

SEED-Net *News*

Quarterly Newsletter of the ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network



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ASEAN Foundation Funds AUN/SEED-Net Regional Conferences in 2010 - 2011

On June 11, 2010 Dr. Filemon A. Uriarte Jr., Executive Director of ASEAN Foundation, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Prakit Tangtisanon, Executive Director of AUN/SEED-Net, signed the Regional Conference Project (Phase II) Contract at the Signing Ceremony held at Faculty of Engineering, Chulalongkorn University. The event was witnessed by representatives from ASEAN University Network (AUN), Embassy of Japan in Thailand, and Thai Member Institutions on behalf of the 19 Member Institutions; and it was broadcasted throughout ASEAN on the ASEAN TV.

The Executive Director of the ASEAN Foundation admired AUN/SEED-Net's attempt in bringing together experts and researchers in leading universities in ASEAN and Japan, including graduate students who would become manpower of the region in the near future, for knowledge exchange and technology transfer through AUN/SEED-Net Regional Conferences. The conferences also serve as platforms where universities and industries can start to work hand in hand and where the ASEAN countries can bridge development gap among themselves. Conference topics are diverse in engineering fields, ranged from environment to manufacturing, and significantly address critical issues of the region such as natural resources and materials, disaster, and energy. Recognizing that the conference's purpose and content are corresponding to the ASEAN priorities and benefit the region as a whole, ASEAN Foundation agreed to extend more funding to support 12 AUN/SEED-Net Regional Conferences to be organized in 2010-2011.

During 2008-2009 the ASEAN Foundation had supported 25 Regional Conferences from a total of 28 conferences arranged by AUN/SEED-Net under the Regional Conference Project Contract (Phase I). Those conferences were highly successful with as many as 3,132 participants from educational, industrial and government sectors.

Regional Conference schedule can be found on the AUN/SEED-Net's web site at www.seed-net.org/calendar.php.

JFY2009 Project Review

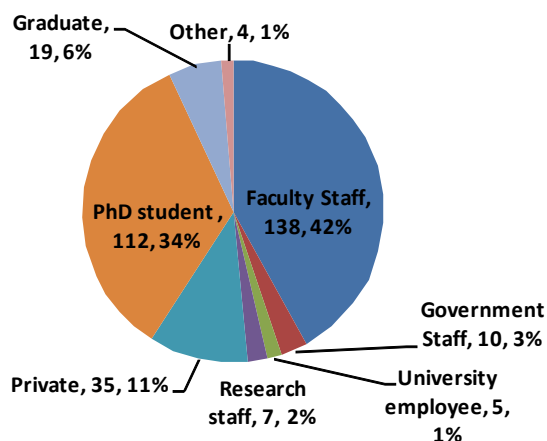
In this first issue of the new Japanese fiscal year, SEED-Net News would like to present our readers a review of the AUN/SEED-Net Project's activities implemented in the last fiscal year (JFY 2009) which ended in March 2010.

The JFY2009 saw adjustments of some programs implemented in JFY2008. Short-term Training/Research Program in ASEAN was merged with Faculty Staff Dispatch Program to broaden scope and purpose of travels, becoming the program called Short-term Visit within ASEAN which allows faculty staff to visit other member institutions for any academic purposes. Short-term Training/Research Program in Japan was renamed as Short-term Research Program in Japan to emphasize the main purpose of the program.

Collaborative Research Support in JFY2009

Field	HI	Projects	Master's students	PhD students	Amount (USD)
CE	CU	14	9	5	79,700
ChE	DLSU	17	16	6	63,850
EEE	CU	13	10	7	91,250
EnvE	UP	13	8	5	60,700
GeoE	UGM	3	12	3	49,850
ICT	KMITL	15	11	4	61,850
ManuE	UM	16	9	7	75,250
MatE	USM	16	9	7	72,050
ME/AE	ITB (INA)	14	13	4	60,050
	Total	121	97	48	614,550

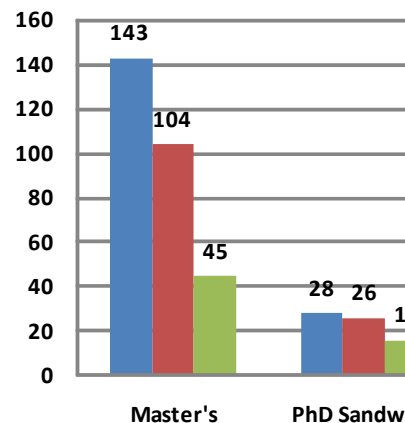
AUN/SEED-Net Alumni by Profession



In conclusion, JFY2009 ended with fruitful results owing to contributions and cooperations from all stakeholders and network members, including the member institutions and their governments, Japanese supporting universities, JICA and the Japanese government, ASEAN Foundation, and ASEAN University Network. Big thanks also to our alumni and scholars who will be the driving force for the sustainable development of ASEAN.

