

# SEED-Net *News*

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



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### *Appreciation Message To Prof. Dr. Kazuo Tsutsumi*

Prof. Dr. Kazuo Tsutsumi, Chief Advisor of the JICA Project for AUN/SEED-Net, has concluded his service term in the end of March 2011. Throughout the past eight years, he gave tremendous contribution and dedication to the development of the AUN/SEED-Net Project. On this occasion, all the network members and stakeholders would like to convey to him the deepest appreciation and heartfelt gratefulness.

## Greeting Message from Acting Chief Advisor

My sincere greetings to all members of AUN/SEED-Net. I have taken the post of Acting Chief Advisor since April 2011 as the successor of Prof. Kazuo Tsutsumi. First and foremost, I would like to express my sincerest gratitude and appreciation to Prof. Tsutsumi for his great supports in the past years. The AUN/SEED-Net would not be able to have come this far without his commitment and devoted support. His perspective and wisdom have been reflected clearly in these days' achievements of our project. I believe that he will always wish for the project's greater success from now on, and I promise to make all possible efforts as Chief Advisor for further achievements of the project.



At the heart of AUN/SEED-Net lies the purpose to improve educational and research capacity of universities in ASEAN, as well as promote human network through higher degree acquisition of young researchers and other supporting activities. It has been 10 years since the initial plan for establishment of AUN/SEED-Net and the situation surrounding us is changing for many reasons, such as economic growth and environmental issues. While the main purpose of AUN/SEED-Net is still important and to be maintained, the academic collaboration and solidarity should be promoted at great scale.

In keeping with this mission, we are considering continuing and expanding the AUN/SEED-Net network far beyond the Phase 2. Together with our member institutions in ASEAN and Japan, we will continuously contribute to the ASEAN region as to be the regional hub of human resource and research development. I take this opportunity to express sincere gratitude and appreciation toward all the concerned people who have supported our endeavor over the years and expect for your kind and continued support.

Prof. Dr. Chitoshi Miki  
Acting Chief Advisor

## Project Review JFY2010

JFY 2010 ended in the end of March 2011 with remarkable results of several AUN/SEED-Net programs. First of all, our key programs - Graduate Scholarship Programs - were very popular with 315 applications in total, the highest number since the AUN/SEED-Net Phase II started. Master's Program received 212 applications, PhD Sandwich Program 40, PhD Program in Singapore 18, and PhD Program in Japan 45. From these numbers we awarded 43 scholarships for the Master's Program, 22 for the PhD Sandwich, 3 for the PhD in Singapore, and 18 for the PhD in Japan. Most of the scholars came from Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Vietnam, and Myanmar.

We produced 72 graduates more in this year, making in total 431 graduates from 705 scholars awarded since 2001. From the total number, 50 doctoral graduates completed master's levels with our scholarships as well, thus resulting in 381 alumni members in the network. Most of our alumni work as faculty members at their home institutions. Along the year our students and alumni published 381 papers, mostly in international proceedings.

As for Collaborative Research Program, the main supporting program for our students and advisors, we supported 112 research projects in JFY2010 with the budget of USD 522,072. Several projects combined research cooperation from faculty staff in other universities, especially the students' sending institutions.

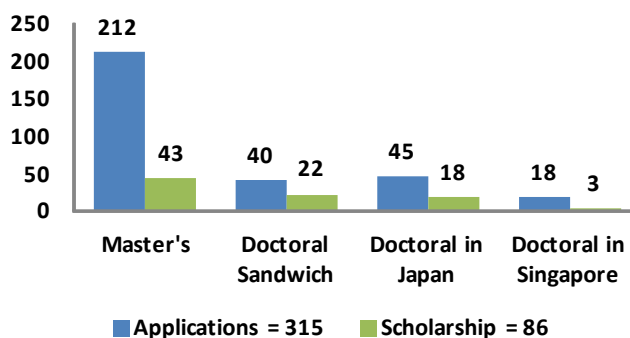
Coupled with the Collaborative Research Program is Japanese Professor Dispatch Program that sponsors dispatches of Japanese professors to ASEAN countries for joint research supervision and regional conference participation. Specially, JFY2010 allocated seven quotas for direct dispatches to Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam. From total 64 dispatches, 42% were applied for research or lecture purpose, 27% were solely for conference participation, and 31% were for combined purpose.



