



# The U.C. Bulletin

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**UC President H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn presented a graduation certificate to a graduating student.**

## AFD and CES Graduation

The University of Cambodia (UC) celebrated the eighth graduation of 347 students from the Academic Foundation Year program and 250 students from the Center for English Studies (CES) program on September 4, 2010, at the UC Conference Center. The event was jointly organized by the UC Academic Foundation Department (AFD) and CES.

In delivering his congratulatory remarks to students, Dr. Y Ratana (Dean for Undergraduate Studies and Director of AFD) noted that out of the 347 graduates, 34 students earned a “B+” average and will receive certificates for outstanding performance along with their certificates of completion, and nearly 40 percent of the graduates were young women. He also offered advice to the young graduates, encouraging them to learn from their weaknesses and from the strongest students for future academic success. After telling the graduates that learning is an endless process, Dr. Ratana offered his final words of advice to the students as they prepare to enter university life: “Learning through sharing and giving to one and another, learning through discussion, experiment, and writing—these are good meth-

ods for achieving in academia.”

Afterward, Mr. Pay How (Associate Dean for Arts and Humanities and Director of CES) praised CES students for completing the six levels of the program and encouraged them to utilize the three core values they gained through experiences at CES (knowledge, skills, and attitude) for the benefit of their future lives. Out of the 250 CES graduates, 104 of students were female, and a majority will enroll in the UC Academic Foundation Year program in Term I in October (an additional 29 students graduated from the CES program on September 10).

“We come from different parts of the country and world, but we all have the same goal, vision, and passion in education,” said Mr. Pay How. He continued, “Our goal is to prepare all students for university studies, employment opportunities, and leadership. And our challenge is to provide students the support they need to reach their goal in life.”

Sok Chhorda, a Business Management major in the College of Management and representative of AFD graduates, gave an address on the essential components of achieving high grades. She identified internal factors

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## UC Granted Full Accreditation by ACC

On September 10, 2010, the Accreditation Committee of Cambodia (ACC) announced that the University of Cambodia has been given full accreditation for another three years for its Foundation Year Program (FYP) based on its evaluation for AY 2009-2010. Essentially, our university has the right to issue Foundation Year Certificates for 2009-2010, 2010-2011, and 2011-2012. This decision was reached based on a consensus by ACC assessors, following a meeting that was held on September 3, 2010.

ACC recognized that the University of Cambodia complies with the six minimum standards, as stipulated in the Guideline

Book on Assessment Process of Foundation Year Program for Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). This year, 56 HEIs were assessed but only 50 institutions were granted "Full Accreditation" by the ACC. The other six HEIs were granted "Provisional Accreditation."

In the next few years, the University of Cambodia will continue to improve upon certain criterions of the Academic Foundation Department, with specific emphasis on the Strategic Plan and the establishment of even clearer benchmarks for measuring success among faculty and students. Other considerations will be addressed as appro-

priate.

By 2012-2013, the University of Cambodia will strive to meet the further requirements identified by the ACC, and submit an updated self-assessment report regarding the UC Foundation Year Program.

The University of Cambodia is excited to learn about this wonderful news. Certainly, the ACC process to meet the minimum standards is an important stepping stone in the right direction. We look forward to continue building on previous successes.



Left: Students crowded the UC main campus building to complete their scholarship applications.

## Students Compete for Samdech Techo Hun Sen's Vision-100 Scholarships

Between August 30 and September 30, 2010, the UC offices were inundated with recently graduated high school students applying for the Samdech Techo Hun Sen's Vision-100 Scholarships 2010. Roughly 5,400 students submitted the necessary application forms.

Students will take a competitive examination (which tests Khmer general knowledge and English proficiency) on October 3, 2010, to determine the hundred most academically outstanding applicants, who will

be offered a scholarship where their fees will be paid to allow them to study for an undergraduate degree at the University of Cambodia. The results will be made available on October 12, 2010.

The Samdech Techo Hun Sen's Vision-100 recipients can pursue their studies from a variety of majors in the Colleges of Arts & Humanities, Education, Law, Management, Science & Technology, and Social Sciences. The present scholarships are a continuation of the UC's previous Scholarship Programs,

which aim to identify exceptional students (through our own scholarship examination) who will help promote human resource development in Cambodia. These scholarships have been inspired by Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen, together with the generosity of Dr. Haruhisa Handa (Chancellor of the University of Cambodia) and Dr. Rikhi Thakral, Executive Director of the Thakral Group of Companies in Singapore.





**UC President H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn delivered his address at the AFD and CES graduation.**

*(Graduation - Continued from page 1)*

(self-awareness and family support), external factors (UC's Code of Conduct and teachers), and knowledge of English as crucial to student success. She also had two final recommendations for her fellow graduates: understand the benefits of each course taken, and aim for academic and personal life-balance.

Before presenting the certificates to the graduates, H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, UC President, congratulated students on their completion of the programs and delivered an eloquent motivational speech. He applauded their courage and commitment in pursuing a higher education, noting that learning in English is not easy for Cambodian students, but has many rewards for their future academic and career pursuits. In continuing their studies, these students join an esteemed intellectual learning community at UC and face competition from their peers, which Dr.

Kao encouraged them to embrace.

"Competition makes you stronger," he proclaimed. "It makes you aim to be the best at school and in the workplace, so welcome competition because, once you are the best, people will follow what you do."

At the end of his address, Dr. Kao delivered a powerful message to the students by encouraging them to work hard in school and in their profession so they can contribute to strengthening their families, communities, and this country.

