newsbyte Volume 21 Issue 3 February 2021

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on-campus newsletter of

ASIA-PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY





LEFT: Signing of MOU between AIU & Debsirin Phukhae School; **RIGHT:** Debsirin students having a preview of the class environment at AIU

Debsirin Phukhae School Visits AlU

By Mr Farrel Gara

On March 17, 2021, the Faculty of Education organizes The Debsirin Phukhae School Learning Day. This event was part of the Faculty's academic service program and was in line with the department's intention to serve our students and the surrounding community. The faculty dean, Mr. Naltan, and program chair, Dr. Kham Khan Khai, planned and coordinated the project, assisted by selected students.

Mr. Thanapol Jeeradechaphat, school principal, and Ms. Hathaipat Tongdech, VPAA Debsirin Phukae School, brought 87 students and teachers to participate in this event. It began with an opening ceremony and by signing the Memorandum of Understanding between Debsirin Phukae School and Asia-Pacific International University to signify future cooperation and collaboration between the two institutions. Soon after, Ms. Namtip from the Marketing Department took the visiting entourage of Debsirin Phukae school administrators and teachers for a campus tour. Meanwhile,

the Desirin students of Matthayom 4 and 5 (Grade 10 and 11) divided into groups led and assisted by freshmen students, dispersed to the six stations as planned.

Each station prepared interactive acvitities founded on English, Mathematics, Science, and Chinese Language, executed by four to five senior students. Debsirin students spent 30 to 40 minutes listening, learning, and participating in various instructional sessions to educational games in each station. In between shuffling stations, scheduled breaks, and lunch, students and teachers from both institutions took the opportunity to interact and share experiences. The AIU students felt happy with the chance and privilege to practice teaching. "The activities encourage them to speak English." These were the words expressed by the Debsirin Phukae School students after a whole day of a fun-filled learning experience. The overall experience was satisfying and rewarding and looking forward to the next academic service.

FRS ACADEMIC SERVICE

By Mr Saw Hsathoolei Hser Hsertawbu

The Faculty of Religious Studies endeavors to accomplish one of its strategic goals: extend academic service to Thailand's community. Teaching English and at the same time teaching morals is what we have done on March 4, 2021. Our academic service for this semester was held at Thai Rat school, located a few kilometers from our campus.

It was a privilege, and we were honored to teach grades 7-9 about 'Kindness' as it is often overlooked and left unnoticed. One of the activities that we did was a team-based activity where two teams competed against each other, and if one team were to win, they would receive a reward. Nevertheless, the winning team would receive more than expected, which resulted in the winning team sharing their reward with the losing team. This experience resulted in both teams being equally satisfied. The winning team got to share, and the losing team got the reward.

We continue to pray for the students in Thai Rat school to be touched by the lessons and activities provided for them, and we also pray that they will practice kindness in their day-to-day life as it is something that our Lord Jesus Christ also practiced.



FRS students teaching at Thai Rat school







TOP: Dr. Siroj presenting the scholarship award; **BOTTOM:** Group of friends pose for picture after receving scholarship and work program awards

Scholarship & Work Program Award Ceremony for 2nd Semester 2019-2020

By Mr Sabathino Junior Pandori

The year 2020 has been a challenge for everyone, including the AIU faculty and students. However, due to COVID free campus, AIU was able to hold the scholarship and work program awards for the second semester 2019-2020 academic year on March 25, 2021, which took place in the auditorium with limited attendees due to the pandemic. Fifty-six students from different faculties received the awards established by several generous donors for the scholarship awards. Meanwhile, forty-six students

received the work program awards. They committed their time and effort to their work while maintaining a good GPA throughout the school year. Their diligence shows their dedication and commitment towards their education at AIU. The university would like to extend its appreciation to the donors and sponsors of these awards. Through their generous and continual support, many lives of the students have been changed. Thank you and congratulations to the awardees.

