, so the only difference in the KHMER TRACK is the language of instruction. And there will be other changes to follow...!





UC International New Year Celebration

By Saya Linda

On Sunday 29th December 2013, the University of Cambodia Student Senate (UCSS) celebrated International New Year with the greater UC Family at the University of Cambodia. The celebration, organized under the title “Great UC Family: Memory and Charity,” was led by Miss Saya Linda (President of UCSS). The objectives of this celebration were to promote prosperity and show off the University of Cambodia’s best student talents. It was a great opportunity for UC students, lecturers, staffs and management team to come together and enjoy student activities produced by UCSS. It helped mark the end of a successful 2013 year and welcome in the 2014 new year.

Not only did the event created a sense of unity and belonging, but it also enhanced UC students community outreach program by raising funds for Taramana organization to build their capacity to help children living in the slum areas. The community social event was a wonderful opportunity for all to learn and

share in the cultural diversity of Cambodia.

Traditionally, the University of Cambodia celebrate International New Year celebration at the end of December to mark the end of a successful year and launch the beginning of a vibrant new one. This International New Year event, in particular, was held on Sunday evening. Dynamic performances from UC students included songs, dance performances, and a group dance from kids from Taramana organization waw among the highlights of the evening.

H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn (President of the University of Cambodia) and Her Excellency Khem Rany (Director-General of SEATV) formally opened the ceremony. The formal program began with welcoming speech from Miss Saya Linda (President of University of Cambodia Student Senate) and was followed by a Keynote addressing by H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn (President of the University of Cambodia). Afterwards, there were many activities set forth in the agenda including blessing dance, songs and group performances from UC students. Special

performances by guest stars from Hang Meas production such as Mr. Alex Chentra, Mr. Manith, Miss Tep Boprek, Mr. Zono, and Miss Chhet Sovanpanha made the event memorable and enjoyable.

It was such a joyful and a successful event that catered to more than 600 participants including students, faculty, staff, and members of the general public. Nine booths set up by UCSS for our UC students to sell different kinds of goods such as meatballs, drinks, souvenirs, magazines, etc. Fifty percent of sales proceeds and additional financial gifts from H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn and H.E. Khem Rany were donated to Taramana organization, whose objective is to provide quality education and health services to poor children from Boeung Salang slum area so they can have a better future.



FREE LAPTOP COMPUTER COMPETITION!



December 2013 - January 2014

After much deliberation, Mr. Thorng Movtech (from the College of Social Science) and Mr. Rim Nalo (from the College of Science and Technology) won a heat competition for laptops.

It was First Come, First Serve! 80 UC undergraduate students competed for free laptops.

In cooperation with PTC Computer Technology Ltd., the University of Cambodia organized a competition to test student's understanding of Information Technology and General Knowledge. The top two highest performing students received a brand new "TOSHIBA" laptop.

The competition for free laptops were being conducted in 30 universities throughout Cambodia, on behalf of Excellency Hun Manet, in efforts to help advance student's knowledge and understanding of information technology. A total of 60 laptops were given out to the top two performers from each university.



2013 China-ASEAN Vocation Educational Exhibition and Forum

Cambodia were mentioned.

Mr. Du Zhanyuan (Deputy Ministry, Ministry of Education of China) and speeches by Mrs. Li Kang (Vice Governor of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region) and Mr. Chaturon Chaisang (Minister, Ministry of Education of Thailand) opened the Exhibition and Forum in the afternoon. An elaborate ceremony was conducted which included cultural shows, artwork displays, and technological innovations of the local students of Guangxi vocational institutions were also showed off. The event also included a vocational exhibition, with of more than forty booths representing various universities and vocational institutions from ASEAN who are collaborating with the vocational institutions in Guangxi.

On the following day, the China-ASEAN Vocational Education Forum was conducted. Mrs. Li Kang (Vice Governor of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region) gave an overview about the historical and socio-economical background of Guangxi and its major task to carry out a state-level pilot program on TVET in the eastern part of China. Mr. Ge Daokai (Director General of Department of Vocational Education and Adult Education of Ministry of Education of People's Republic of China) noted that there was commitment by the Chinese government in developing and reforming of TVET. Mr. Ge emphasized that there is a need for an improved master plan, reform from quantity-oriented approach to quality-oriented approach, build collaboration between vocational schools and business, identify strategic direction, and build collaborations with ASEAN on TVET.