H.E. Samraing Kamsan (Member of the UC Board of Trustees and Senior Advisor to UC President), Dr. Angus Munro (Vice President for Academic Affairs), and Mr. Peter Tan Keo (Vice President for Strategy, Development, and International Cooperation) assisted Dr. Kao in presenting graduation certificates to the happy students.



## *Editor's Note:*

From the very first day I stepped foot on the UC campus, I felt a spark of energy among the students, one of intellectual craving and curiosity.

And, all of a sudden, I remembered feeling that same craving and curiosity not too long ago during my own college years. I was interested in learning about anything and everything, ranging from my academic studies to the fine art of intellectual conversation with classmates and professors. I joined student organizations to explore my identity as a Southeast Asian American woman, and learned how to manage and plan events for my peers. The college experience provided me more than I could have hoped for—it allowed me to explore who I was and who I wanted to become while honing my academic skills.

College provided me an incredible opportunity: I learned how to learn, a skill I can use for the rest of my life. I learned how to think critically and how to take intellectual risks. I learned how to understand people from different backgrounds and how to share my own experiences and knowledge with others. More importantly, I learned that I should use my knowledge and skills to make positive contributions to my family, community, and this world.

When I look at UC students, I see so much potential in them. I hope the intellectual craving and curiosity they feel today continues far beyond their years at UC, and that our communities reap these benefits for generations to come. May these students be incredibly successful in their pursuit of knowledge, and may they share this in peace with others to make our families and communities stronger.

Seng-Dao Keo  
Editor, The UC Bulletin

# UC Welcomes Newest VP, Peter Tan Keo



Mr. Peter Tan Keo joins the University of Cambodia family, serving as Vice President for Strategy, Development and International Cooperation. In that role, he will be responsible for strengthening institutional capacity with a strategic eye for lateral and longitudinal growth.

He handles a broad portfolio. Mr. Keo will help shape new and existing policies to improve the standard and quality of education at the university. He has also been

tasked with the responsibility to implement The University of Cambodia School of Government and International Affairs and the College of Media and Communications. As an extension to previous engagements, Mr. Keo will identify and secure formidable partnerships with local, regional and international institutions of higher learning. To formalize said partnerships, Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) will be drafted and signed between both institutions.

“The University of Cambodia has strategically positioned itself to become the nation’s gold standard in higher learning,” said Mr. Keo. “I am incredibly eager to play a positive role in taking this promising university to the next level. My goal is to make this place the exemplar of academic excellence.”

His area of expertise covers a broad range of topics, including Education-Workforce Development, Public Policy, Socioeconomic Development, Poverty Reduction, and International Studies. He has many years of experience crafting and implementing policy issues.

Mr. Keo is in the final stages of completing his doctorate from Columbia University, where he is “All But Dissertation” (ABD). He holds a Master’s degree from Harvard University and another Master’s from The University of Chicago. He completed his B.A. in International Studies from the School of International Service, American

**“My goal is to make this place the exemplar of academic excellence.”**

PETER TAN KEO, UC VICE PRESIDENT OF STRATEGY, DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

University in Washington, DC.

In his spare time, Mr. Keo embraces the entrepreneurial spirit. He is also an avid tennis player, and enjoys reading non-fictional literary works of art.

# New Director of UC Foundation, Seng-Dao Keo

The University of Cambodia is pleased to announce that Mrs. Seng-Dao Keo will be joining the Office of the President. She is the new Director of the University of Cambodia Foundation, where she plays a leading role in meeting the growing operational demands of the university. Mrs. Keo will also spearhead the Center for Innovation and Critical Thinking. Through that, she will host a series of “Best Practices” workshops and presentations in order to sharpen young minds and prepare them for leadership roles in the real world.

“I really believe in the power and promise of education,” says Mrs. Keo. She adds, “I’ve chosen to work at the University of Cambodia because I believe that all students should have access to a high-quality education, and the students here can make significant positive contributions to this country and to this region of the world.”

As Director of the Foundation, Mrs. Keo will work hand-in-hand with UC President, Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, in order to identify, secure, and manage funds to enhance academic and non-academic programs

across the university. Among her many responsibilities include rolling out a twenty-four hour state-of-the-art library facility,



as an integral part of the new university campus. She will also serve as the Editor of the UC Bulletin. Mrs. Keo will help make the University of Cambodia a beacon of hope for the future leaders of tomorrow.

Mrs. Keo comes armed with years of practical experiences in management,

leadership, and teaching in under-served public school systems in the United States. Her areas of expertise include Student Leadership Development, Educational Theories on Teaching and Learning, Gender Equity Development, Innovation, Critical Thinking and Empowerment.

Mrs. Keo holds a B.A. in Economics (Cum Laude) from Harvard University. She also holds a Master’s degree in Education Policy and Management from Harvard University, and a Master’s in the Science of Teaching from Pace University. Prior to education, Mrs. Keo spent a few years working on the Mergers and Acquisition (M&A) Asia Pacific Team in the Investment Banking sector of J.P. Morgan Chase, based out of Hong Kong.

In her spare time, she enjoys being a life-long learner, reading, listening to music, and cooking for her family and friends.

She welcomes all recommendations from students and faculty members on how she can help improve school community and academic rigor for the University of Cambodia.



# Study Visit on Non-Formal Education



Mr. Chheang Sangvath, Associate Dean of the College of Education, and faculty members Mr. Chum Chandarin and Mr. Im Keun accompanied 55 UC students from the EDC402 class on a full-day study visit on August 27, 2010, to the Community Learning Center (CLC) in Teuk Poush District in Kampong Chhnang Province. The purpose of the visit was to examine different forms of education and learning opportunities outside of the formal school system, which is commonly referred to as non-formal education (NFE). In addition, students explored how NFE can improve the lives of marginalized groups in both developing and advanced countries, and observed administration flow and implementation of these programs at CLC.

