



Message from H.E. the Minister of Science and Technology

I am pleased to be here today to join in the International Conference on IT to Celebrate Professor Dr. Srisakdi's 72nd Birthday. So let me say "Happy Birthday" first. Happy Birthday! Dr. Srisakdi.

The current global economic crisis will push companies and governments to invest more in IT to dramatically improve productivity for they will have less income and they will need to cut costs. Growth of IT will continue.

What a wonderful way to celebrate one's birthday! Among one's elders, among friends, colleagues and students; and doing what one enjoy doing: Collaborating and Learning.

I am also pleased to learn that the Business Computer Department of ABAC, the predecessor of the Assumption University, which I had played a part to start with Dr. Choop Karnjanaprakorn, Dr. Prathip M. Komolmas and Dr. Srisakdi Charmonman in 1979, thirty years ago has grown and prospered.

Many graduate courses were added. I was told that there are 6 Ph.D. Programs, 16 Master Degree Programs, 8 Bachelor Programs. Up to this year, there were 3,526 graduates in Bachelor Degrees, 4,499 graduates in Master Degrees, and 33 graduates in Ph.D. A most amazing achievement! Congratulations.

I trust you will all enjoy the birthday party and I hope you will also have a most successful and rewarding, conference.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "K. Sophonpanich".

**(Dr. Khunying Kalaya Sophonpanich)
Minister of Science and Technology**