Minister Im Sethy emphasized a need of building modern Cambodian TVET programs taking into account for various factors such as globalization of trade and employment; the mobility of labor forces; the integration of Cambodia into the ASEAN community in 2015, value, relevant and responsiveness of the programs. H.E. Sethy also noted that the success of China's TVET is a good lesson for the region and he also stressed that Cambodia will continue to collaborate with China with respect to TVET.

By Sam Sophorn

Representing the University of Cambodia Dr. Sokhom Sovathana (Vice-President for Academic Affairs) and Mr. Sam Sophorn (Assistant to Vice-President for Academic Affairs) joined a Cambodian delegation from the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports (MoEYS) in attending the 2013 China-ASEAN Vocational Education Exhibition and Forum at Nanning, Guangxi Autonomous Region. The Cambodian delegation was led by H.E. Im Sethy (Minister of MoEYS). It aimed to promote educational collaboration between Cambodian and Chinese higher education institutions.

The University of Cambodia attended the event with two main purposes. The first was to promote UC's programs and achievements over the last 10 years to Chinese educational institutions. The second was to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Guangxi University of Foreign Language for educational collaboration in various areas including exchanges of faculty, researchers, students, cultural traditions, academic information, co-organization of academic seminars and other opportunities as appropriate. All-in-all, there were more than twenty MOUs signed between China and ASEAN vocational institutions aimed at promoting educational collaboration in the Asia region.

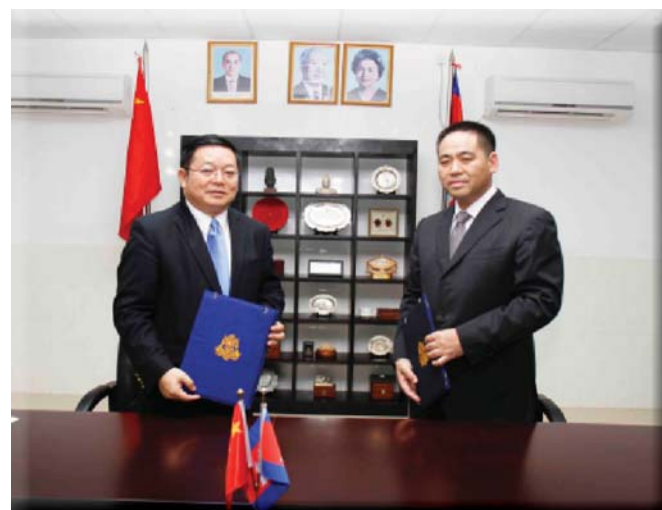
H.E. Tauch Choeun (Director General of Youth, MoEYS) led a Cambodian educational team that included Dr. Sokhom Sovathana, Mr. Sam Sophorn and other three officials from MoEYS on a visit Guangxi University of Foreign Languages (GUFL). Mr. Zhou Zhaoxiang (President of GUFL) and Ms. Li Lu (Vice President of GUFL) hosted a meeting to discuss the current situation regarding Cambodian Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET). Talk of possibly setting up of a joint Confucius Institute and Chinese-Cambodian Culture Research Center in

Technology Boom Hits UC

In the attempt to promote and strengthen cooperation in the field of information technology the University of Cambodia and Taiji Computer Corporation Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding.

In an afternoon signing ceremony, the MOU was signed by University President, Dr. Kao Kim Hourn and Vice President of TCCL, Mr. Wang Xinzhong in the presence of representatives from both institutions. The signing establishes a cooperative working relationship between UC and TCCL. Under this Memorandum, UC and TCCL aims to enhance technological capacity building of the University of Cambodia staff, faculty, and students.

The University aims to be a pioneer and leader in the field of technology. This cooperative relationship with one of China's leading private sector information technology and computer software companies is a stepping stone towards build a state of the art University of Cambodia campus where technological innovation drives knowledge and understanding.



"It is a great honor for UC to have signed this MOU with TCCL, which is one of China's prominent and highly reputed private computer companies that supports and encourages technological innovation,"
said Dr. Kao.

Taiji Computer Corporation Limited is based in Beijing, China and is listed on Shenzhen Stock Exchange. The company provides industry solutions and services, information technology (IT) consulting, IT product value added services, IT infrastructure services, and IT services primarily in China. The company principally offers industry application software development, IT fundamental construction, system integration, and system operation maintenance services. Its IT consulting services comprise IT planning and design, business consulting, enterprise resource planning implement consulting, IT service management consulting and training, platform

construction consulting, and IT services management platform implement consulting, as well as integration disaster recovery consulting services and others. The company primarily serves government, finance, energy, metallurgy, media, and other industries. For more information on the company visit www.taiji.com.cn.

development;