By applying academic education theories to real world practices, the UC team of students and faculty members gained valuable skills and made important connections that will help them contribute to building a stronger education system in Cambodia. Equally important, students were able to strengthen

their relationships with community members and expand their network of education professionals and supporters through the organization.

After the event, Associate Dean Chheang Sangvath commented on the value of this experience, saying that students now have a deeper understanding of how to implement and organize a variety of NFE initiatives, which they will use in the future to improve the quality of education for both students and adult learners. Through the CLC presentation and field visit, students explored the major elements of the NFE system and will aim to use this learning experience to improve education policies, structures, and programs throughout Cambodia.

Along with other educational initiatives, the Cambodian government has adopted the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Education for All (EFA) as a part of its national plan in 2003 with a target date of 2015. Some core goals of EFA include ensuring that children (particularly those who are girls, impoverished, or ethnic mi-

norities) have free access to compulsory primary education of good quality, youngsters and adults have equitable access to life skills and learning programs, and gender disparities in primary and secondary education are eliminated.

Non-formal education is an important component of this plan as it targets the most disadvantaged populations in Cambodia who do not have access to high-quality formal education. The priorities of NFE include literacy programs for the youth and adults, education equivalency programs for out-of-school children and adolescents, job training programs for short-term income generation, and family education programs to promote early childhood development. Moreover, governmental and non-governmental organizations hope to build capacity within the different regions and integrate community-based learning methodologies to improve program effectiveness and sustainability.

# Best Undergraduate Students, Term II (2009-10)

BY DR. ANGUS MUNRO

Every term, we recognize the best of our undergraduate students, provided that they have done the minimum number of courses during that term: those who have scored an 'A' overall are nominated to the Vice-President's List, whilst those who have scored a 'B+' overall are nominated to the Dean's List.

Two male students, both in the College of Management where they are majoring in Economics, qualified for the Vice-President's List.

A total of 117 other students scored an overall 'B+' grade in Term II of Academic Year 2009-10; this represents about 8.9% of registered Bachelor's students, excluding those in their Foundation Year. The following table provides a breakdown by College.

**Table 1: Relative distribution of students on the Dean's List between different Colleges**

College	UG Students (Term II)*		Dean's List*	
	Total Number	Number of Females (%)	Number (% of Total)	Number of Females (%)
Arts & Humanities	449	222 (49)	36 (11)	24 (67)
Education	9	5 (56)	--	--
Law	90	38 (42)	4 (4.4)	2 (50)
Management	470	242 (52)	48 (10)	32 (67)
Social Sciences	161	77 (48)	16 (10)	11 (69)
Science & Technology	153	14 (9.2)	13 (8.5)	1 (7.7)
<b>Overall</b>	<b>1332</b>	<b>598 (45)</b>	<b>117 (8.9)</b>	<b>70 (59)</b>

\* Excluding Foundation Year students

The data in Table 1 show similar features to those observed in Term I, when 8.5% of students appeared on the Dean's List (none qualified for the Vice-President's List), with female students again doing proportionately better. However, it is interesting to note that:

1. there is an evident trend for an increase in the proportion of students in the College of Arts & Humanities who qualified (up from 3.7% to 11%), matched by evident decreases in most of the other Colleges (most especially Social Sciences, down from 19%);
2. there is a trend for an increase in the proportion of female students on the Dean's List for Social Sciences (up from 54% to 69%), with a slight decrease for Management students (down from 70% female) – the seeming fall in the proportion of female Law students (down from 75%) reflects the smaller numbers of students in this College.

The following 2 students scored an overall 'A' grade in Term I of Academic Year 2009-10. They have therefore qualified for the Vice-President's List; this will be recorded in their academic transcript. These two students are to be congratulated on their hard work and excellent performance.

1. Lim Nguon (Economics)

2. Ngoun Soksan (Economics)

The following 117 students scored an overall 'B+' grade in Term I of Academic Year 2009-10. They have therefore qualified for the Dean's List; this will be recorded in their academic transcript. They are to be congratulated on their hard work and their superior performance.

An Putratha (Hospitality and Tourism M'ment)  
 Ban Chenda (Finance and Banking)  
 Ban Leakhena (International Relations)  
 Boreth Vathana (Information Technology)  
 Bun Chanmary (Law)  
 Chan Raksa (International Relations)  
 Chea Nich (Business Management)  
 Chea Ratha (Finance and Banking)  
 Chea Sokty (Business Management)

Houn Soriya (International Relations)  
 Ieng Chankreusna (Finance and Banking)  
 Kang Leang Im (Accounting)  
 Kang Leangpoar (English Literature)  
 Kang Sopheap (English Literature)  
 Kem Socheata (Accounting)  
 Keo Buntheng (International Relations)  
 Keth Haretey (English Literature)  
 Kheang Somanita (English Literature)



