

Photographs by Jeff Branez



New Student Orientation

By Mr Dan Storie

The second-semester student orientation was, once again, a great success. More than fifty new students enrolled at AIU this semester, and the Student Council worked very hard to help our new students assimilate into AIU. The student orientation was a success because it had many positive comments from the new students.

Mary, a new Biology student from Malawi, said that the way we were treated, "made me feel warm and at home." Kos, also a Biology student from Russia, said, "we were made to feel very welcome." Musonda, an IT student from Zambia, stated how he appreciated "how everyone was willing to help him, even if he was not feeling comfortable." He also enjoyed sharing about his country with his new friends because here at AIU, people were genuinely "interested to learn about his culture."

The SC did a lot of activities that allowed the students to get to know one another better. Farrian, a new student from Malaysia studying Theology, enjoyed meeting new friends, and Wudi, also a Theology student from Malaysia, found orientation very helpful.

One thing different about this group of new students is the large number of students we have from China. Our SC Secretary, Yi Xuan, said she was excited about all the new Chinese students this year. We have 16 new Chinese students. We are hoping to see all of them very active in our campus life. We attempt to learn and improve from each program we run.

Jira, our SC vice-president, said, "Our goal is to make it easier for students in the future." Next year, we would like to coordinate with all the faculty for easier access to advisors and better knowledge of which classes are already filled from the Records and Admissions Office. The SC also gave necessary information during assembly periods over a more extended period. In this way, the new students would not feel as overwhelmed, listening to everything at once, in one day. One of the last activities for the new students included a trip to Robinsons. Over 40 students went to Saraburi shopping mall on Sunday and had a wonderful time.

AIU extends its gratitude to the SC, for showing kindness, integrity, and understanding. Keep up the good work!

Photograph by Jeff Branez



AIU O-NET Coaching Program

Eighty-five students from five different Thai schools participated in "AIU O-NET" on Sunday, January 19, 2020. The Academic Administration of Asia-Pacific International University organized this program to enhance the quality of local schools. In this program, students from the Thai-English program of Arts and Humanities tutored grade 6 students, who are looking forward to attempting the Ordinary National Educational Test (O-NET) in the field of English and Science subjects.

New Faculty & Staff



Mr Junjun Amparo is the new University Counselor. He comes from Philippines. He has two children; Justin and Gayle. Email: junamparo@apiu.edu. Office SA301A ext. 1409



Mrs Chayanit Wasuldratanakrai is the new secretary for the Faculty of Education. She is from Thailand. She has two children; Yang Tian Yi and Yang Tian Qi. Email: edusec@apiu.edu, ext. 1144.



Dr Panvipa Bannakeit is the new Lecturer in the Faculty of Nursing (BKK). She has a three children; Paravee, Thanapom, and Thanapat. She is from Thailand. Email: panvipa@apiu.edu

Coronavirus Awareness

By Dr Siroj Sorajjakool

The coronavirus epidemic has become global in its scope posing health threats to various regions of the world. Thailand is no exception. There are reported and identified cases in the north and central regions. The Office of Higher Education Council has circulated a precautionary announcement and requested all educational institutions to follow procedures in addressing this epidemic. AIU held meetings with all parties involved to discuss appropriate responses to coronavirus on our campus and follow through with implementations because the health and safety for our faculty, staff, and students is our priority. Besides cautionary regulations to monitor and prevent, we encourage everyone to be vigilant on self-care and be selective on sources of information. May God guide us and protect us as we go through another significant critical life event.

Congratulations to the following AIU faculty members who received academic rank as Assistant Professors:



Aj Poomarin Intachai
Assistant Professor in Nursing,
effective 2 May 2018



Dr Kamolnan Taweeyanyongkul
Assistant Professor in Microbiology,
effective 2 April 2018



Dr Jirawan Klommek
Assistant Professor in Nursing,
(Children and Adolescent Nursing),
effective 28 August 2018



Aj Pimpa Cheewaparakobkit
Assistant Professor in Information
Technology (Information System)
effective 26 April 2018



Dr Wayne Hamra
Assistant Professor in Business
Administration (International
Business Management), effective
24 April 2018



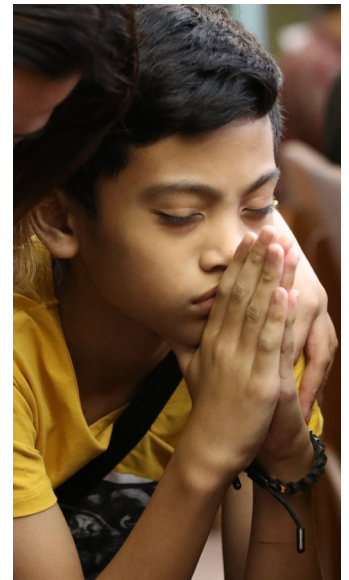
Aj Amporn Niemkulrak
Assistant Professor in Nursing,
(Mother-Newborn Nursing
& Midwifery), effective 22
October 2018



Aj Nguyen Thi Phuong Linh
Assistant Professor in Accounting
(Financial Accounting),
effective 19 October 2018



Aj Subin Putsom
Assistant Professor in
Business Administration,
effective 21 February 2018



