



JGSEE

Operates under 5 universities collaboration



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Three Evaluations in a Year!

After the 2 evaluation and monitoring visits by the team



from Rajaphat Suan Dusit representing NEPO, and ADB mission as reported in the previous issues of JGSEE Newsletter, during 3-6 July, JGSEE entertained another evaluation team- the Technical Expert Group (TEG)

from the States. They came to assess JGSEE performance and achievements on behalf of the Ministry of Universities. The Team consisted of Dr. Wison Luangdilok, Professor Henry Shaw, Dr. Amit Chagma and Dr. Paitoon Tontiwachwuthikul as advisor. During the 4 days visit, they had discussions with JGSEE Board of Trustees, administrators, staff and students, including an industrial collaborator to obtain insight information concerning progress, performance, achievements and problems. Visits to SIIT and KMITNB were also made to evaluate JGSEE activities over there. After the visit, the team is expected to



come out with a report giving accounts of JGSEE performance and activities, together with suggestions and recommendations, which will be useful for future operation of JGSEE. According to the ADB project plan, this kind of evaluation visit will be undertaken every year. On a final note, it should be known that another important evaluation will be the midterm review by an ADB team which is expected to be made sometime next year.

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**JGSEE Newsletter is edited and published by
The Joint Graduate School of Energy and
Environment**

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Mr. Prathumthip Sawangamporn**

**Executive Editor
Editor**

Research Collaboration and Workshops

On May 18, 2001, JGSEE was the host to Professor J.C. Ho of the National University of Singapore. He came to discuss about the possibility of research collaboration on certain subject. The project, after receiving approval from the funding source, will focus on potential of a certain energy technology in Thailand. During the meeting, programmes on two ASEAN Training Workshops, involving drying and utilization of natural gas were also mentioned. These events are expected to be held in Thailand sometime towards the end of the year, and JGSEE will have some parts in the organization of these workshops.

JGSEE Staff Made Contribution at a Khon-Kaen Workshop

One of the major research areas at JGSEE is atmospheric science and air pollution modelling. Activities on the subject, include a taught course, and research studies by a number of students. In this connection, Mr. Jocelyn Harvey, a member of the research group, has recently been invited to give presentation, relating to the subjects at Khon-Kaen University. The contribution was made on May 24, 2001, at the Workshop on Air Pollution Modelling and Its Applications. It was a 4-day workshop, attended by over 30 participants from Thailand and US, and sponsored by the Society of Thai Experts in the US and Canada (ATPAC). Mr. Harvey's presentation was "The Use of Thai Meteorological Data in Dispersion Modelling", which covered data availability, data analysis and the use of primary and derived data.

Update on Student Statistics

The first semester of this academic year has just started, and the number of new students has grown up considerably from last semester intake. Just for records, 27 new students are admitted in this semester, breaking down into 6 M.Sc, 14 M.Phil and 7 Ph.D students. Subjectwise, 15 are in energy field, and the other 12 choose to study in environment areas. On a parallel note, we also see an increasing trend in the number of overseas students. As compared to one from Laos last semester, we have three overseas students coming from Nepal, Cambodia and Vietnam this semester. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome them all to JGSEE, and wish them success in their studies.

On a different issue, this semester will be put on a record that it is the first semester that we have graduates. Nine M.Phil students have already passed their coursework including dissertation, and will be graduated as soon as they complete the requirements on English and paper publications.

Chinese Scholar Gave Seminar at JGSEE

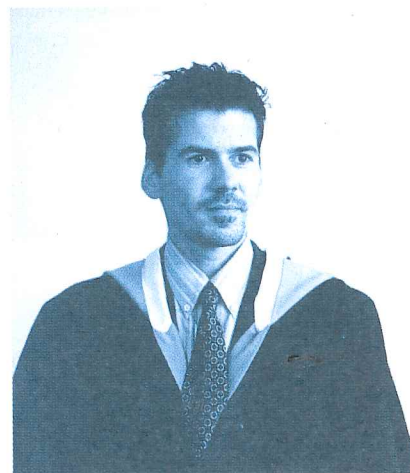


To foster closer relationship with our Asian research scientists, a Chinese Ph.D student -Mr. You Xiaobao, from the Institute of Atmospheric Physics (IAP), Chinese Academy of Science, China, was invited to present the results of his research investigation at a JGSEE seminar, held on June 20, 2001. The topic was "Numerical Study of Seasonal Circulation in the South China Sea", which involves a 3-D primitive equation model describing coastal ocean circulation with the application of blocking techniques. The model gives overall seasonal circulation pattern in the south China Sea, which is affected strongly by not only the monsoon, but also the water exchange between the South China Sea and the nearby sea. Furthermore, the seasonal variation of the local warm current and the branch of Kuroshio were also presented.