- Consideration issues related to labour movement, free flow of goods and services, investment and agreement implementation;
- Raise awareness as well as enhancing the linkages to maximize the economic and financial benefits of both parties;
- Consider youth potential in the labour market – work to link educational to economic opportunities for the youth;
- Recognize that each country will do its best to meet regional standards and regulations in order to be competitive in the market;

3. Socio-Cultural Cooperation

- a. Recommend to continue efforts of promoting belonging of an Asia community without barrier and prejudice among ASEAN-Japan youth of ASEAN;
- b. Recommend incorporation youth participation in helping preserve of cultural heritage within ASEAN and Japan regions through cultural exchange programs;
- c. Continue to promote ASEAN and Japan socio-cultural cooperation to enhance Asia values;
- d. Recommend to follow up on forum's action plan to enhance relations of ASEAN and Japan youth;

4. Future Direction

- a. Propose to engage youth in the political-security arena such as counter-terrorism, human trafficking issues, and conflict resolution and prevention;
- b. Promote gender equality and women empowerment by engaging women in every sectors of the economy;
- c. Promote youth capacity building, especially at the grass-root level;
- d. Propose to jointly address common regional challenges such as healthcare, environment issues, women and children empowerment, urbanization, food security, disaster management, and climate change;
- e. Continue encourage knowledge sharing and technology transfer to narrow the intellectual property right gap;

The Forum reiterated the important role of youths in raising awareness, identifying challenges, and making recommendation to enhance ASEAN-Japan development. ASEAN and Japan youth have important roles to play in society development. In order to have a lasting future youth perspective matters. Vibrant youthful ideas can help contribute to building a prosperous Asia community.

UC Professor Sokhom Presents Research Paper

By Dr. Sovathana Sokhom

On the 11-14th July 2013, Dr. Sovathana Sokhom traveled to the United States to attend the 22nd IAFPE Annual Conference on “Feminist Economists’ Perspectives on Women’s Education and work Across the Globe.” At the conference held at Stanford University, Dr. Sokhom and Dr. Moana Vercoe (her co-author) presented their scholarly research paper entitled “From Self-Esteem to Generalized Social Trust and perceptions of Political Efficacy: Experimental Evidence from Cambodia.”

Cambodia is classified as a Least Development Country. In addition to the challenges of low socioeconomic and human development, Cambodia is emerging from a history of protracted conflict and atrocity. It faces additional challenges related to the psychological impact of trauma on its population. Many of the countries classified by the United Nations as Least Developed Countries (LDCs) share histories of violence, often from sources within those countries. The legacy of violence creates additional barriers to economic growth, political transition and social development.

Their paper presented findings from an experimental study conducted in Cambodia by examining the relationship between self-esteem, interpersonal trust and perceptions of political efficacy. Results showed that a single session of self-esteem and motivation training resulted in significantly higher ($p < 0.05$) scores on self-esteem and this had flow on effects on political efficacy measures. These results suggest that training interventions can enhance self-esteem and self-efficacy, and may be a mechanism for promoting greater accountability in the political systems of LDCs attempting to escape the post-conflict poverty trap.

There were many activities during the conference including a pre-conference workshop focused on "Introduction to Feminist Economics." In addition, there were concurrent sessions offered throughout the conference including sessions on:

- Women's Work
- The Third Stage of Microfinance
- Moving Towards Full Empowerment
- Framing International Development Strategies
- MDGs and Beyond
- The Primary Education
- Gender in Post-Conflict Contexts

It was an honor to present this paper and to represent for the University of Cambodia. In addition, this gave me the opportunity to present a scholarly work on Cambodian issues on the international stage. We received positive feedback on our work from those who attended the panel.

The next IAFFE conference will be conducted on January 2-5, 2014. It will be convene at American Economic Association (AEA)/Allied Social Science Association (ASSA) conference in Philadelphia, PA.

(ASEAN-India Youth Exchange Continued from page 19)

The last days of the program were held in New Delhi where all delegates of the five ASEAN countries were together for the Opening Ceremony and Gala Dinner. The ceremony included an introduction about the program and cultural performances of each nation from ASEAN (Cambodia chose Coconut Dance) to. Then all delegates enjoyed the wonderful Gala dinner together. Afterthat, the main activities in Delhi were visit to Sona Company which is a company produces steering wheels for cars, where there was a brief presentation about the company, its market and future vision and production process in the factory; a visit to the Indian Institute for Foreign Trade, where all delegates had a chance to interact on the topic of trade relations between India and ASEAN and other countries, with two Indian professors specializing in globalization and international marketing; a visit to the Taj Mahal, the world famous Indian temple in Agra city; and, finally, a workshop on the topic "Strategic Partnerships ASEAN-India", organized by Foreign Service Institute of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). The workshop was facilitated by two honorable guests from MEA and FSI institute. The workshop considered India's current foreign policy related to trade and cooperation between India and ASEAN, and emphasized on the policy toward the upcoming ASEAN Integration 2015. There were questions about different aspects of society from each ASEAN country's youth. At the end of the workshop, representatives from each country of ASEAN presented their gifts to the Indian governor as a token of appreciation and thanks to the Federal Government of India for organizing this



wonderful program and the took group photos with all the delegates from five ASEAN countries.