Theological Colloquium 2021: Healthy Pastoral Ministry

By Dr Sang Hoon Jee

The Theological Colloquium 2021, with the theme of "Healthy Pastoral Ministry," organized by Faculty of Religious Studies (coordinated by Dr. Sang-Hoon Jee) took place via ZOOM on March 26 and 27, 2021, for a total of eight hours. This colloquium, which designed both potential pastors (theology students) and current pastors, was the first to be convened online due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Two presenters were invited to this "historic" event. One is Pr. SunHwan Kim, director of Public Affair & religious Liberty, Northern Asia-Pacific Division, Korea. The other one is Pr. Nelson G. Bendah, president of Sabah Mission, Malaysia. All professors in the Faculty of Religious

Studies and the student officers of Theology Club performed their responsibilities and roles to make the event a success.

Pr. Kim spoke about the "Qualifications for the Healthy Pastoral Ministry and "Challenges to the Health Pastoral Ministry." Pr. Nelson spoke about the "Characteristics of Healthy Pastoral Ministry and "Responsibilities of Health Pastoral Ministry." After each presentation, there was a very useful Q&A session for the successful pastoral ministry.

Several resources were shared with all the participants before, during, and after the colloquium. These will help both potential and current pastors make their pastoral ministry more successfully



Group pose for a picture with all students and faculty of FRS along with the church pastor

International Business Class COVID-19 Exhibition

By Ms Fan Ting

A poster displayed in front of the University library entitled "The Impact of Covid-19 on International Business and Trade" was made by the International Business class. On Wednesday, March 17, 2021, students took all the printed posters from their class, put them up on the whiteboard, and decorated them.

According to the professor's requirements, each poster had to include two criteria: "Quality of Knowledge Shared" and "Attractiveness Quotient." Students needed to ensure that the information was authentic and up-to-date, using simple language to ensure that the audience can understand the content and ensure that the language is free of grammar and spelling errors. In terms of aesthetics, we should also pay attention to posters' design to catch the audience's attention.

The purpose of this poster exhibition was to let students know the latest information about the impact of the pandemic on international business through informative posters.





Speakers from different faculties preach throughout the morning and evening sessions of the Festival of Faith week-of program

Festival of Faith II at AIU Muak Lek Campus

By Dr Franklin Hutabarat

"It is All About the Kingdom of God." This profound statement carries the theme of this semester's Festival of Faith (FOF). From March 8 to 13, 2021, eleven student speakers from seven faculties presented topics related to the theme in the morning and evening sessions. They are Brayent Simbiak (FRS - In Search of Happiness); May Sandar (FOE – That's Why I came); Vo Truong Giang (FAH – Power Surge); Gracena Stevenie Jos (FAH – It's Like This); Jeff Branez (FRS – The Best News Ever); Lyheng Rous (FRS – Your Turn); Jonathan Siagian (FBA – Caught in Between); Wilai Laolee (FOS – Transforming the World); Musonda Kankomba (FIT – It is Within You); Hermanto Bingku (FRS – It has Begun); Ferinly Justin (FRS – The Final Warning).

Throughout the week, heartwarming sermons focused on what the kingdom of God is all about, its roles in our lives, and how we can have everlasting hope in God.

An acknowledgment of thanks to all the FOF participants in speaking, singing, welcoming, and translating. Special mention to the Social Media Communication class who did the FOF social media promotions and the media team that made the live stream services go smoothly. "Everyone gave their best service to the Lord," shared Dr. Franklin Hutabarat, University Chaplain. "I hope that in the next FOF, we will keep up the high standard of the service and give the best to God for His glory."





FRS Mission Trip to Nakhon Nayok

By Mr Saw Hsathoolei Hser Hsertawbu



TOP LEFT: Nakhon Nayok church members participate in a Bible study; **TOP RIGHT**: Dr. Agustin, Dean of FRS preaching during the mission trip; **BOTTOM**: AlU students and faculty with the members of Nakhon Nayok pose for a picture

"Rekindled, I Long for Christ" was the title for this year's mission trip organized by the Faculty of Religious Studies, which held the annual mission trip in Nakhon Nayok, Baan Prik Church, from 18 to 20 March 2021. This year's mission was a little different from the previous years due to the dire need for spiritual growth in the people of Nakhon Nayok. The Theology

club organized a revival meeting for the people of Nakhon Nayok. Every evening, our students would go to that church and join the revival meetings with speakers: Dr Youssry, Dr Bernard, and Dr Agustin. Both the students and the people of Nakhon Nayok felt rekindled and fired up for the work that Jesus commissioned us to do on this earth.









