

E-NEWSLETTER

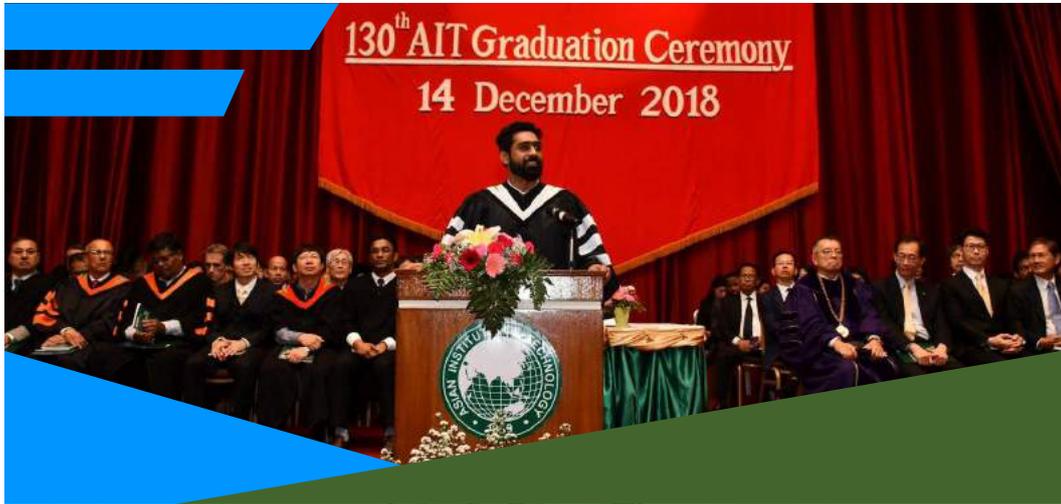


Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change
School of Environment, Resources and Development
Asian Institute of Technology

December 2018
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AIT's 130th Graduation Ceremony

14 December 2018, Asian Institute of Technology

Twenty Seven students from 9 countries graduated from the AIT's Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change during the 130th Graduation Ceremony held at the Asian Institute of Technology on 14 December 2018.

Upon successful completion of their academic programs, 1 student was awarded a doctoral degree and masters degree to another 26 students during the ceremony. The graduates hail from 7 countries, namely Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Timor-Leste.

AIT President Dr. Eden Y. Woon, Prof. Timothy W. Tong, President, Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) and Dr. Marrut Manistitya, Head of B2B, IT, and Mobile – Thailand & Indochina, Thai Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd delivered the graduation address.

Prof. Sivanappan Kumar, Vice President of Academic Affairs, officiated as Master of Ceremonies. Graduating

students were introduced by the Chair of the Academic Senate, Dr. P Abdul Salam, and were presented by their respective Deans: Prof. Voratas Kachitvichyanukul, Dean, School of Engineering and Technology (SET); Prof. Rajendra Kumar Shrestha, Dean, School of Environment, Resources, and Development (SERD); and Prof. Nazrul Islam, Dean, School of Management (SOM). Thirty-three students from AIT's International School provided an intermission number titled "A Million Dreams."

Ambassador Pradap Pibulsonggram, Corporate Advisor, TEAM Group of Companies Co. Ltd. and Vice-Chair of AIT Executive Committee, H.E. Mr. Ahmad Rusdi, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia and Member, AIT Board of Trustees, and Professor Emeritus Dr. Karl E. Weber, Member, Board of Trustees, attended the event. Besides Ambassador Rusi, other Ambassadors who graced the occasion included H.E. Mr. Joaquim Amaral, Ambassador of the Democratic

Republic of Timor-Leste, and H.E. Mr. Tshewang Chopel Dorji, Ambassador of the Royal Bhutanese Embassy.