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Chea Sokty (Information Technology)	Khoulouk Rada (Information Technology)
Chey Maramy (English Literature)	Kim Borithy (English Literature)
Chey Phalsokun (English Literature)	Kleang Thynin (Information Technology)
Chhang Samnang (English Literature)	Kong Chetra (English Literature)
Chhay Raksmei (International Relations)	Korm Lyna (International Relations)
Chhea Kunthea (Finance and Banking)	Ky Sovutda (English Literature)
Chheang Sokunthea (English Literature)	Lak Chansok (International Relations)
Chheng Sovannka (English Literature)	Lam Sothea (Accounting)
Chhim Lin (English Literature)	Leak Karineth (English Literature)
Chhoeung Norinmony (Finance and Banking)	Long Geklourng (Finance and Banking)
Chhor Marady (English Literature)	Lor Chhayseng (International Relations)
Chhuon Panha (Law)	Ly Heng (Business Management)
Chum Pheasa (Law)	Ly Sokchou (Finance and Banking)
Dan Tang Oun (Information Technology)	Mao Sovanrithy (Information Technology)
Dip Lyna (Accounting)	Meas Lenh (Finance and Banking)
Dok Sokmey (English Literature)	Mon Chhor Vorn (English Literature)
Eang Kimleang (Business Management)	Nasy Lika (English Literature)
Eng Ramin (International Relations)	Nget Sam Ath (Economics)
Hem Sokna (English Literature)	Ngoun Wathana (Finance and Banking)
Heng Channeath (English Literature)	Nguon Setha (English Literature)
Heng Kim Chy (Economics)	Nhan Kongkearith (Information Technology)
Heng Limheang (English Literature)	Nhan Socheata (Economics)
Heng Srey Mom (Economics)	Nuon Sovan Vatey (International Relations)
Ho Polin (Finance and Banking)	Nut Ngounheng (English Literature)
Hok Siem (Finance and Banking)	Penh Pilika (English Literature)
Phal Nyveara (Finance and Banking)	Sovann Monyroth (Finance and Banking)
Phal Sereiratha (Computer Science)	Sreng Leakhena (Business Management)
Phay Paty (Information Technology)	Suon Sokha (Accounting)
Pheng Panha (English Literature)	Taing Dany (Accounting)
Phlook Radet (Finance and Banking)	Taing Leangchhoung (English Literature)
Po Vannary (Law)	Taing Leng (English Literature)
Poch Kanha (Accounting)	Tepken Vannkorn (Information Technology)
Pouk Sopheap (Finance and Banking)	Theng Heak (English Literature)
Prom Pharavatey (Finance and Banking)	Thien Hongsobondith (Finance and Banking)
Prou Marin (Finance and Banking)	Thul Si Borann (Economics)
Ros Sokunmullika (Economics)	Tim Vutha (English Literature)
Run Serei Mealea (English Literature)	Tith Seychanly (Information Technology)
Sam Sovorleak (Economics)	Tum Narita (Finance and Banking)
Samnang Vitheavy (Information Technology)	Ty Bros (Finance and Banking)
Saya Molika (Business Management)	Ty Chetra (English Literature)
Seang Ratha (Finance and Banking)	Ty Vanny (International Relations)
Sem Sophea (International Relations)	Uch Dalyka (International Relations)
Seng Ly (Finance and Banking)	Ung Sokkim (International Relations)
Sngin Sovann On (Hospitality and Tourism M'ment)	Vin Navy (English Literature)
Sok Ao Sreileak (Accounting)	Vin Sophannary (English Literature)
Sok Sovatha (International Relations)	Vong Sopheap (Accounting)
Sok Vann Chanry (Accounting)	Yang Leaphea (International Relations)
Sor Sunheang (English Literature)	Yith Davy (Finance and Banking)
Soun Sovann Dara (Information Technology)	Youk Phanna (English Literature)
Sovan Daroth (English Literature)	

# Best Foundation Year Students Graduating in Term II (2009-10)

BY DR. ANGUS MUNRO

Every term, we recognize the best of our students who have completed their Foundation Year (FY): those who have scored an 'A' overall for both terms are nominated to the Vice-President's List, whilst those who have scored a 'B+' overall are nominated to the Dean's List.

A total of 34 students (9.8% of the total of 347 students) scored an overall 'B+' grade in their FY starting in February 2009; no student got an 'A' overall. Table 1 provides a breakdown by College.

**Table 1: Relative distribution of students on the Dean's List between different Colleges**

College	FY Students		FY Dean's List	
	Total Number	Number of Females (%)	Number (% of Total)	Number of Females (%)
Arts & Humanities	127	61 (48)	13 (10)	9 (69)
Education	2	2 (100)	1 (50)	1 (100)
Law	21	7 (33)	4 (19)	2 (50)
Management	100	44 (44)	14 (14)	6 (43)
Social Sciences	51	20 (39)	--	--
Science & Technology	46	4 (8.7)	2 (4.3)	--

There has been a drop in the overall proportion of students on the Dean's List compared with those finishing in Term I, when 25 students (13%), were recognized. The most notable differences between the two terms' outputs are that:

1. no Social Sciences students are on the Dean's list, compared 11 out of 24 students (7 out of 10 females) who completed their FY in Term I; and
2. a large proportion of Law students are on the List, compared with none of 15 students (2 females) last term.

A previous by-term analysis has indicated that there are significant differences between sessions in student performance. Thus:

- in Academic Year 2008-09, FY students in evening and most especially weekend sessions did relatively less well in Terms II and III (but not Term I), skewing the results for undergraduates as a whole for these two terms; whilst
- in Term I of AY 2009-10, FY students doing the evening session did as well as their counterparts in the morning and afternoon session, in contrast to other undergraduates in this session who were more comparable with those in weekend sessions.

Table 2 considers the performance of students who completed their FY in Term II on a by-session basis.

This table indicates that there were only a small number of students in the weekend session, and there was no evidence for any difference in their performance compared with other sessions. The only 'significant' observation is the low proportion of female students on the Dean's List for the afternoon session.

These results will be considered in a broader context with the completion of academic year 2009-2010.