Regional Conference on Disaster Mitigation in Kyoto

Open house at Burapha University

Graduate Programs in JFY2010



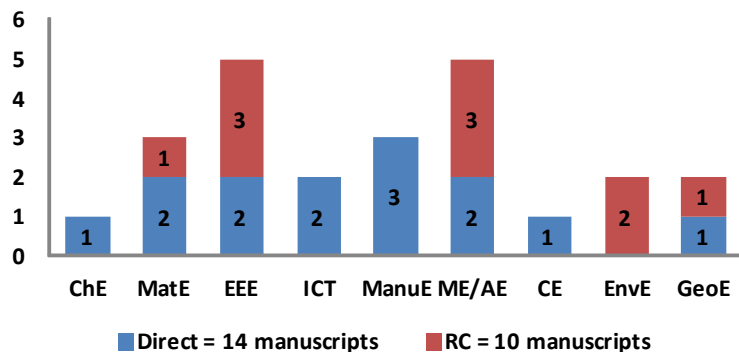
Short-term Visit Program in ASEAN is the program for academic exchange and human networking among faculty staff in the region. This year 32 visits were made by 30 participants, eight of which from Laos received cost-sharing from National University of Laos (NUOL) and Chulalongkorn University (CU) for taking course at CU to prepare for a launch of Mining Department at NUOL.

For AUN/SEED-Net alumni who are teaching or research staff, we provide chances to improve research capacities and quality through Short-term Research Program in Japan and Research Program for Alumni Members. The Short-term Research Program in Japan this year supported 18 alumni to visit Japanese professors and perform experiments at hitech laboratories in Japanese supporting universities. As for the Research Program for Alumni Members, 18 out of 25 alumni were selected to receive research grants worth USD 2,000 each to fund their research projects.

Annually 14 AUN/SEED-Net Regional Conferences are organized around the ASEAN region. For JFY2010, ASEAN Foundation supported 12 conferences while JICA supported the other two including the Regional Conference on Disaster Mitigation held in Kyoto, Japan in commemoration of the Kobe earthquake in 1995. Some conferences received contributions from other sources. For examples, the Regional Conference on Disaster Mitigation was jointly supported by Kyoto University and the Regional Conference in Natural Resources & Materials Engineering was cosponsored by several private companies in Malaysia.

Public relations and open house activities are promotional attempts of the network to publicize benefits of AUN/SEED-Net and attract more participants to our programs. Specially in 2010 we funded six member institutions that applied for the support under Public Relations Program to produce video presentations in local languages, aiming to build better understanding of the project in each ASEAN countries. Open houses were organized at five institutions including the first-time organizer Burapha University. Additionally some host institutions made their own promotional trips.

**Number of Submitted Manuscripts from October 2010 to March 2011**



Most importantly, JFY2010 was the time for JICA Headquarters to conduct a mid-term review of the project's phase II. The review result showed that objectives of this phase was likely to be achieved but some actions should be taken to improve effectiveness and sustainability. Thus, it was agreed at the 17th Steering Committee Meeting and 2010 Annual Meeting in Brunei Darussalam that more endeavours should be spent on setting up of academic society or university consortium through regional conferences and ASEAN Engineering Journal, increasing involvements of industry and non-member institutions, as well as finding supports from ministries, industries, or other agencies.

Two latest initiatives of AUN/SEED-Net took advancing steps in the past year. First, ASEAN Engineering Journal (ASEAN E.J.) was firmly established with the editorial board consisting of 53 faculty staff from all MIs on the ASEAN side and 32 professors on the Japanese side. The first call for papers was issued in September 2010; and at the end of the fiscal year we received 24 manuscripts submitted both directly and through regional conferences. Second, database development project completed specification and procurement processes in end of 2010. The new system with personnel and research bibliography databases will enable online application and information sharing. We expect to launch the journal and the database fully in JFY2011.

Last year we saw more contributions and collaborations extended from the existing scheme. For instances, a few host institutions assisted NUOL and Institute of Technology of Cambodia in establishing new departments or programs and CU arranged the Asian School of Automatic Control with cooperation and participation of other member institutions and organizations.

