EECC Department Orientation for New Students
6 August 2018, Energy Building, Asian Institute of Technology

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change held the Orientation program for the new batch of students for August semester 2018.

46 students from 11 countries, including Bangladesh (2), Finland (1), India (3), Maldives (1), Myanmar (6), Nepal (2), Pakistan (2), Philippines (1), Sri Lanka (3), Thailand (23), and Vietnam (2) has secured admission under the EECC Department, SERD, AIT. Of which 16 have enrolled for the Energy program, 25 in Environmental Engineering and Management program and 5 in Climate Change and Sustainable Development program. The Head of the Department, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal welcomed the students and introduced the department programs, faculties and staff. Speaking to the students Dr. Dhakal highlighted that our graduates are serving as leaders in the private sector, governments, universities, United Nation agencies and the development banks in Asia and beyond. Dr. Dhakal said “Sky is not a limit too, as you can raise that bar” and encouraged the students to study well.

Faculty members and senior students also shared their reflections and interacted with the new students. Students were handed the EECC Department handbag along with their class timetables and guidebooks.

Metropolitan Electricity Authority to Depute 24 Students to AIT

Metropolitan Electricity Authority (MEA) of Thailand will depute 24 students to AIT to pursue higher education in the fields of energy and information and communication technologies. This will include five master’s and one doctoral student every year during the next four years.

This follows the signing of an agreement between Mr. Chaiyong Puapongsakorn, MEA Governor and Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai, President of the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT). The agreement, which was signed on 24 August 2018 at the MEA headquarters in Bangkok, provides for academic studies and research collaboration.

Dr. Thammarat Koottatap Promoted to the Rank of Professor

Dr. Thammarat Koottatap of the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate (EECC), School of Environment, Resources and Development (SERD), AIT has been promoted to the rank of Professor.

His elevation was confirmed at the meeting of the AIT Board of Trustees held on 30 August 2018. Prior to his elevation, Dr. Thammarat was serving as Associate Professor in the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change. Dr. Thammarat lecture in the Environmental Engineering and Management Program.

Dr. Thammarat completed his Bachelor’s in Engineering in...
AIT Confers the Title of Emeritus Professor to two EECC Department Faculty

An Analysis on Thailand’s 100 Percent Renewable Energy System Optimal Pathways | Doctoral Student Seminar

8 August 2018, Asian Institute of Technology

Ms. Tanatip Uan-On, a candidate for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Energy Program with Specialization in Energy Policy, Planning and Economics, Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change, School of Environment, Resources and Development delivered a seminar on “An Analysis on Thailand’s 100 Percent Renewable Energy System Optimal Pathways” on 8 August 2018.

Paper on Impact of Subsidy and Taxation Related to Biofuels Policies on the Economy of Thailand Published


Abstract:

Thailand is the leader in biofuel, biodiesel and bioethanol production in South East Asia, using cassava, sugar cane and palm oil as feedstock. This study used econometric estimation to feed into a recursive dynamic computable general equilibrium model to analyze the impacts of biofuel policies on the economy of Thailand. We carried out several simulations on two set of issues (a) policy of increasing excise tax that consists of 12 scenarios such as increasing excise tax on oil products at a higher rate than biofuel products. The excise tax varies from 10 to 40% and (b) policy of increasing subsidy on biofuel

Research Paper on Thin-film CdTe Photovoltaics Published


Highlights:

- Direct comparison between performance of thin-film CdTe and c-Si modules in actual operating conditions.
- Modules are installed in 3 conditions – ground, roof-top and floating on water for complete analysis.
- Thin-film CdTe demonstrates greater power generation as compared to c-Si modules.
- Thin-film CdTe demonstrate greater reliability as well as environmental and techno-economic advantage.

Abstract: Photovoltaics is an important energy technology for large scale energy generation. In the past few years cost of photovoltaic module manufacturing and installation as well as electricity generation has substantially decreased while the production volume has seen a steep increase. These changes can be attributed to improvement in solar cell efficiencies as well as better manufacturing practices.
Dr. Oleg Shipin Went a Joint China-Thailand Research Project Trip
29 July - 4 August 2018, South East China
Dr. Oleg Shipin, along with other faculty members went on a planned project trip to South East China from 29 July - 4 August 2018 in the framework of the joint China-Thailand research project: "Comparative risk assessment of hydrologic hazards and adoption policy in Jiulong and Chao Phraya river basins".

The participants familiarized themselves with the Jiulong river basin in Fujian province to be compared to Chao Phraya river basin in Thailand with regard to flood adaptive strategies.