**Table 2: Relative distribution of students on the Dean's List between different sessions**

Session	FY Students		FY Dean's List	
	Total Number	Number of Females (%)	Number (% of Total)	Number of Females (%)
Morning	113	53 (47)	10 (8.8)	6 (60)
Afternoon	105	41 (39)	11 (10.5)	3 (27)
Evening	113	36 (32)	11 (9.7)	8 (73)
Weekend	16	8 (50)	2 (13)	--

(Best FY Students - Continued on page 9)



### *(Best FY Students - Continued from page 8)*

The following are the students who qualified for the Dean's List as a result of their overall performance in the Foundation Year. This will be recorded in their academic transcripts. The students are to be congratulated on their hard work; it is hoped that this will encourage them to continue to do so as they proceed through our undergraduate programs.

Boeum Bopharey (Human Resource Management)	Phal Chanpheakdey (Economics)
Bora Angkearath (English Literature)	Phat Sokhaley (Education)
Chan Ratha (Finance and Banking)	Phok Ratana (English Literature)
Chann Dara (Information Technology)	Prum Srey Lynet (English Literature)
Chanty Pisal (Human Resource Management)	Sang Sereyvathana (English Literature)
Chhay Daroth (Finance and Banking)	Sann Sethvitou (Finance and Banking)
Heng Socheat (English Literature)	Sea Sokunthea (English Literature)
Hoeu Sotheara (Law)	Seng Bouyky (English Literature)
Khoun Theara (Law)	Seng Kimsorn (Accounting)
Kong Nary (Accounting)	Seng Sosamphors (Finance and Banking)
Koy Piseth (Law)	Sok Chan Visal (English Literature)
Lay Sophanith (Economics)	Sok Chhorda (Business Management)
Ly Chanratana (English Literature)	Sokkhea Gechchheng (Law)
Meak Chanleakena (Economics)	Thaung Vorteykanica (English Literature)
Nan Sambath (English Literature)	Tith Bundaly (English Literature)
Nget Sina (Computer Science)	Toth Data (English Literature)
Peou Sopheak (International Business)	Ung Sophanith (Economics)

## Asia Faiths Development Dialogue



Left: Professor Katherine Marshall of Georgetown University returned to UC to speak at the Asia Faiths Development Dialogue (AFDD).

The University of Cambodia hosted a public lecture entitled, "Dialogue with the Cambodian Community: Development and Religion" by Professor Katherine Marshall (Executive Director of World Faiths Development Dialogue; The University of Cambodia's Distinguished Visiting Professor), as a part of the Asia Faiths Development Dialogue (AFDD) on August 6, 2010.

Dr. Kao Kim Hourn (President of UC and Secretary General of Asia Faiths Development Dialogue) opened the proceedings. The lecture presented the research findings of two Princeton-in-Asia Fellows working with the AFDD on the impact of faith groups to social and educational development in Cambodia to over one hundred participants.

The lecture brought together people from different faiths and professions to share ideas on how open dialogue can promote peace and cooperation in Asia and throughout the world. After the discussion, students asked the panel questions related to the different faith groups in Cambodia and how different groups of people can find resolution during times of misunderstanding or conflict.

The AFDD lectures are free of charge and open to the general public.

# International Monetary Fund Team Presents on Economic Outlook



On September 10, 2010, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) presented research findings to UC students and administrators on global and regional economic outlook and implications for Cambodia. Dr. Angus Munro (Vice President for Academic Affairs) welcomed the distinguished IMF team, which consisted of members from their Asia Pacific Department and comprised Dr. Olaf Unteroberdoerster (Senior Economist), Dr. Jack Joo Ree (Senior Economist), and Ms. Nombulelo Duma (Economist).

Dr. Unteroberdoerster's presentation, "Towards a Sustained Recovery," first covered global and Asia outlook and risks. After a tumultuous global economic crisis, the recovery around the worldwide has been stronger than expected in 2010 and, in particular, GDP growth has been rather robust in emerging countries and Asia. Nevertheless, Dr. Unteroberdoerster and his team believe that the momentum is weakening and uncertainty remains high, especially in advanced countries. He pointed to the high unemployment rate in the U.S. and the lack of fiscal sustainability in Europe as affecting consumer confidence, spending, and the housing market.

Asia is expected to lead the global recovery at a moderate pace, with the key risk to Asia coming from its exposure to external demands. According to Dr. Unteroberdoerster, the exports to GDP ratio exceeds 50 to 60 percent for most Asian countries, meaning that they depend on exports, which is about twice the

dependence of countries that are advanced. Positive economic spillovers from China are increasingly important for other Asian countries, although countries with less exposure to China recovered quicker than

**"Cambodia's competitiveness will depend on the labor market, skills of its workforce to increase productivity, strength of its institutions (including health and education), and other factors such as electricity, quality of instruction, and corruption."**

DR. UNTEROBERDOERSTER,  
IMF SENIOR ECONOMIST

those with more.

Shifting focus to Cambodia, Dr. Unteroberdoerster identified the garment, tourism, construction, and agriculture industry as four main drivers for Cambodia's economic recovery, with garment exports and tourism leading the growth even though they were hit hard by the recession. Over 60 percent of Cambodia's garment exports are

sent to the US, while tourists from Vietnam contributed significantly to sector growth. Even so, sluggish imports suggest continued weakness in other sectors, particularly in construction. The IMF team also projects that economic growth for Cambodia in 2010 will be modest, reaching 4.5 to 5 percent. In the medium term, it may return to 6 to 7 percent, with inflation to remain low at 4 percent.