Representatives of embassies who attended the event included Mr. Rodwan Osman Said Ibrahim, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the Republic of the Sudan; Mr. Pho Hoang Han, Minister Counsellor, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam; Mr. Yerlan Danabekov, Counsellor, Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan; Mr. Johan Ikram bin Ahmad Rusli, First Secretary, Embassy of Malaysia; Mr. Anil Sirimanna, First Secretary, Embassy of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka; Mr. Gembo Tshering, First Secretary, Royal Bhutanese Embassy; Mr. Yoshinori Suga, First Secretary, Alternate Permanent Representative of Japan to ESCAP, Embassy of Japan; Mr. Yasir Iqbal Butt, First Secretary, Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; Mr. Mahmoud Alizadeh, Second Secretary, Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran;

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Dr. Eden Woon, AIT President



Prof. Timothy W. Tong, President, Hong Kong Polytechnic University



Prof. Timothy W. Tong, President, Hong Kong Polytechnic University

"You will carry memories and knowledge from AIT as you join over 23,000 fellow graduates scattered all over the world, but you must keep on learning and remain curious. In addition to the friendships, knowledge, and curiosity you take away from AIT, I hope you will take with you a sense of right and wrong, a sense of integrity,"

President Woon



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal completes his two-year term as the Head of the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change

In 2016, as part of the major academic administrative restructuring, the formerly 'Field of Study' have been combined under the new departments to efficiently develop integrated programs and curriculum, and pool all administrative workloads from the field level to the departmental level.

niche-programs in areas of high significance, and many others."

Under the leadership of Dr. Dhakal, the EECC department has strengthened on multiple fronts. Dr. Dhakal's commitment to increase the digital presence of the department, led to the development of a [department website](#) that serve as the primary source of information of the Department to the world. It offers an accurate picture of what our programs are like and what it would be like to study at AIT. The site is also used for message dissemination and information collection through landing pages and campaigns. To tap on the widespread use of social media, the Department launched accounts on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#). The department proactively used the social media tools to engage the potential students and re-engage the current students and keep connected with the Alumni and donor communities. The department also produced department brochures, program flyers, roll-up banners, and whiteboard animation videos in order to heighten the visibility of the department and institute as a whole. Under his direction the department maintained a mailing list and has grown to more than 3,500 subscribers who regularly receive news and updates about the department. Monthly e-newsletters and Annual reports were produced to showcase the faculty, students and their research work to the outside world.

His influence on developing a knowledge-based community, led to a series of mandatory doctoral student seminars, where the PhD students speak on a topic of their interest besides their research. It is aimed at promoting scholarly exchanges and encourage interaction. Another notable development is the EECC seminar series where the guest speakers fly from across the globe to share their top-notch research and professional experiences.

Besides teaching and research, Dr. Dhakal is passionate about climate-smart cities. He was nominated as Coordinating Lead Author by Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) for it's 6th Assessment Report. He is co-leading Chapter 2: Emission Trends and Drivers of Mitigation Report, which is due mid-2021. Seven-hundred and twenty one experts from 90 countries will participate in as Coordinating Lead Authors, Lead Authors, and Review Editors. They were selected among 2,858 experts representing 105 countries. Dr. Shobhakar and Ferenc Toth of Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, Global Environment Facility share the responsibility for being CLAs for Chapter 2 of the Working Group (III) of IPCC.

Dr. Dhakal has authored multiple books and numerous journals amongst other accomplishments. He joined AIT as Associate Professor in August 2012.

[Read more about Dr. Dhakal](#)

"I take this opportunity to thank you all for your generous support and encouragement to the EECC Department as well as to me personally as its Head since 1 January 2017. I hope you will continue to support, more than before, to my colleague Dr. P. Abdul Salam, who will be a new HoD of EECC Department from 1 January 2019."

Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal

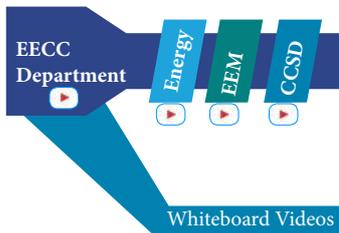
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal was the first Head of the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change (EECC). His two-year term as Head of the department completed on 31 December 2018.