LEFT& TOP RIGHT: Sorting out the clothes donated by the AIU family; BOTTOM RIGHT: Meeting the Ban Mak village families to share the joy and blessings

The Neighbor-to-Neighbor Project

By Mrs Ritha Maidom

On Sunday of March 21, 2021, bags and boxes of items contributed to the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Project were transported from the AIU Church's storerooms to the Assistant Chief's house's front yard of Ban Mak Village. Clothes were piled up on tarpaulin sheets, shoes arranged on the floor, miscellaneous items spread on tables, and boxes of household things opened for the community's needy. Mr. Pradeep Tudu, the head of the AIU Church Community Service, reported that close to 50 families came to collect the items from 9 AM to 5 PM. The church members contributed more than sufficient items for the Ban Mak community. Eight leftover bags and boxes of give-away items were distributed in Khaw Mai Kwain Village the same evening at 6.

Leading to the March 21 distribution were several major tasks. On February 28, the Pathfinder Club, specifically the Junior Pathfinder and the Master-Guide-in-Training (MIT) Divisions, collected church members' contributions from Australian Village and AIU campus. Two Sundays later, on March 14, the Dorcas

Ministry, with the help of volunteers and members of the Pathfinder Club, sorted and bagged the contributions from 8 AM to 3 PM. The following week, the Community Service, in consultation with the Village chief, decided on a day for distribution and organized a team to transport the contribution.

Mr. Pradeep explained that the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Project is part of the larger Ban Mak Village Community Project. The larger project serves the community's various needs from health, serving free meals, visiting the elderly and the poor, conducting Branch Sabbath School, offering music and computer classes for children, and establishing or growing businesses through microfinance.

The Neighbor-to-Neighbor Project became a reality due to the strong support from the mission-minded church members and committed church officers. The AIU Church wishes to express its heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed to the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Project in one way or another.

The Whole Heaven Rejoices

By Pr Mahaingam Varah

The church witnessed three precious souls' baptism into the Asia-Pacific International University church family on March 20, 2021. Songnam and Songphol are the two children of Mr Samart and Mrs Jomjai Saraphai. Songnam, the older brother, after he had Bible study with the church pastor for about six months, brought his younger brother to the Bible study and finally led to their giving of their lives through watery baptism. These two brothers helped the pastor translate for Bible studies for a family in Muaklek who are getting ready for baptism.

When Ms Nongluk Nitjarak heard she could be baptized, she exclaimed, "This is the happiest news ever heard in my life." She came from a Buddhist family, but her early years in a Catholic school exposed her to Christianity. Her university years at AIU (2011) deepened her understanding of God which eventually led to her baptism. She says, "My father was dying, but God gave back life to him. I know there is God who loves us. I am the only Adventist in my family, and I want to bring all my family to know God." Let us welcome them into our AIU family and continue to nurture them and uphold them in our prayers.



Ms Nongluk, Songohol, and Songnam ready to take the vows before getting baptized

newsbyte







Students leading out the English and the Thai Sabbath services

Student AIU VIP Sabbath

By Pr Mahaingam Varah

"Will we be able to hold VIP Sabbath this year?" asked Roel Ben Acosta, the coordinator of VIP Sabbath. Thoughts float in our minds if the covid pandemic will ever give us a chance to have our regular annual VIP Sabbath. On March 27, 2021, we celebrated VIP Sabbath with so much spiritual and physical food. We held a separate VIP Sabbath this year between the Thai-speaking and English-speaking churches because of the pandemic.