As the region rebounds from the economic crisis, there are new growth opportunities for countries, but this requires attention to the business environment and infrastructures. Cambodia can reap the benefits of Asian countries attempting to "rebalance" their economies, that is, shifting away from exports as a growth driver to relying more on domestic demand. Asia, and especially China, is becoming increasingly important in the global market, and the IMF expects China's GDP shares to be almost at par with those of the U.S. and Europe, which will have significant implications for regional economies.

"China's strength can create significant demand for Cambodia's output (rice and other food items)," stated Dr. Unteroberdoerster. "And policies in China can increase Chinese wages, meaning that relative competitiveness will improve for other countries like Cambodia, so wages in Cambodia are likely to rise too."

Cambodia has strong investment links to China, and Dr. Unteroberdoerster believes that China may shift more jobs to  
*(IMF - Continued on page 11)*



(IMF - Continued from page 10)

Cambodia in the garment industry because of competitive labor costs in China. Nevertheless, Cambodia needs to maintain its competitiveness because other countries will compete for outsourcing opportunities from China.

“Cambodia’s competitiveness will depend on the labor market, skills of its workforce to increase productivity, strength of its institutions (including health and education), and other factors such as electricity, quality of instruction, and corruption,” he commented. As a side note, Dr. Unterberdoerster expressed his support of the passing of an anti-corruption law by the Cambodian government and stressed that corruption is “poison” to businesses and weakens their

ability to grow.

Another key method for increasing Cambodia’s competitiveness in the global market is to diversify its economy. Dr. Unterberdoerster and his team made several recommendations. First, Cambodia should refocus on exporting garments. Secondly, it needs to diversify its export base, namely agriculture and agro-processing, especially in light of the growing demand for agricultural output from regional heavyweights China and India. Third, Cambodia should diversify its tourism industry because it has tremendous opportunities for growth. Lastly, the country should use domestic savings to fund domestic investments.

His concluding remarks emphasized

a need for Cambodia to actively pursue mechanisms that promote economic and business growth, as well as to counter corruption.

The IMF was established after World War II and its primary purpose is to promote stable growth in the global economy and to promote trade and exchange between countries. It was created to cooperate on global growth and world peace, and roughly 3000 staff members around the world work for IMF as independent advisors.

## World Bank Lecture on Development Strategies and Their Challenges

On September 8, 2010, Dr. Justin Yifu Lin, Senior Vice President and Chief Economist of the World Bank, gave a lecture to Cambodian students and researchers. The lecture covered “Development Strategies and Their Challenges,” and paid particular attention to various growth strategies for Cambodia.

Dr. Lin wanted to share his extensive knowledge and experience of development, economic growth and its challenges. He was also interested in learning from the perspectives of Cambodians and their views on the country.

In his lecture, he pointed out that the “secret of those catching-up economies,” according to the Growth Report, are: openness; macro-stability; high savings and high investments; market mechanism; and pro-active and committed government. Dr. Lin also stressed that economic development is a continuous process of structural change, and is the fastest way to upgrade the endowment structure, and thus the industrial structure. He uses the history of economic development in the US as an example, dating back to the 1600s. America transformed from a simple agrarian-based economy to an economic powerhouse at the forefront of technology and financial growth.

Dr. Lin then asked, “How do you design the right industrial policy?” In answering this question, he identified six crucial steps: 1) find dynamic growing countries and identify tradable industries; 2) find private domestic firms and identify and thus remove constraints; 3) seek FDIs from those countries; 4) government should find private enterprises; 5) create special economic zones or industrial parks for countries with poor infrastructure; and 6) government should compensate firms with tax incentives for a limited period, direct credits for investments, and access to foreign exchanges.

He concluded the lecture by saying that Cambodia can sustain rapid growth, because it has many unique advantages, including dynamic growing neighbors, competent and committed government, and natural resources.

Representatives from the University of Cambodia participated in this lecture.

*The University of Cambodia*

### **Toshu Fukami Library**

The University of Cambodia invites all members of the UC community to explore the wonders of our library. It is open seven days a week, except holidays. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 7:30 am to 9 pm, and Saturday to Sunday, from 7:30 am to 6 pm.

We also welcome book or magazine donations to our library. Please donate any educational materials to the UC administration office at your convenience.



# 31st World Tourism Day: Tourism and Biodiversity



Mr. Song Sophoat, Deputy Director of Academic Foundation Department (AFD) at the University of Cambodia, joined distinguished guests from the different ministries, representatives from tourism organizations, foreign guests, and other university representatives for the 31st World Tourism Day on September 27, 2010, at Phnom Penh Hotel. The theme of the event was “Tourism and Biodiversity” and follows that of celebrations around the world, as proclaimed by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). The focus of the celebration was to raise public awareness of the importance of biodiversity to tourism in individual countries, as well as the role of sustainable tourism in the conservation of diverse life forms.

Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen delivered a keynote address at the event and stressed the interrelationship between responsible environmental protection and socioeconomic development in Cambodia. In particular, he believes that people must cooperate at local, regional, and international levels to promote conservation of natural resources and healthy ecosystems, and that these efforts have a positive effect on economic growth and sustainability, especially in Cambodia.

“Ecological biodiversity is an invaluable

resource treasure serving and sustaining tourism development,” declared the Prime Minister.

Protecting the environment is important, he insisted, because many tourists are attracted to visiting Cambodia for the purposes of exploring the country’s ecosystem, along with its rich cultural heritage. Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen also pointed out that tourism generates a significant source of revenue for Cambodian communities and creates many jobs for its citizens, which contributes to the socioeconomic growth of the country. Given that the tourism industry is one of the main drivers of Cambodia’s economic growth, there is a need for the country to prioritize and value conservation efforts, especially if it hopes to attract an increasing number of foreign tourists.