The event was attended by more than 25 participants and coordinated by Professor Prungchan Wongwises, a JGSEE associated staff, and Mr. E.J. Harvey.

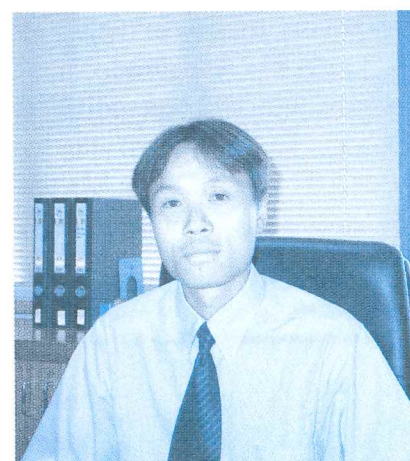
N New Teaching Staff

Since the beginning of the new semester, a gentleman has joined JGSEE as a part time English tutor. His name is **Paul Aarts**. He is a New Zealander with degrees in mechanical engineering and Arts from NZ and the Netherlands respectively. His teaching experiences went back several years, which include English teaching in Laos, and Thailand. He will give English tutorial to our JGSEE students this semester. We would like to welcome him and wish him a happy time at JGSEE.



Mr. Paul Jay Aarts

The second staff to join JGSEE this semester is **Dr. Amnat Chidthaisong**. He is a native Thai who has been away from the country for a long time. Dr. Amnat, graduated with 1st class honor in Agricultural Science from Khon Kaen University. He then went to Japan to study at Mie University, by which he obtained his master and doctorate degrees. He worked about 6 years in Germany and the States in the capacity as post doctorate research fellow and research associate. His main areas of research cover: effect of land use and areas of agricultural practice or environment quality especially in relation to emission of greenhouse gases, use of carbon radioisotope as a tracer in ecological and biochemical studies. His other fields of interest include aquatic chemistry, anaerobic degradation, biogeochemistry of greenhouse gases and their exchanges between atmosphere and terrestrial reservoirs, and cycling of elements in aquatic environments.



Dr. Amnat Chidthaisong

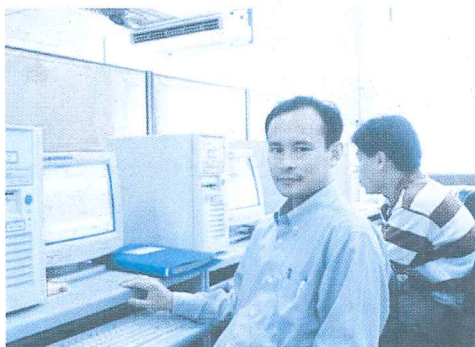
LIBRARY

Facts and Figures about JGSEE Library

One of the important elements in post graduation and research is library. For almost a year that JGSEE library has been established. It is located on the third floor, with a good surroundings. Up to now, more than 2 million baht have been spent on books and journals, and the amount is steadily growing. Currently, the library stocks more than 800 books and 5 journals of specialized subjects relating to energy and environment. These books and journals are relatively expensive and we hope staff and students alike, can exploit them to the most advantage.

What our Overseas Students Say

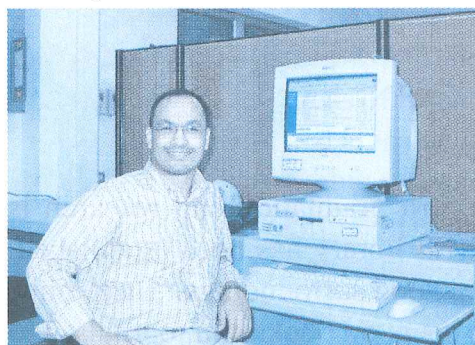
Mr. Linsamouth Vilayvong



Among JGSEE present 96 students, **Mr. Linsamouth Vilayvong**, a Ph.D candidate from Laos, is one of the four overseas students currently studying at JGSEE. With bachelor degree in Electric Power Station from Tachert Polytechnic Institute in USSR, and master degree in Electric Power System Management from AIT, his study naturally focuses on energy. After more than one semester at JGSEE, this is what he has in mind about energy situation in Laos and what he plans to do after graduation