Mid-term review at Institute of Technology of Cambodia



Asian School of Automatic Control at Chulalongkorn University

### Students' Achievements



Top: Mr. Phuc presenting paper. Below: The conference chair awarding a certificate to Mr. Phuc and his advisor Assoc. Prof. Dr. David Banjerdpongchai

Mr. Phuc Xuan Dang, our master's student at Department of Electrical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Chulalongkorn University received a certificate for Finalists for the Best Paper Award and the Shimemura Young Author Award for his presentation of a research paper titled "Design of Integrated Real-time Optimization and Model Predictive Control for Distillation Column" at the 8th Asian Control Conference held at Splendor Hotel, Kaohsiung, Taiwan during May 16-18, 2011. The co-author of the paper is Assoc. Prof. Dr. David Banjerdpongchai who serves as his advisor. Mr. Phuc Xuan Dang originally came from Hanoi University of Science and Technology.

### Staff Change




Ms. Vantanee Arunotai, Senior Program Officer in charge of Electrical & Electronics Engineering (EEE) and Geological Engineering (GeoE) fields, resigned from the AUN/SEED-Net office on June 30, 2011.





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## Kyoto - UM - ITB Energy Researchers Join Hands

On March 14-16, 2011, a team of experts led by Prof. Dr. Hideaki Ohgaki from Kyoto University (KU) and Prof. Dr. Nasrudin Abd Rahim from University of Malaya (UM) visited Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB) to introduce themselves and discuss possible collaboration in participation or organization of the future Sustainable Energy and Environment (SEE) Forum where they are Advisor Board members. The team was warmly welcomed by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Iman K. Reksowardojo from Faculty of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, ITB.



The team surveyed Energy Management Laboratory to see facilities used for energy research, of which ITB is the main facilitator for the AUN/SEED-Net network. On this occasion, they invited ITB staff to attend the upcoming SEE Forum on Clean Energy and Technology, to be organized by UM in Kuala Lumpur on June 27-29, 2011. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Iman accepted the invitation to present research activity progress of AUN/SEED-Net member institutions in the area of New/Renewable Energy there, expecting to form a linkage of researchers between the SEE Forum and AUN/SEED-Net.



## Upcoming Events

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

October 12-13, 2011	The 4th Regional Conference on New/Renewable Energy (RCNRE2011) "Green Energy for Sustainable Development" @Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam ( <a href="http://www.rcnre2011.hcmut.edu.vn">http://www.rcnre2011.hcmut.edu.vn</a> )
October 18-19, 2011	The 4th Regional Conference in Information & Communication Technology @Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
October 21, 2011	The 18th AUN/SEED-Net Steering Committee Meeting & Year 2011 Annual Meeting @ Phnom Penh, Cambodia
October 25-26, 2011	The 4th Regional Conference on Geo-Disaster Mitigation in ASEAN @Phuket, Thailand ( <a href="http://www.mining.eng.chula.ac.th/2011geoaseanrc/">http://www.mining.eng.chula.ac.th/2011geoaseanrc/</a> )
October 27-28, 2011	The 4th Regional Conference in Natural Resources & Materials (RCNRM2011) " Minerals, Metals and Materials: Bridging the Gap to Economic Development" @ Subic Bay, The Philippines ( <a href="http://rcnrm.smep-net.org/index.php">http://rcnrm.smep-net.org/index.php</a> )
November 8-9, 2011	ASEAN Symposium On Automatic Control 2011 (ASAC2011) @ Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam ( <a href="http://www.asac2011.com/">http://www.asac2011.com/</a> )
November 9-10, 2011	The 4th Regional Conference in Manufacturing Engineering @ Yogyakarta, Indonesia ( <a href="http://ipdd.ft.ugm.ac.id">http://ipdd.ft.ugm.ac.id</a> )
November 22-23, 2011	Joint Regional Conference in Civil and Environmental Engineering (4th ACEC & 4th AEEC) "The Role of Civil and Environmental Engineering in Natural Disaster Risk Mitigation" @ Yogyakarta, Indonesia ( <a href="http://tsipil.ugm.ac.id/conference/">http://tsipil.ugm.ac.id/conference/</a> )
December 1-2, 2011	The 4th Regional Conference on Global Environment @ Bangkok, Thailand
December 8-9, 2011	The 4th Regional Conference in Materials Engineering @ Hanoi, Vietnam
January 26-27, 2012	The 4th Regional Conference in Biotechnology "Emerging Biotechnology for Green Engineering" @ Bangkok, Thailand ( <a href="http://www.rcbio4.eng.chula.ac.th/">http://www.rcbio4.eng.chula.ac.th/</a> )