Next, Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen drew attention to the need for all citizens to be invested in biodiversity and conservation efforts: “To foster the conservation of natural resources requires education and public awareness strengthening to local communities, local authorities, the private sector, and all key stakeholders about the value of. . .[the ecosystem]. . .and the impact of their actions.”

Our actions have a lasting impact on the environment and there is global attention

on environmental issues that affect every country around the world. Climate change and global warming are growing concerns for people here and abroad, and these environmental problems will have economic, social, and political implications for countries worldwide, including Cambodia. The Prime Minister expressed his belief that conservation of natural resources and environmental protection efforts are inextricably linked to the development of Cambodia (and to achieving the United Nations Millennium Development Goals).

In his concluding remarks, Prime Minister Samdech Techo Hun Sen appealed to the audience to continue supporting and contributing to the development of Cambodia’s tourism industry through responsible conservation practices.

After the event, Mr. Song Sophoat said, “I strongly hope that there will be more and more tourists increasingly coming to visit our country based on the tourism development strategy of the Royal Government, and our participation in promoting the slogan, ‘Clean City, Clean Resort, Good Service,’ to further develop Cambodia, a Kingdom of Wonder.”



## 60th Anniversary of US-Cambodia Diplomacy

BY CHHAY RAKSMEY (UC STUDENT)

The relation between Cambodia and the US was established in 1950. Up to today, it has been 60 years. Therefore, on 21-22 July, 2010, the US embassy in Phnom Penh organized a conference to celebrate the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations.

Many ambassadors were in attendance, including H.E. Ambassador Carol Rodley, the US Ambassador to Cambodia, H.E. Sok An, Deputy Prime Minister, H.R.H. Samdech Norodom Sirivudh, Supreme Privy Councilor to His Majesty the King of Cambodia and Founder Chairman of the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace, in addition to former US Ambassadors, Kent Wiedemann, Charles Ray, and Joseph Mussomeli. Scholars like David Chandler were present, and UC

representatives attended the event.

In her opening remarks, Ambassador Rodley expressed her view on the relations between these two countries, and strongly hopes that Cambodia and the US can continue maintaining good relations with one another. After her remarks, H.E. Sok An, in the keynote address, gave a brief history about the diplomatic relations since 1950. He also spoke about how the US has provided ample aid to Cambodia, over the course of these 60 years, with regard to infrastructure development, military assistance, health care, and education, to name a few. He expressed his deep appreciation, and hopes that the United States will continue to maintain a strong presence in Cambodia, and encourages more Americans to invest in

the country.

On the second day, members of the panel talked about Cambodia's future with respect to development and diplomatic ties with the US. The general sentiment was that Cambodia is poised for strong growth and development, and has the political will to continue moving in a positive direction.

The floor opened up for questions and answers from the audience. Many youngsters eagerly participated, and they appeared to learn so many new things during this very important gathering. Overall, the conference painted a colorful picture of the Cambodia-US diplomatic relations, and that relationship will only get stronger with time.

## UC-Payap Exchange Program Students

BY LIM NGUON (UC STUDENT)

Two University of Cambodia students, Mr. Lim Nguon and Ms. Chhun Seakkeav, won scholarships to study at Payap University, in Chiang Mai, Thailand, for one term. On September 21, they will begin their first day of a semester-long program. Having submitted planning essays and been shortlisted, Mr. Nguon and Miss Keav have gone through a process of critical interviews in front of a faculty committee. As a result, both students have been selected as exchange students to study at Payap University in the coming term.

Mr. Lim, a term 4 student, is majoring in Economics at the University of Cambodia. He will enroll in the International Business Management (IBM) program at Payap. Miss Keav is a term 7 student majoring in English Literature and will join the English Communication program there.

According to Mr. Lim, the reason why he decided to apply for the exchange program is that he would like to experience life in a new environment, and to be challenged in a different social context outside of his normal, everyday life. He also is interested in exchanging what he has learned with other people. He understands that the exchange program is not a recreation or a vocation abroad, but a duty to fulfill.

"I know I am a representative of UC,



Cambodia, to exchange my experience in Thailand, so I have to represent my own university and country in the best positive way," said Mr. Lim.

Besides the desire to complete the academic program, Mr. Lim and Ms. Chhun expect to master new skills from international students there, and bring good experiences back to share with their friends and other UC students.

"I will observe the educational system and curriculum, as well as other interesting

programs," noted Mr. Lim. "And after coming back, I would like to adapt and integrate those experiences with UC's culture and spirit to contribute, as a part, to the development of the university and the students as well."

He likes to share and exchange ideas, insight, and thoughts with people, especially to inspire and encourage the youth to commit harder and harder to their studies and to contribute to the social development of the country.



# First Cambodia Student Concert 2010: “Gems Being Crafted”

BY CHIN TYHENG (UC STUDENT AND UCSS VICE PRESIDENT)



On July 3, 2010, the UCSS hosted its first Cambodian student concert. The concert was held at the SEATV studio, and consisted of UC students, who organized and participated in the event. The concert was a cultural event to celebrate the University of Cambodia's 7th anniversary. We decided to name this event, “Gem Being Crafted,” in honor of the hard work and dedication of the University, since its inception. The event was open to the public, and lasted from 4:00 to 7:30 pm.

The concert was a very special and unexpected event, because the performers were UC students who only had fifteen days to learn how to perform traditional Khmer dances. Those dances included lady in range, pestle dance, singing, free-form dance and Bassac drama performed in English. This was also a live event, and, although we were nervous, we were really excited to be given this opportunity.