Our missions have not yet been accomplished; exciting operations are waiting for us all in JFY2010!

Overview of Graduates



As for core programs of the Project, Master's Program in JFY2009 awarded 143 scholarships, mostly to applicants from Institute of Technology (104), the biggest number of applications. Doctoral Degree Sandwich Program awarded 104 graduates due to remaining quota from the first call. In total there were 247 graduates awarded. As for Doctoral Degree Program to Japan, 143 applicants; while only 3 from 27 applicants were awarded. Doctoral Degree Program in Singapore.

Collaborative Research Program in JFY2009 supported US\$ 614,550. Three Japanese professors were dispatched to ASEAN countries to attend regional conferences of the AUN/SEED-Net. On the other hand, 48 ASEAN member institutions in ASEAN under the support of the Short-term Visit within ASEAN.

At the end of JFY2009 we produced 286 master's and 67 doctoral graduates continued doctoral study with the Project. After graduation, some have become faculty staff and could get empowered further by the Research Support for Alumni Members Programs. In JFY2009, 143 Japanese universities for research experiment and awarded 143 scholarships at home.

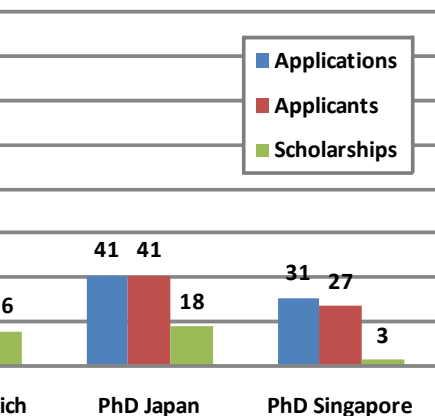
Reviewing the AUN/SEED-Net's regional conferences arranged in 2009 took place around the region in which one conference was postponed. A total of 1,213 research papers and posters from ASEAN member institutions gathered as many as 1,213 research papers and posters from ASEAN member institutions becoming platforms for technological knowledge sharing. ASEAN member institutions partner for this activity.

There were several ideas on new activities ignited in JFY2009. Ranging from Public Relations Program which encouraged a production of VDO presentation about the member institutions and AUN/SEED-Net in local languages for promotional purpose, Database Development Program for better processing and complete collection of the Project's data which paved way to online operations and bibliography, to Journal Publication Program which is one of the expected outputs of the Project in Phase II.

Paper

Invited Papers 7%

ate Programs in JFY2009



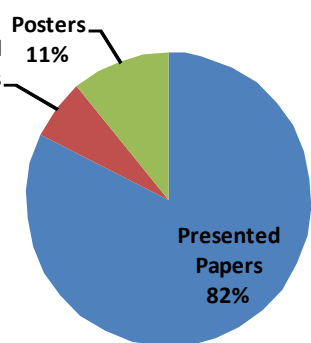
received 143 applications and awarded technology of Cambodia which sent the program last year was opened for two were 28 applications, from which 16 8 awardees were selected from 41 scholarships under Doctoral Degree

550 for 121 research projects. Eighty- es to co-advise students and to join d, 19 faculty staff were sent to other -term Visit in ASEAN Program.

ctoral graduates; 23 of the master’s aduation, over 40% of our graduates the Short-term Research in Japan and 09 the Project sponsored nine visits to grants to support alumni’s researches

in the past fiscal year, 15 conferences sponed from JFY2008. Our conferences academics and young researchers, truly AN Foundation was our main funding

ers Presented in JFY2009 Regional Conferences by Type



Teleconference Networking among Member Institutions

AUN/SEED-Net encourages member institutions to utilize teleconference system in communication to facilitate networking and collaborations.

The idea of using teleconference system was derived from host institution’s demand for interviews of short-listed candidates applying for AUN/SEED-Net’s Doctoral Degree Programs, aiming to recruit qualified candidates and to discuss research interests. To date, not only for student recruitment, teleconference system has been used frequently for student orientations as well as meetings between the member institutions and with Japanese universities. Some lectures have been delivered via the system, promoting knowledge transfer from Japan to ASEAN and among ASEAN themselves.

Teleconference system will be an efficient tool for AUN/SEED-Net members to strengthen the network and set off new cooperations, following the Memorandum of Understanding between Member Institutions signed in 2008. To get a list of teleconference IP addresses, please contact grad@aun-seed.net.

Award during Study Promotes Alumna’s Career



Dr. Aye Aye Thant was AUN/SEED-Net’s Doctoral Degree Sandwich scholar at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). During study, she was awarded a gold medal for her research presented at the 20th International Invention, Innovation, and Technology Exhibition (ITEX’09) in Malaysia. She returned to be Assistant Lecturer in Department of Physics, University of Yangon (UY), Myanmar after graduation early this year.