Ten Days of Prayer

The AIU Church held the 10 Days of Prayer from January 15th to 24th. The guest speaker Pr. Simon Siew, a retired pastor from Singapore, brought inspiring messages during the 10 Days of Prayer on the theme: Seeking God's Spirit. The blessings students, faculty and staff received during the 10 Days of Prayer are reflected in the following quotes:

"This has been a time to mostly concrete my foundation on the Word of God. The work of the Holy Spirit has been largely emphasized during this time, and it's very important that we are willing to be used by God. King Hezekiah is a good example, before he prayed for his life to be devoted to God, he was a good steward of his life, and we too must be like him so that as we pray, God will remember us." - *Munshya Malensu Saini, Junior Student, Bachelor of Science in Public Health*

"It is meaningful that even in our daily fast and busy lives, it is important to stop and reflect on the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We are also privileged to get the chance to come together and pray." - *Dr Henry Foster, MBA Director/ Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Business Administration*

"I was looking forward to this event since I'm struggling with my spiritual life. When I heard that the topic will be the Holy Spirit, I knew I needed this. I have learned a lot, especially on the fruit of the Spirit and the gift of the Spirit. This is what I

needed the most because I realized without the fruit of the Spirit, I will not inherit the kingdom of heaven. And if I don't use the gift I was given, it will be a waste. Not only did it remind me about these things, but I finally gained confidence in my leadership through the use of my gift." - *Roel Ben Dancel Acosta, Junior Student, Bachelor of Arts in Applied Theology*

"Martin Luther said, 'Pray, and let God worry.' With this quote in my mind, I challenged myself during the 10 Days of Prayer to leave everything behind and attend every prayer meeting. With His grace, I was able to pray and let God take care of my needs. I felt so blessed by the message and the testimony of the speaker. I received inspiring messages during the ten days which I believe will lighten my path throughout this year to live a more meaningful life." - *Mrs Thantip Kitjaroonchai, Chair for English-Thai Program, Faculty of Arts and Humanities*

"The main focus was the need for the Holy Spirit. At the time of Jesus' accession, He said He would not leave us alone and that He would send us a Comforter. Today, I feel blest that God's promise still stands. The Holy Spirit is here to guide and inspire us. He helps us improve our relationship with our Creator, and during these last days, we got to learn of His importance as a gift to us." - *Musonda Kankomba, Freshman, Bachelor of Science in Information Technology*

Photograph by Vichhagar Nhin



Photograph by Vietnamese Club



New Year Celebrations in AIU

Hmong New Year

By Wilai Laolee

On January 19, 2020, the vibrant Hmong Club in AIU, celebrated Hmong New Year's Day. There were lively fun filled activities that included Hmong dances, music, performances, which were performed by the Hmong students, and joined by faculty and staff of AIU. The celebration included a traditional game of throwing a small cloth ball at one another. This is a game of courtship to get to know one another and gives opportunity to talk with someone new in the group.

The highlight of the new year celebration as always culminated in Miss and Mister Hmong competition. These gave privilege for competitors to display the talents and knowledge of Hmong culture. Throughout the event, club members and even the visitors wore colourful cultural attire. Hmong New Year is a time for family and friends to come together from far and near to celebrate and welcome the new year. Since the celebration was in AIU Campus, it gave opportunity for the Hmong Club to share their unique culture with international students and teachers.

Chinese New Year

By Wu, Huihui

The Chinese Club held the celebration of Lunar New Year, also known as Spring Festival, on the evening of January 26, 2020. Although the event began a bit late, the delay did not decrease the enthusiasm of the Chinese students. On that day, all the club members and guests filled the dining room in AIU Church Fellowship Hall at 5:30 pm. There were many traditional activities, such as charades and idiom games, and singing.

After the opening remarks from the AIU President, Dr Siroj Sorajakool, the supper started with a prayer by Pastor Varah Mahaingam. There were many traditional Chinese dishes such as Colorful Raw Fish (which symbolizes the wish toward a happy life), dumplings, and more. After the supper, the respectful elder, Uncle David Tan gave each participant a red envelope called 'Angpau' or 'Hóngbāo' to wish a blessing for the new year. Everyone enjoyed it, and it was a memorable evening. The Chinese Club holds the Spring Festival every year, to let all the Chinese students in AIU feel at home, this gives an opportunity for the Chinese community to greet one another blessed new year.

Vietnamese New Year

By Ngo Bich Tram

The Vietnamese Club in AIU on January 25, 2020, celebrated the 'The Lunar New Year,' also called Tet, which is a chance for the family to reunite after a year of hard work, and study. It's the biggest holiday of the Vietnamese year with a multitude of rich customs, practices, and cultures that are followed, preserved, and promoted by generations.

The New Year Celebration involved, eating traditional food, playing games, and setting off the fireworks, which symbolizes the passing of the old year and welcoming the new year. On New Year's Eve members gather together to celebrate. For the family, this is an opportunity for children and grandchildren to show respect to their grandparents and parents. Tet is the birthday for us. Therefore, the older would give the young the lucky money and wish them to grow up, be obedient, and study well in the new year. Tet is always a reunion time for every family. A time where everyone looks forward to Tet and meeting with their families.

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