There were many objectives to the concert. First, it was to commemorate UC's 7th Anniversary and all of its successes. Second, the concert demonstrated the willingness of UC students in recognizing UC as a forward-looking university committed to academic excellence. Third, it introduced UC students to an event for Arts and Culture, so as to enable them to understand the soul and

identity of their ancestral cultural heritage, which is an important base for the patriotism and protection of the nation. Fourth, it instructed UC students about organizing grand activities through which knowledge of leadership and management can be gained. Fifth, the event demonstrated to the public, through their artistic performances, the importance of preserving, revitalizing, and developing Cambodia's intangible natural

heritage.

Finally, we would like to thank the University of Cambodia, Southeast Asia Television, the University of Cambodia Student Senate, and the University of Cambodia students for their support and cooperation. “Gem Being Crafted” would not have been possible or a success without you.





# University of Cambodia Welcome Week 2010

BY CHHOUN PANHA (UC STUDENT AND UCSS VICE PRESIDENT)



**TOP: UC students and staff members provided general information about the university to students interested in the academic programs during Welcome Week 2010.**

The University of Cambodia hosted the 2010 “Welcome Week.” This is the sixth project of University of Cambodia Student Senate (UCSS) based on the existing mandate. The main objective of this project was to provide high school students who have recently graduated with general information and guidelines about the university. Those students are given information about all majors, sessions, and programs, which they can use to select what they want to study. They can also explore what our university has to offer.

On August 23rd, the opening ceremony of this project was conducted in front of the University of Cambodia, under the chairmanship of many university faculty. Eight UCSS officers and 14 other UC students volunteered for this project. Those 22 organizers were divided into four groups: Morning Group, Afternoon Group, Saturday Group, and Sunday Group. They began providing information to students in the morning from 8 am to 12 pm, and then started again in the afternoon from 2 pm to 5:30 pm. The students finished their mission on September 6, so altogether it lasted for 15 days.

In order to give service to the students, we also used some materials provided by the university, such as brochures and pens. After the announcement, we saw that there were

many students who had come to receive this kind of service from us. They asked us various questions, and we replied with helpful answers. Some of them asked about the scholarships, and others asked about the

**“I do strongly expect that, after finishing this project, the University of Cambodia will be able to attract more and more students, and it will become one of the biggest universities in Cambodia.”**

CHHUON PANHA, UCSS VICE  
PRESIDENT OF TECHNICAL AFFAIRS

educational system at the university.

Ms. Chea Chakrya, who is a UC student, gave her point of view about the University of Cambodia Welcome Week 2010. She noted that “It is good that this project could help students a lot in terms of providing information because it is made directly between students and students.”

She added, “It is really a benefit that

students can understand more about UC, such as the credit system and majors here.” She hopes that new students will build networks with older students, especially once this project’s mission has been completed.

After completing this project, we counted that there were nearly 3,300 students coming from different provinces and high schools to our university in order to get information. Therefore, as the 2nd Vice President of UCSS in charge of this project, I felt very happy by seeing this big achievement for the UCSS and the UC. I think that the Welcome Week is really a good idea, because this kind of project follows the American system and is common among American universities. It promotes the reputation of the University of Cambodia by providing services to thousands of students in the public. I do strongly expect that, after finishing this project, the University of Cambodia will be able to attract more and more students, and it will become one of the biggest universities in Cambodia.





# UNIVERSITY Supporters

## Donated Books Expand UC's Toshu Fukami Library



The Toshu Fukami Library received another round of generous donations from existing and new supporters. We received the generous support of 380 books and 194 magazines. For this quarter, that brings us to a total of 574 books and magazines that were donated to the library.

Of course, the Toshu Fukami Library would like to thank both old and new supporters, particularly for their kind donations. The library would not be at its current state without their generosity.

Supporters for the quarter include the Ministry of Information (6 magazines), the Ministry of Planning (4 books), Dawn of Cambodia (40 magazines), Health Magazine (6 magazines), Southeast Asia Globe (10 magazines), Economics Today Magazine (49 magazines), and Care Cambodia (17 magazines), to name those few.

We would also like to extend a warm "thank you" to private donors, especially H.E. Nouth Narang who donated a whopping 181 books and H.E. Cheam Yeap who donated four books.

The University of Cambodia would like to recognize the British Embassy for donating 133 books, the Embassy of India with 30 magazines, the Embassy of Japan with six magazines, the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany with two magazines, and the U.S. Embassy for their kind donation of four magazines.

The University of Cambodia invites all members of the UC community to explore the wonders of our library. It is open seven days a week, except holidays. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 7:30 am to 9 pm, and Saturday to Sunday, from 7:30 am to 6 pm.



Left: The UC library staff thanks you for your generous support!

*The University of Cambodia*

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To give supporters from the private sector the opportunity to contribute to The University of Cambodia's mission of excellence in providing quality education, research and public service initiatives, the university established the UC Foundation. Founded in 2005, the UC Foundation will support academic programs, student scholarships, faculty and facility developments, and more.

If you have a passion for improving higher education and would like to learn more about how to unite with us in continuing the UC tradition, please visit our website.

[www.ucfoundation.net](http://www.ucfoundation.net)

*Thank you to all individuals and institutions who have lent their support to The University of Cambodia. We hope to have included a complete list of those who have made financial and in-kind contributions, however, we would like to express our sincerest apologies to any names we have forgotten. If you have contributed to The University of Cambodia and are not present on the list, please write our editor at [ucbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:ucbulletin@gmail.com) so we can add your name in next quarter's newsletter.*

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