He thanked the faculty and staff for their support during his tenure as head of the department. "I take this opportunity to thank you all for your generous support and encouragement to the EECC Department as well as to me personally as its Head since 1 January 2017," Dr. Dhakal wrote. "I hope you will continue to support, more than before, to my colleague Dr. P. Abdul Salam, who will be a new HoD of EECC Department from 1 January 2019," he added.

Dr. Dhakal also highlighted what could be done collectively in the coming years. "There is much more to do. Especially: consolidating curriculum, developing common front in the department beyond program-silos, making academic programs more innovative in delivery, innovation in teaching, procuring competitive research funding more, developing new

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Dr. Singh Delivered a Keynote Speech in an International Conference in India

4 - 5 December 2018, India

EECC Department faculty, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jai G. Singh delivered a Keynote speech on 'Electric Vehicle and Future Prospective' in the 1st International Conference on Mechanical: Innovative and Emerging Trends (MIET) on 4 December 2018, Uttar Pradesh, India.

of Engineering & Technology (MIET), Meerut, India. "The prime motive of the conference is to bring industry, academia, and researcher together at a common platform to exchange the ideas, recent development, innovations, Entrepreneurship, and future directions of Mechanical Engineering," said the organisers. MIET was established in 1997. It is one of the top private institutes of Uttar Pradesh with more

than 4,500 students in various undergraduate and postgraduate courses.

Dr. Singh's research interest includes Smart Grid and Microgrid, Renewable Energy Generation and Integration, Power System, Flexible AC Transmission Systems Controllers, Vehicle-to-Grid, Energy Conservation and Off-grid Electricity Access.

The conference was organised by the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Meerut Institute



Energy Alumnus, Prof. Somchai Wongwises is on the list of 2018 Highly Cited Researchers

Energy Alumnus, Prof. Somchai Wongwises is on the list of 2018 Highly Cited Researchers in the field of Engineering. Prof. Somchai graduated from AIT's School of Environment, Resources and Development with Master of Engineering in Energy in 1984.

Prof. Somchai specialises in Fluid Mechanics, Thermal Engineering and Multiphase Flow Research Lab (FUTURE). He is currently working at the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty

of Engineering, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT).

Prof. Somchai said that Highly Cited Researchers from Clarivate Analytics is an annual list recognizing leading researchers in the sciences and social sciences from around the world. The final list contains about 6,000 Highly Cited Researchers in 22 fields of the sciences and social sciences. The 2018 list focuses on contemporary research achievement: only Highly Cited

Papers in science and social sciences journals indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection during the 11-year period 2006 - 2016 were surveyed. Highly Cited Papers are defined as those that rank in the top 1% by citations in the field and publication year in the **Web of Science**. Highly Cited Researchers are leading the way in solving the world's biggest Challenges.

The entire 2018 Highly Cited Researchers list can be [seen here](#)



Prof. Somchai Wongwises, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi

Energy Foundation China and EECC Department Discussed Potential Areas of Collaboration

30 November 2018

Head of EECC Department Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal held a talk with President of Energy Foundation China, Dr. Zou Ji at

Energy Division of UNESCAP on 30 November 2018. The key area of collaborations discussed were jointly organizing

energy dialogues, green energy financing, regional energy security and Belt-and-Road Initiative.

Professor Joyashree Roy Spoke at the COP24 in Katowice, Poland

5 - 7 December 2018, Katowice, Poland

Prof. Joyashree Roy was invited by IPCC to COP24 (Conference of Parties) in Katowice, Poland to speak in three Panels organized by Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on 5 - 7 December, 2018.

higher adverse impact even at 1.5C warming which highlights need for good governance and capacity building in the region. She also presented the sustainable development, poverty eradication and inequality implications of strengthened climate response for the various regions and global implication.

Jesbin is with the IPCC (another nobel peace prize winner in 2007) in Geneva as IT officer since 2010. He completed MSc. in Computer Science from AIT in 1996 under the supervision of Dr Qi Yulu.