“In Laos, the country at present, still lacks proper energy and environment management. Only policies and plans are in place, but there are problems in implementation. Several parts of the country still do not have electricity, despite much effort from the government, including the plan to use renewables, such as solar energy. Projects and plans have not been very successful mainly due to lack of technical know how and fund. After graduation, I will surely go back and help to accelerate the development. With my position in Laos, as a senior member of my university, with many of my students working in the public sectors, I think I can convey to them the new concepts in energy and environmental management which would hopefully lead to more effective direction and implementations in the future.”

Mr. Ranjan Prakash Shrestha



The second overseas student we talked to, comes from Nepal - **Mr. Ranjan Prakash Shrestha**. This is his first semester at JGSEE, but he is not new to Thailand. He obtained a bachelor degree in mechanical engineering from Tribhuvan University in Nepal, master degree in microbiology from Karnataka University in India and a master degree in energy economics and planning from AIT. So, he has been around. He wishes to settle in his own country after his studying period at JGSEE. Here are some of his views concerning the world environment issues and his future direction.

“Right now, the world energy has been used at a fast rate, causing environment problems, like global warming, climate change and so on. With the knowledge I have gained over the years, I believe I can be a part in tackling such problems. After my graduation, I will definitely go back to my country and hope to work as a researcher in some organizations. In this

capacity. I hope I can assist in identifying major issues and developing some practical policies to reduce the problem. It does not matter much whether my contributions will be accepted for implementation or not. More important are conscience and awareness of the people in the country that they should be informed and concerned about the energy and environment crisis."

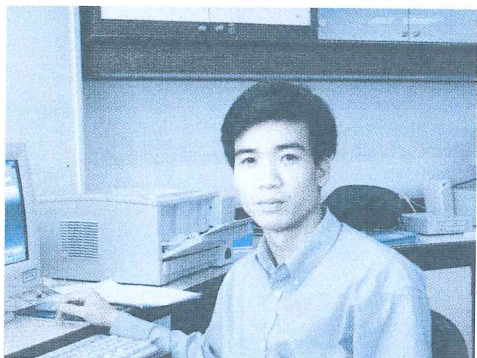
Mr. Sovannndara Nou



Mr. Sovannndara Nou from Cambodia is an M.Phil student at JGSEE. After his graduation in Electrical Engineering from the Institute of Technology of Cambodia, he obtained a job at the Department of Energy Planning in Cambodia, where he has been working for over 10 years. The study topics at JGSEE are directly related to his current responsibilities. And here are some of his comments.

"I believe that JGSEE can provide me with strong knowledge which will be useful for my future works relating to energy management in my home country. As I see it, JGSEE program is in several respects, very suitable for students from neighbouring countries in Asia, including myself."

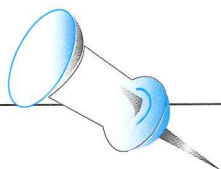
Mr. Hieu Nguyen Duc



Our last overseas friend is the youngest of the four. **Mr. Hieu Nguyen Duc**, from Vietnam, enrolls in an M.Phil program. He obtained his first degree in Energy Economics from Hanoi University of Technology, and has been a lecturer there for 2 years. His views and determination are reflected in his short interview with our staff as follows.

"Firstly, I think that there are two important parts relating to energy: resource and demand. We have to know how to conserve the resources while the demand increases. If we can use the resources more efficiently, it means that we can have more energy resources. Secondly, there is definite relationship between energy consumption and environmental impact. The more energy we use, the more our environment is polluted. Being a lecturer in my home country, opportunity will be open to me to transfer the knowledge I gain from here to my students back home after graduation."

All of them believe that collaboration among students from different countries at JGSEE, is one of the most effective ways of creating energy and environment network. The co-operation would certainly be useful for solving the energy and environment problems in the region. Finally, they are thankful to the Thai government and JGSEE for making their studies possible, and to the Thai people and JGSEE staff for the hospitality accorded to them.



ANNOUNCEMENT
ENERGY / ENVIRONMENT FACULTIES WANTED:

Doctorate degree in energy related fields including environment aspects. Excellent command of English. Will be responsible for graduate teaching and thesis supervision.

Interested applicants, please contact:

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