Later when the Prime Minister of Myanmar Gen. Thein Sein and the Minister of Education Dr. Chan Nyein learned about the gold medal she won during the study, they were so impressed that they promoted her as Associate Professor on March 30, 2010.

“I was upgraded to that stage by the help of AUN/SEED-Net, JICA, my supervisors from USM and Tokyo Institute of Technology (TIT). I will never forget the gratitude of AUN/SEED-Net, USM and TIT,” Dr. Aye Aye Thant expressed her feeling.

About future aim, she told us proudly, “Now I am distributing my knowledge acquired from my study in USM and TIT to UY staff and students. I will try my best to fulfill the missions and vision of AUN/SEED-Net and JICA.”

SEED-Net News wholeheartedly congratulate to Dr. Aye Aye Thant on her promotion. We expect to hear more good news from our students and alumni. Write to us at info@aun-seed.net.

Software Co-developed by AUN/SEED-Net Scholars Earns Medal in Malaysia

The eco-tool software “ENVIrodeSIGN” developed by the Sustainable Manufacturing research group including two AUN/SEED-Net scholars won the Silver Medal at the Creativity and Innovation Expo University of Malaya 2010 focusing on Green Technology organized during April 1-3, 2010.

“ENVIrodeSIGN” was awarded the Silver Medal as the innovative project to aid product designers in designing products that would reduce environmental impacts. It is the software that facilitates the eco-innovation process in product development based on a qualitative method of assessing a design’s environmental risk. The main target of this software is the Small and Medium size industries (SMIs), whose products are vulnerable to eco impacts due to a lack of resources and information. ENVIrodeSIGN is intended for use during the initial product development phase and follows through the life cycle of the product. With simple and easy to use system, it will help the SMIs in managing eco-design initiatives.

The software was developed by the newly-formed Sustainable Manufacturing research group under the Center for Product Design and Manufacturing, University of Malaya (UM). The group, which included two AUN/SEED-Net students – PhD Sandwich scholar Ms. Julirose Gonzales and master’s scholar Ms. Hani Kurniati, was supervised by Prof. Zahari Taha. Recently they embraced a new member Mr. Sugoro Bhakti Sutono, PhD Sandwich scholar of 2009 intake.

As for the Creativity and Innovation Expo, the event is held annually by UM to instill the spirit of research and development based on creativity and innovation. It was one of the prime activities to generate and disseminate new knowledge and know-how to enhance the quality of living and further stimulate the economy through commercialization, which was in line with UM’s desire to be the leader in the fields of research and innovation.



The Sustainable Manufacturing group members (from left): Raja Ariffin, Hani Kurniati, Sugoro Bhakti Sutono, Prof. Zahari Taha, Julirose Gonzales, and Novita Sakundarini

Staff Change



Ms. Panrawee Sritoomma, Program Officer for Graduate Programs and related activities, has resigned on June 15, 2010.



Upcoming Events

Find latest schedules and more details at <http://www.seed-net.org/calendar.php>

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|----------------------|---|
| August 24-25, 2010 | International Symposium on Robust and Resilient Society against Natural Hazards and Environmental Disasters & the 3rd AUN/SEED-Net Regional Conference on Geo-Disaster Mitigation @ Kyoto, Japan |
| September 8-9, 2010 | 2010 International Conference on System on Chip Design Challenges joint with 2010 International Symposium on Multimedia and Communication Technology (ISMAC) and 2010 IEICE Smart Info-Media Systems in Asia (SISA) @ Manila, the Philippines (http://www.icosoc2010.org/) |
| October 13-14, 2010 | The 3rd Regional Conference on New & Renewable Energy @ Penang, Malaysia |
| October 25-26, 2010 | The 3rd Regional Conference on Natural Resources & Materials: Sustainable Society Development in ASEAN through Networking in Natural Resources and Materials @ Langkawi, Malaysia (http://aunseednet.eng.usm.my/rcnrm2010) |
| November 8, 2010 | The 17th AUN/SEED-Net Steering Committee Meeting and Year 2010 Annual Meeting @ Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam |
| November 11-12, 2010 | UP ICE Centennial International Symposium with AUN/SEED-Net: 3rd Regional Conference on Civil Engineering and Environmental Engineering @ Manila, the Philippines |
| November 25-26, 2010 | The 1st International Conference on Materials Engineering (ICME) and the 3rd AUN/SEED-Net Regional Conference on Materials Engineering (RCM) 2010 @ Jogjakarta, Indonesia (http://icme2010.ugm.ac.id) |
| November 25-26, 2010 | The 3rd Regional Conference on Geological Engineering Research in ASEAN: Sustainable Geological Education @ Siem Reap, Cambodia |