"I could not believe that the church services went so well and there is so much food. It is the work of the Holy Spirit," expressed Wilai Laolee, a senior student. In the Thai-speaking church, different students gave their testimonies, and it was powerful and spiritual-enriching. In the English-speaking church, Mr. Brayent Simbiak, a senior FRS student, spoke on the theme "Faith Over Fear" with a meaningful skit depicting the trials God's people went through in past ages. Brayent challenged the church to be

prepared for the coming trials and be ready to come of our Lord Jesus.

The Hospitality team, under the leadership of Mrs. Nola and Mrs, Naree took the strenuous work to see that there is enough food for all the attendees. There were about 150 and 280 attendees in Thai and English-speaking churches, respectively. There was indeed more than enough food for everyone. We thank all those who had contributed food and moral support toward this VIP Sabbath.

The fellowship part with one another that the church had been missing for so long because of the covid pandemic, but VIP Sabbath brought that life back to our church. VIP Sabbath is by the students and for the students. We thank the students for their contributions made to the church. Young and old, we need to be constantly learning and growing in the knowledge of God. I am important because God puts value in me - through Jesus Christ.





























TOP LEFT: Mrs Ritha, VPAA, speaks during the opening ceremony of the Fun Run Walk event; TOP MIDDLE & RIGHT, BOTTOM: AlU faculty, staff, and students participate in the Fun Run Walk event

AIU's 11th Fun Run Walk

By Mrs Deanna Beryl Majilang

If you stay in AIU long enough, you know an exciting event is bound to happen if you see more than 100 people gathering at the AIU Football Field — with social distancing, of course — on an early Sunday morning. This social scene is the Fun Run Walk 2021, which took place on March 7, 2021. The people mentioned were the runners, spectators, and event helpers for the program.

The Fun Run Walk is a yearly activity organized by the Faculty of Arts & Humanities (FAH). We are happy to report that this is the 11th time Fun Run Walk is held at the AlU Muak Lek campus. This semester, the Student Administration partnered with FAH to make this event happen.

From 6 AM to slightly past 8 AM, participants warmed up, listened to devotion and prayed together, ran and walked for 4 KM around designated routes inside the campus, and witnessed prizes awarded to the Top 3 students' male and female categories, as well as the Top 3 kids' category.

In the male category, the first one to finish was Munshya Saini, followed by Wong Yi Hong and Santi Sawangthananan. In the female category, the first one to finish was Tiya Paki, followed by Fan Yinuo (Esther) and Naw The Lay Paw. And in the Kids

category, the first one to finish was Joseph Shao, followed by Wiworn Kitjarronchai (View) and Saksit Ritthitraiphop.

Runners, spectators, and event helpers also enjoyed bananas and warm porridge towards the program's end.

The turnout was beyond expectation, to the point that we ran out of drinking water. We praise God for the positive attendance!

Fun Run Walk 2021 is not only an activity to promote exercise as a healthy lifestyle — but it also serves as a channel to fundraise donations for a worthy cause. All registration fees and contributions are 100% directed to the AIU Church Benevolent Fund. For the past years, the fund has been used to reach out and help people in dire need, whether they are staying in or outside of campus.

Through Fun Run Walk 2021, we are happy to share that over 21,000 Baht has been raised. Praise the Lord!

Donations are still coming in for the AIU Church Benevolent Fund. To donate, approach any FAH teachers. You can also bank transfer your donation to 055-1-12682-3 (Bank of Ayudhya), write "frw2021" in the notes, and email your transaction slip to controller@apiu.edu.



Cultural Celebration 2021

By Mr Sila Waleesila

Moments filled with excitement and joy, and to present cultures and traditions from every single ethnic group is one of the most anticipated AIU events, knows as the "Cultural Celebration." This year, the event's theme was 'Tales Ever Been Told,' which took place on March 7th, 2021, virtually on the Asia-Pacific International University Facebook page. With the help of the Marketing Department, Student Council, and Student Administration, we hosted an online, live program for all audiences to participate and cherish the beauty in diversity in AIU. Many ethnic clubs participated in the event and went the extra mile

to plan, organize, and record their cultural presentation. The program was innovative, informative, and most importantly, it presented the tale of each culture.