Prof. Nguyen Thi Kim Oanh's Trip to USA
9 July - 10 August 2018, San Francisco, California
Prof. Nguyen Thi Kim Oanh worked on a research project proposal titled “Assessment of various intervention options to reduce exposure and related health effects caused by agricultural burning in Southeast Asia” with Prof. K. Smith at UC Berkeley.

A paper on “Exposure to PM2.5 from cooking activities in SEA in relation to the cooking fuel-stove use” is being prepared as an outcome of the research visit.

Prof. Visu Assists Sri Lanka in Developing SCP National Policy Support Component
28 - 31 August 2018, Sri Lanka

Prof. Visu was an international SCP consultant for the project and assisted in preparing the Curricula on SCP for the national universities. One of the major outputs of the assignment was development of the SCP Resource Pack for the University and tertiary education system in Sri Lanka. A training of trainers (TOT) was organized from 28 - 31 August in Colombo to test this resource pack. 35 faculty members from national universities and research centers participated in this event. As part of this program currently the Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment has sent 2 of their staff to pursue Diploma and Certificate programs in SCP at the EECC Department.

Dr. Ekbordin at the 2018 T&T International Aerosol Conference
6 August 2018
Dr. Ekbordin Winijkul was invited as a keynote speaker for the 2018 T&T International Aerosol Conference in Siem Reap, Cambodia on August 6, 2018.

The conference was organized under the collaboration project between Taiwan Association for Aerosol Research, Taiwan, Department of Environmental Science, Royal University of Phnom Penh, Cambodia and Department of Environmental Engineering, King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi, Thailand.

Dr. Ekbordin delivered a presentation on the "Residential Combustion of Solid Fuels: Emissions, Mitigation Scenarios, and Lessons Learned from Developing Countries" and discussed the possibility to broaden the research on the residential emission in developing countries with the participants. The conference provided a forum for scientists, researchers, professionals and academia, especially graduate students, to come together to explore, discuss and present the latest trends, promote understanding, exchange ideas, results and opinions in the areas of air pollution, for researches and applications.

Dr. Brantley Liddle from Energy Studies Institute, National University of Singapore
17 August 2018, Asian Institute of Technology
Dr. Brantley Liddle, a Senior Research Fellow and Deputy-Head of the Energy Economics Division at the Energy Studies Institute, National University of Singapore delivered a seminar on "Revisiting the Income Elasticity of Energy Consumption: An OECD & non-OECD Country Panel Analysis" on 17 August 2018.

Abstract: Estimating the relationship between economic development and energy demand and determining whether that relationship changes as levels of development change have been popular questions in energy economics. The current paper contributes to the literature by assembling a wide panel dataset of energy consumption and prices for 37 OECD and 41 non-OECD countries—a particularly large dataset considering the inclusion of country-specific energy prices. The unbalanced data spans 1960-2016, with the full 56 years of data for 17 countries and all countries having at least 18 years. In addition, our dynamic panel estimates address nonstationarity, heterogeneity, and the possibility to reformulate the relationship in levels.
Students From Singapore Completed Overseas Internship Program

Justin Choo and Tay Yong Hong, both Diploma students in Environmental and Water Technology in Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Singapore spent 4 months at the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change for an Overseas Internship Program.

Over the course of their internship, Justin and Tay Yong worked on the Membrane Aerated Biofilm Reactor (MABR) under the supervision of Prof. Visu from Environmental Engineering and Management Program. According to them, it is their keen interest to gain practical experience & skills clubbed with their passion to explore the rich culture of Thailand that draw them for the Overseas Internship Program at the Asian Institute of Technology. It is their first time overseas for a period of 4 months.

Tay Yong said, he thought he would have to learn Thai to communicate with other students and staff, but most of them are international and that eased his learning experience. “The internship was difficult at first since I have little to no knowledge of MABR and membrane technology. I had to research online for relevant papers.” he added.

Beside the classroom lessons and practical experience Justin said, the internship was an opportunity for him to pick up soft skills like teamwork, communications and interpersonal skills. “It has given me great insight into what graduate studies looks like and what to expect when I further my studies.” Along with the masters students, they have operated the MABR system, conducted analytical experiments, and research information online. “I was able to grasp and understand the working mechanism of the system and why there is a need for such system,” said Tay Young.

Justin and Tay Yong were gracious for the enjoyable and fruitful 4 months internship experience at AIT.

Environmental Engineering & Management Lab Safety Session

As part of the first-semester chemistry course, the laboratory good practices and the safety instruction session was conducted for the 1st-semester students in the Environmental Engineering and Management (EEM) Program by the laboratory staffs on 16th August 2018.

Welcome Party for the Environmental Engineering & Management New Students

31 August 2018, SU Cafe