Prof. Roy presented special vulnerability of Asia even at 1.5C warming due to climate extremes and due to high share of global population as well as poor population living in the region. South East Asia and South Asia the two major food producers for global consumption will face

With new sixth assessment cycle under IPCC starting from next year she participated in the discussion on research need.

After working for RCC for 3 years, joined the International Criminal Court for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). After 6 years with the court, joined the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical weapons (OPCW), which recently awarded the nobel peace prize. Prof. Roy also worked for 4.5 years at OPCW.

Prof. Roy met with an AIT Alumnus, Mr. Jesbin Baidya. Mr.



Prof. Roy with the IPCC Team



AIT Alumnus, Mr. Jesbin Baidya

Delegation from Metropolitan Electricity Authority visited Asian Institute of Technology

21 December 2018

A delegation from Metropolitan Electricity Authority (MEA), Thailand, visited the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) on 21 December 2018. MEA will depute 24 students to AIT to pursue higher education in the

fields of energy and information & communication technologies.

The delegates were received by the Dean of School of Environment, Resources and Development, EECC Department

Head, Dr. Shobhakar Dhakal, and EECC Department faculty, Prof. Weerakorn Ongsakul. They were briefed on the program curriculum to get a better sense of the core courses and electives they would take. The

delegates visited AIT library, accomodation and other campus facilities, the Energy Park and laboratories. 8 students will join the EECC Department for professional certificate programs in January semester 2019.



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*Creating leaders
for sustainable Asia
and beyond*

RTG Fellowships available exclusively for Thai Nationals

15 January 2019

Here is your exclusive opportunity to learn from our world class faculty. AIT thrives on fresh ideas and new ways of thinking. Sign Up to earn an internationally accredited degree from AIT and take career and life to the next level.

The vision of the Royal Thai Government (RTG) is to prepare the country and its people for the emerging ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). Through its no-bond RTG Fellowships at AIT, it seeks to prepare its engineers, scientists and managers to become global citizens and emerge as key drivers of Thailand's international competitiveness. Thus, generous academic fellowships are being offered to Thai students to pursue Master's and Ph.D. programs.

Eligibility

- Thai national only
- Having English proficiency as required by AIT
- Four-year Bachelor's degree from a recognized university

[Read more...](#)

The application deadline is just a week away - 15 January 2019. The fellowships are very competitive. But, our team can help you craft your story and help you prepare to apply.

Let's discuss the application process. Which degree and/or program are you interested in?

Our admission is online. You can create your account on our admissions portal and start filling up. You can save and edit at your own pace provided you have the deadline in mind (15 January 2019). Upon completing the applications, you can attach the required documents and submit. Once submitted, you won't be able to edit the application. Please note that all documents are attached and application is duly filled.

[Apply Now...](#)

Here is what our RTG scholars at AIT say. You could be next to study in an international environment and explore interesting research projects.



Bangabandhu Chair Professor and Scholar Met with the Bangladesh Ambassador

Bangabandhu Chair Professor Joyashree Roy and Bangabandhu Scholar met the new Bangladesh Ambassador His excellency Md. Nazmul Quaanine in Bangkok, to discuss work progress so far under Bangabandhu Chair endowment and future course of actions.



On November 12-13, 2018, in Aspen Colorado, USA, Prof Roy presented to Industry experts the status of deep decarbonization for developing countries with special reference to India

Training Session on IDEA Laboratory Advanced Equipment Operation

3 - 4 December, Asian Institute of Technology

The two day EEM Laboratory training session on IDEA Laboratory advanced Equipment Operation for the research students was held on 3 -4 December 2018 at the IDEA laboratory, AIT.

Mr. Tomohisa Kume, the coordinator of the IDEA laboratory, conducted the training on advanced equipment operation, namely: Total Organic Carbon analyzer (TOC), Atomic

Absorption Spectroscopy (AAS), Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS),

High-Performance, Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) and Ion Chromatography (IC).



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