The exchange program was great! I felt that the entire program, including the events and the activities were well organized. The program offered new insights and understanding to ASEAN and Indian youth that participated in the program. I am sure that we all benefited from listening and learning about innovative ideas during our experience that can potentially be integrated into developing our own respective countries. Beyond the program agenda, I found friendship among participants, learned and shared experiences, and gained a better understanding and respect for ASEAN and Indian people and culture. The program successfully achieved its overall objective, to strengthen ASEAN-India relations for future prosperity and success.

Regional Workshop on ‘Sustainable Development Goals: Priorities and Solutions’

by Dr. Angus Munro

Dr. Munro attended the above inaugural meeting of the Southeast Asia Regional Hub of the Sustainable Development Systems Network (SDSN) at the Westin Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The SDSN is an initiative of the United Nations under the direction of Professor Jeffrey Sachs of the Earth Institute (Columbia University) which aims to contribute to the establishment of a series of global Strategic Development Goals (SDGs), as the next step after the 2015 expiry of the programme for developing nations’ pursuit of their Millennium Development Goals. As such, the SDSN seeks to create a synergistic network of regional and national organisations for the entrenchment and thereafter the reinforcing of the four pillars for sustainable development (economic prosperity, social inclusion, environmental sustainability and good governance). The President of the University of Cambodia, Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, is a member of the SDSN South-east Asia Regional Board.

The purpose of the workshop was to give regional inputs to the relevant United Nations’ Open Working Group (OWG-SDGs) on a targeted framework of regionally-relevant (and hopefully globally-achievable) SDGs. It was co-organised by Professor Emeritus Dato’ Sri Dr. Zakri Abdul Hamid (Science Advisor to the Prime Minister, Malaysia; Chair, Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services; expert member of the newly-established Scientific Advisory Board of the UN Secretary-General, Ban-Ki Moon) and Sir Bob Watson (Sir Louis Matheson Distinguished Visiting Professor, Monash Sustainability Institute, Monash University; a past scientific advisor in the US White House’s Office of Science and Technology Policy, scientific advisor, manager and chief scientist at the World Bank, and chief scientific advisor to the UK Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs).

The meeting involved about 100 participants from ASEAN member countries and Australia (mainly from Monash University), as well as representatives of ADB, ANZ, UNDP and UNESCO. As such, it included contributions from governments, academia,

the business sector and other stakeholders from the region.

The following is my personal take on a few of the major items arising. The major conclusions, based on the individual presentations, are that:

- poverty and increasing inequality remaining a major issue which the SDGs should seek to rectify;
- the threat of climate change compounds the problem, in the face of governments’ inertia;
- education is a pre-eminent factor in promoting the quest for SDGs and their subsequent realisation (apart from human capital development in general: there is the need for promoting quality rather than just quantity, together with the promotion of life-long learning to prepare for the future);
- there is the need to expand social safety-nets, especially given the fact that the region is prone to natural disasters;
- local and national governance issues are important in different ways (for example, city governors from different countries can meet to discuss solutions to their problems, which might not be possible at the national level);
- there is the need for involvement of the private sector and also other stakeholders (so that all have a sense of ownership and can participate in the decision-making process);
- the media play an important role (but this may be destructive as well as constructive in the modern age) and, more broadly, effective communication is vital; and thus
- there is the need to responsibly embrace new technologies, including genetically-modified organisms and nuclear power (so that there is the need for balanced risk-assessment rather than knee-jerk reactions).

A document has been submitted, after due consultation with all participants, to the OWG-SDGs for consideration and inclusion, as appropriate, in their report to the UN General Assembly in late 2014. Arising out of the meeting, it is planned to launch the Cambodian Chapter of the SSDN, and the relevant office in the United Nations has been contacted accordingly.

Request for a Basic Science Laboratory

Robust growth over the past two decades has put Cambodia on the road to recovery. Industrial development calls for high-skilled workers to gain a competitive edge and continue Cambodia's development miracle. The University of Cambodia recognizes the critical need to cultivate new talent in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, with science as a cornerstone for the innovation and development necessary for Cambodia's progress into the 21st century.

