

Srisakdi Charmonman IT Center Valued over 600 Million Baht

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Abstract- Rev. Bro. Dr. Prathip Martin Komolmas kindly expressed his appreciation for Prof. Dr. Srisakdi Charmonman's help in making Assumption University well-known in IT field by naming the IT Center he built as "Srisakdi Charmonman IT Center (SCIT)". HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously blessed the foundation stone in the year 2002 and graciously opened the building in the year 2004. SCIT is the seat of the College of Internet Distance Education which offers the first complete eLearning degree program in Thailand and the first and only organization in the world to offer Ph.D. in eLearning Methodology.

Keywords- Srisakdi Charmonman IT Center, Center of Excellence in IT Education, College of Internet Distance Education.

1. INTRODUCTION

When Rev. Bro. Dr. Prathip Martin Komolmas was the President of Assumption University, he announced in the Church at Assumption University, Huamark Campus, on a Christmas Eve, that God sent a man to help him make Assumption University to be a center of excellence in IT and that man was Prof. Dr. Srisakdi Charmonman. With the support of Bro. Martin and later Rev. Bro. Dr. Bancha Saenghiran, the President of Assumption University after Bro. Martin became

the President Emeritus, Prof. Srisakdi has helped Assumption University in many ways such as the followings:

- The first computer brought to Assumption University was hand-carried from the United States by Prof. Srisakdi and that was a Radio Shack TRS 80.
- The first IT-related degree program at Assumption University was drafted by Prof. Srisakdi at Assumption University and approved by the committee chaired by Prof. Srisakdi at the Ministry of University Affairs.
- Prof. Srisakdi made Assumption University the only Founding Member in South East Asia of the Internet Society.
- Prof. Srisakdi established many learned organizations at Assumption University such as Thailand Chapter of the Internet Society, Thailand Chapter of the ACM, Thailand Chapter of the Computer Society of the IEEE, Data Processing Society for National Development, Internet Association, Association of Thai Internet Industry, Asia-Pacific eLearning Association, and etc.
- Prof. Srisakdi is the person who introduced the Internet to Assumption University when the Internet first came to Thailand at AIT where Prof. Srisakdi was the President of the AIT Alumni Association. The first office at A-Building of Assumption University, Huamak Campus.

- Prof. Srisakdi proposed, Bro. Martin supported and the Board of Trustees approved the proposal for Assumption University to be the first University in the world to require that all students use the Internet. At Other universities it is optional.
 - Prof. Srisakdi proposed and Bro. Martin supported Assumption University to establish the first International Internet Gateway for the private sector in Thailand.
 - Prof. Srisakdi developed the first Mater's degree program (MS in CIS) at Assumption University and as the Chairman of the Committee at MUA, approved it. He then established MS (CEM) and MS (IEC) as well as served as the Chairman of the Board of the 3 programs. By the year 2009, the three programs produced almost 4,000 graduates.
 - Prof. Srisakdi established the Ph.D. (CIS) and Ph.D. (CEM) which are also the first Ph.D. program for all private universities in Thailand. He also served as the Chairman of the Board of the program and advisor of the first graduate of Ph.D. from AU.
 - Prof. Srisakdi proposed and Bro. Martin supported the founding of ABAC Poll, for which Prof. Srisakdi served as the first Chairman until Bro. Martin became the Chairman in the year 2009.
 - Prof. Dr. Srisakdi established in the year 1994 weekly radio programs "Internet IT Talk" at FM 97 and later moved to FM 92.5. Later he established another radio program "A Talk in IT Language with Srisakdi Charmonman" at AM 891. He also established a weekly TV program on DLF eLearning TV station.
 - Prof. Srisakdi helped Assumption University in establishing other faculties such as Faculty of Science and Technology, Faculty of Engineering, and Faculty of Architecture.
 - Prof. Srisakdi has a list of publication of over 1,400 entries which is also a publicity for Assumption University.
 - Prof. Srisakdi has served as Chairman of the Organizing Committees for International Conferences with the name of Assumption University as the main organizer, such as Trans-border Data Flow, Internet Technology, Expert Systems, Computer and Engineering Management, eBusiness and eCommerce, eLearning, and etc.
 - By the year 2009, Prof. Srisakdi has served Assumption University for more than 33 years, starting as Vice President for Planning and Development when the President was Prof. Dr. Choop Karnjanaprakorn, then VPIT reported to Rev. Bro. Dr. Prathip Martin Komolmas and Rev. Bro. Dr. Bancha Saenghiran.
 - Prof. Srisakdi is the first full professor appointed at Assumption University and that was based on his being the first C11 Professor in Thailand in all fields of engineering.
 - Prof. Srisakdi was assigned by Bro. Martin to draft and read the citation to HRH the Crown Prince when Assumption University presented an Honorary Ph.D. to HRH the Crown Prince.
 - Prof. Srisakdi proposed and Bro. Martin and Bro. Bancha supported and the Board of Trustees approved the establishment of the College of Internet Distance Education (CIDE) with himself as the CEO. CIDE became the first university in Thailand to offer a complete degree program in eLearning mode. CIDE is also the first, and as of the year 2009, the only university in the world to offer Ph.D. in eLearning Methodology.
- In summary, with the support of Bro. Martin and Bro. Bancha, Prof. Srisakdi has helped them in making Assumption University a Center of Excellence in IT. So, Bro. Martin Kindly built the IT building and named it "Srisakdi Charmonman IT Center".