It was an honor to collaborate with Mr. Somporn Khajornpop, Student Activity Coordinator, in making this event possible. And on behalf of the Student Council 2020-2021 and the student body, I want to say that this event was one of the best ones we had so far during this pandemic. I will be looking forward more to see such product coming from the Marketing Department, Student Council, and Student Administration.





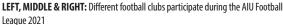






TOP, MIDDLE, & BUTTOM: Virtual Cultural show presentation from different clubs to represent their countries during the online Cultural Celebration program on the AIU FB page









AIU Football League

By Mr Musonda Kankomba

AIU always hosts many student-related events which promote good health and encourage student participation. Among the many events held, AIU students were finally able to host the annual football league, which started on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, and came to a close on Thursday, March 25, 2021. The competition consisted of five teams; Fakuson FC, Jungle Kids, Kancang FC, Mohanokor, and Shazam. These teams played four games, each against each other during the league.

The league ended with Jungle Kids lifting the trophy, Kancang coming in second, Fakuson third, Shazam fourth, and Mohanokor coming fifth. Despite the competition's duration, it is safe to say that it was a success, although the competition was short-lived.

A few students were interviewed on what thoughts they had about the competition, and the general response was that this year's football league went well because it ran pretty smoothly. The student's cooperation made it possible, but because the SA organized it, it was stiff.

The SA will improve the league next year and potentially include the female football players' participation to make it a better-rounded university event. More rewards will also be encouraged, such as golden gloves, golden boots, and other rewards, including medals for the winning team. These rewards will motivate the students to participate and potentially bring the best out of the students.



continued from last issue...

College 101: How to Keep Growing in the Environment Away from Home

By Mr Junjun Amparo, University Counselor

Lesson Number 3: Always do your best.

The life of Joseph is one of the fascinating stories in the Bible– better than the best Hollywood movies, and great novels were ever written. But he was pretty unfortunate early in life– hated by his brothers, sold into slavery, falsely accused, and imprisoned for the crime he did not commit.

However, the Lord was with Joseph in everything he did. "When his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord gave him success in everything he did, Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. (Genesis 39:2-3)

Whenever you do your homework, your assignment, your projects, or any other tasks, always do your best. Do not be lazy. Do not sleep late. Do not settle for mediocrity. If you can get an A, why would you just be settled with B+? Never stop learning.

Here is a great reminder from Martin Luther King, Jr.: "If it falls to your lot to be a street sweeper, sweep streets like Michelangelo painted pictures, sweep streets like Beethoven composed music ... Sweep streets like

Shakespeare wrote poetry. Sweep streets so well that all the host of heaven and earth will have to pause and say: Here lived a great street sweeper who swept his job well."

Lesson Number 4: Avoid distraction

Peter got distracted by a giant wave (Matthew 14:30). Like Peter, the moment we take our eyes off of the Lord, we sink. When our attention drifts, we lose our ability to hear His voice. Here are a few common distractions that may be hindering our ability to focus on Jesus: Facebook and other social media, smoking, and alcohol, becoming too occupied with academic requirements like projects and homework, and peer pressure.

In my counseling, I talked with several students who have been distracted by peers—and their study habits have changed. Of course, their grades have significantly dropped. The key to managing "distractions" is staying focused on your studies and finding God's purpose in your life.

to be continued in the next issue...



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Upcoming Events

Vesper Program - University Chorale Concert >> April 2

Tuesday Class Schedule

>> April 5

Holiday - Cakri Day

>> April 6

Student Assembly - Songkran Festival

>> April 8

FAH Leadership Camp

>> April 9-11

Campus Calendar

APRIL 2, FRIDAY

Vespers – 7:00 pm

(Sunset – 6:25 pm)

APRIL 3, SATURDAY

Sabbath School – 9 am

Divine Service – 10:30 am

APRIL 13-16, TUESDAY-FRIDAY

Holiday - Songkran Festival

APRIL 18, SUNDAY

AIU Talent Night

Editorial Team Mr Stalin Moses Mr Sabathino Pandori Photo Credits
Mr Ferinly Justin
Mr Jiachern Gan

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