But Cambodian students have a very poor background in basic science. In planning to rectify this deficit, the original plan was that all Bachelor's students at the University of Cambodia would do two science courses as part of UC's General Education programme (UC follows the US higher education system). The first was an introductory course (GSC101), which traces the evolution of the universe, from the 'Big Bang' through the creation of elements and then stars and planets, followed by an overview of the basics of Earth's physical and biological diversity. The second (GSC102) was a 40-hour laboratory-based course which would complement and reinforce the material covered in GSC101, including through the introduction of demonstrations of various physical and other concepts. However, whilst the courses were prepared in broad outline, they were never implemented: a major constraint was the lack of monies to furnish and finance a laboratory and teaching museum to permit the satisfactory running of the GSC102 component.

The University is thus seeking funding for a basic science laboratory with simple, relatively inexpensive equipment (e.g. microscopes, pH meters, ... : materiel already common-or-garden for high-school students from developed countries) in order to be able to launch GSC101 and GSC102 as components of an updated further revision of UC's General Education programme).

In addition, we are also seeking funding for a teaching museum, as a repository of biological and other materials, not only for GSC102 but also for other undergraduate and graduate courses (in particular, the proposed new Master's programme on Environmental Studies). Students would be actively involved in collecting and preparing materials for display, together with writing up their results: thus they would be given the chance to further develop their understanding of the course-work, as well as having the opportunity to further develop their soft skills.

Our long-term goal is to have a science and research facility to excite curiosity, develop skills of critical analysis, and allow for a blend of collaboration among scientific disciplines domestically and abroad. At the same time, it will help integrate theoretical teachings with practical research project methodology to increase engagement with students, teachers, and practitioners of the applied sciences.

The University's Phnom Penh campus is located on three and a half hectare of prime city real estate. A science and research facility would make a perfect addition to the University's initiative to help build society. The facility would be able to enhance teaching with research activities that supports interaction among students, faculty, and researchers and help build tomorrow's leaders.

By providing a science and research facility for students, faculty, and researchers a positive educational experience will help young people interested in pursuing engineering, mathematics, sciences and technology disciplines in college. An academic science and research facility can bring together educators from around the world to explore innovative methods of engaging students in the study of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The facility will represent an important step in establishing a more robust science culture among Cambodian students.

2013 UC ALBUM of ACTIVITIES



FOUNDATION

Request for Scholarship Funding

The University of Cambodia (UC) requests funding to support its UC Scholarship Program. A large majority of potential Cambodian university students are unable to afford the tuition fees to attend a local university, so the Scholarship Program is critical to alleviate this major obstacle to self-advancement. At the same time, funding for the Scholarship Program helps the University to cover its operating expenses and maintain its high academic standards.

Although much development progress has been made in the past two decades, the consequences of Cambodia's recent history continue to limit the formation and development of skills among Cambodian youth, particularly those most affected by exclusionary factors such as poverty, gender, ethnicity, and geographic remoteness. The UC Scholarship Program is a targeted effort to support the educational development of high-achieving Cambodian students across the country, so they can develop the necessary skills and competency to become knowledgeable employees and engaged citizens.

Because of the consequences of Cambodia's recent history, a large majority of Cambodian students need financial assistance to pursue and complete their higher degree programs and have other enriching educational opportunities. Roughly 80 percent of the 4,000+ students enrolled at UC are on full or partial scholarship, made possible by generous donors. The University anticipates that this figure will remain high for several years until a majority of Cambodian families are financially secure enough to make this investment on their own. Additionally, there are currently no government agencies or private institutions that offer student loans to Cambodian students to help them pay for university tuition, living expenses, or learning enrichment opportunities that include research, internships, and teaching.

The University is seeking financial and in-kind donations for more scholarships for needy students: as in the past, these targeted through competitive exams to impoverished students, students from rural areas, ethnic minority students, and female students.

Funding in the Scholarship Program will substantially help UC raise the standards for research, critical thinking, innovation, and problem solving—the ultimate goal is for UC students to be marketable not only in Cambodia, but also regionally and globally. By providing access to high-quality learning opportunities for students, as well as emphasizing fluency in the English language for students on the International Track, UC trains and prepares its students to make strong, positive contributions to Cambodian society through social and economic development.

If you would like to contribute to the UC Scholarship Program and give students across the country the opportunity to live their dreams and change lives, please contact UC Foundation representatives to help give a gift that matters most, a higher education.

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