2. ROYAL BLESSING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE

On June 27, 2002, HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously blessed the foundation stone of SCIT as shown in Figures 1-4:



Figure 1. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously blessed the foundation stone of SCIT.



Figure 2. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously granted an audience for Bro. Martin and Prof. Srisakdi.



Figure 3. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously granted an audience to Assumption University top executives.



Figure 4. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously granted an audience Assumption University top executives.

3. ROYAL OPENING OF SCIT

On August 20, 2004, HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously presided over the opening of SCIT and the event was televised for a few hours. Selected photographs are shown in Figures 5-23:



Figure 5. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn arrived at SCIT.



Figure 6. H.E. Surapong Suebwonglee, Minister of Information and Communication Technology with Bro. Bancha and Prof. Srisakdi.



Figure 7. Bro. Bancha reported to HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn. From right to left in the front row in the background are Prof. Srisakdi, the Minister, and other dignitaries.



Figure 11. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously presided over the VDO conference.



Figure 8. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously pushed the button to open SCIT.



Figure 12. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously tried a golf swing meter.



Figure 9. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously blessed the opening stone.



Figure 13. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously looked at the golf swing meter.



Figure 10. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously signed the book of record.



Figure 14. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn at an IT demonstration.



Figure 15. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously looked at MK software written by AU.



Figure 19. The 408-terminal room on the 2nd floor of SCIT.



Figure 16. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously walked to another floor.



Figure 20. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously granted permission for AU executive to join HRH at the diner table.



Figure 17. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn at a demonstration of work of the deaf.



Figure 21. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously completed the visit of SCIT.



Figure 18. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn at a demonstration of a studio software.



Figure 22. A Close-up view of the name of SCIT.



Figure 23. A Front view of SCIT.

4. SCIT DECLARED CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN IT EDUCATION

At the opening ceremony of SCIT, H.E. Surapong Suebwonglee, Minister of Information and Communication Technology, reported to HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn that he had a policy of co-operating with university in using IT for the benefits of Thailand. Srisakdi Charmonman IT Center which HRH has graciously blessed the foundation stone on June 27, 2002 and opened on August 20, 2004 is very modern with over 10,000 squares meters of space, thousand of computers, VDO conference room, Seminar rooms, Internet training rooms with 408 terminals, Computer center, Internet servers, Uninterruptable power supplies, Diesel generator, Thailand Chapter of the Internet Society, Thailand Chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery, Thailand Chapter of the Computer Society of the IEEE, TV and Radio studios, the College of Internet Distance Education. It is, therefore, very appropriate for the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology to declare "Srisakdi Charmonman IT Center" a Center of Excellence in IT Education.

5. SCIT IS WORTH OVER 600 MILLION BAHT

From page 35 of the Budget of Assumption University for the year 2004-2005 the estimated budget for SCIT was 633.74 million baht as follows:

• Piling	12.08	Million
• Steel work	16.45	Million
• Structure	202.40	Million
• Lift	20.27	Million
• Air condition	51.54	Million
• Water System	1.10	Million
• Electricity System	17.78	Million
• Waste Treatment	3.94	Million
• Computer Network	48.38	Million
• Computer	136.59	Million
• Furniture	23.21	Million
• TV and Radio Studios	100.00	Million
Total	633.74	Million

The above amount of 633.74 million baht does not include the diesel generator. The budget for TV and Radio Studios was reduced to about 50 million baht. More Computer Storage, Computer and Internet Network, Routers and Switches were added. The Computer Storage has been increased to 40 terabytes. The Internet Connection has been increased to 120 Mbps to the USA. Anyway, it may be said that SCIT building and equipment are worth at least 600 million baht.

6. ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PROFESSOR'S OFFICE IN THE WOLD

Visitors from many countries have expressed there views that Prof. Srisakdi's Office in SCIT is one of the most beautiful professor's office in the world. Even professor from European countries said that they have never seen any professor's office in European as elegant. Selected photos are shown in Figures 24-29. Shown in Figure 24 is the desk Prof. Srisakdi designed with the size of 150 x 300 centimeters plus 100 x 120 centimeters for the computer with the 26-inch screen. All furnitures are in Louis style.



Figure 24. Prof. Srisakdi's desk with 26-inch computer monitor.



Figure 28. The VDO-Conference Room in Prof. Srisakdi's office.



Figure 25. Reception area opposite the desk.



Figure 29. A wall in Prof. Srisakdi's office.



Figure 26. One side of the office.



Figure 27. A view of the reception room in Prof. Srisakdi's office.

7. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Rev. Bro. Dr. Prathip Martin Komolmas has kindly named one of the most modern IT center in Thailand "Srisakdi Charmonman IT Center" to honor Prof. Srisakdi's Contribution in making Assumption University a top IT-related university in the world. SCIT is the seat of the College of Internet Distance Education which offer the first complete online degree program in Thailand and the first and only Ph.D. in eLearning Methodology program in the world.

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