



ONE TU
มหาวิทยาลัยธรรมศาสตร์
THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY

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THAMMASAT CONNECT

BUILD 'THE NEXT STEP' TOGETHER



SEASON'S GREETINGS

- Message from the new Rector of Thammasat University
- Thammasat University bestows honorary degree upon HM the King of Bhutan

HIGHLIGHTS

- AIMS Thailand Outing 2024: Four universities uniting for a day of cultural activities, adventure, and community exploration

INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNER TALK

- Empowering Educators for Sustainable Education



THAMMASAT CONNECT

Build

'The Next Step'

Together

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Season's Greetings



Professor Dr. Surapon Nitikraipot President of the Thammasat University Council

Dear Members of the Thammasat Community,

As we welcome 2025, it is a fitting time to reflect on and celebrate the remarkable achievements we have accomplished together as a community.

In my role as President of the Thammasat University Council and Advisor to Thammasat University Hospital, I am deeply committed to upholding the core values of Thammasat as a **“University for the People.”** These values guide our dedication to the highest quality standards, ensuring a meaningful impact on both Thai society and the global community.

A recent highlight of our shared progress is the opening of the **Thammasat Advanced Medical Center (THAMC)** at Thammasat University Hospital. This state-of-the-art facility, inaugurated in celebration of the university's 90th anniversary and the hospital's 36th anniversary, reflects our commitment to providing premium medical services. Guided by our principle of serving the people, the center offers high-quality healthcare at affordable rates, ensuring accessibility for all.

As we step into this new year, I wish you and your families happiness, good health, and prosperity. Together, let us continue to uphold the values that make Thammasat a beacon of excellence and compassion.

Happy New Year 2025!
Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Nitikraipot". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Prof. Dr. Surapon Nitikraipot
President of the Thammasat
University Council



Thammasat Advanced Medical Center (THAMC)

Thammasat University marked a significant milestone with the opening of the Thammasat Advanced Medical Center (THAMC) on Thursday, 27 June 2024. Located within Thammasat University Hospital, this state-of-the-art facility is dedicated to providing premium-quality yet affordable medical services to a wide range of patients. Its mission is to serve the public, including low-income individuals and those requiring treatment for complex medical conditions utilizing advanced technology.

The THAMC spans an impressive 53,965 square meters and consists of a modern 10-storey building designed to offer comprehensive, one-stop services. The facility operates with a “patient-centric approach” ensuring that care is tailored to individual needs by a team of highly experienced specialists and staff.

The center features specialized clinics in orthopedics, surgery, dermatology, pediatrics, and more. With a daily capacity to accommodate up to 1,500 outpatients, the THAMC is equipped to address a diverse range of healthcare needs, setting a new benchmark in accessible and advanced medical care for the region.



Season's Greetings

**Professor Supasawad Chardchawarn, PhD.
Rector, Thammasat University**

Dear Esteemed Partners,

As we welcome a new year, it is a time to reflect on past achievements and look forward to future aspirations. In my first year as the Rector of Thammasat University, I have introduced the **"ONE TU"** policy as the cornerstone of our commitment to serving the community, the nation, and fostering greater integration across our four campuses. Our goal remains steadfast: to establish Thammasat as one of the foremost leading comprehensive universities for the future society.



Within the first 100 days of my tenure, we launched and successfully implemented the **"10 Quick Win Projects"** to benefit the Thammasat community. These initiatives include:

- Developing an advanced e-learning system for credit accumulation within a Credit Bank framework;
- Establishing a Cooperative Education Center to enhance students' competencies for the workforce;
- Supporting and nurturing new researchers to address critical social challenges, among other impactful endeavors.

Looking ahead, we recognize the challenges and opportunities on the path to becoming a leading comprehensive university for society. Our focus will be on fostering integrated knowledge creation, equipping students with essential skills, and generating impactful research and innovation that benefit both Thai society and the global community. Moreover, we remain dedicated to enhancing the quality of life and well-being of our students and staff under the strategic framework of "Creating Happiness and Sustainability for the Thammasat Community."

As 2025 unfolds, we will celebrate the 91st Anniversary of Thammasat University, marking our legacy of achievements and the shared successes we have realized with our valued partners.

On behalf of Thammasat University, I extend my heartfelt wishes to you and your families for happiness, peace, good health, and prosperity in the year ahead.

Happy New Year 2025!
Warm regards,



Prof. Dr. Supasawad Chardchawarn
Rector, Thammasat University





Highlights

AIMS Thailand Outing 2024: Four universities uniting for a day of cultural activities, adventure, and community exploration

On 16 November 2024, students from four of Thailand's leading universities joined the AIMS Thailand Outing 2024. The event saw participants from Thammasat University, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT), Mahidol University, and Kasetsart University uniting for a day of cultural activities, adventure, and community exploration.



The day began with a series of hands-on workshops. Students had the opportunity to design and personalize their tie-dye bags, as well as creating their own inhalers and traditional Thai desserts, such as rice balls in coconut milk (bua loy). These activities celebrated both artistic expression and Thai culinary traditions.

The outing also featured a scenic bike tour through Bang Krachao, known as the “lungs of Bangkok” due to its vast green spaces and lush landscapes. Later in the day, the group explored Bang Nam Phueng Market, a unique canal-side community market. The market, famous for its authentic Thai products, fresh produce, and delicious street food, allowed students to experience the flavors and traditions of the local community firsthand. From handmade crafts to traditional snacks, the market is a vibrant showcase of Thai culture.



The AIMS Thailand Outing 2024 was a resounding success, fostering collaboration and friendship among students. As the event wrapped up, participants left with new memories, stronger connections, and a deeper understanding of the traditions that make Thailand a special place to live and study.



International Events

Thammasat Attends “EAIE 2024” in Toulouse, France

The Office of International Affairs (OIA) at Thammasat University, led by Assoc. Prof. Supreedee Rittironk, Vice Rector for International Affairs, participated in the annual EAIE Conference and Exhibition. Held under the theme “En Route” the event was organized by the European Association for International Education (EAIE) from 17 to 20 September 2024 in Toulouse, France. Over 7,300 participants and 200+ exhibitors attended the onsite conference, which featured a variety of sessions, workshops, networking events, inspiring plenaries, and campus tours.



16 September 2024: The Thammasat team was invited to a reception hosted by Sciences Po Toulouse, where they were introduced to new EAIE members. This event provided an opportunity to engage on a wide range of topics and build valuable networks.



17–20 September 2024: As the EAIE Conference commenced, the Thammasat delegates visited exhibitors, reconnected with old partners, and engaged in discussions with potential future collaborators. Conversations throughout the event focused on strengthening existing partnerships and exploring new opportunities for cooperation.



21–24 September 2024 – Partnership Days: On 21 September, the Thammasat team visited Sciences Po Paris and met with Pauline Couteau, International Affairs Manager for Central and Southeast Asia, South Korea, Japan, and the Pacific. Discussions centered on expanding collaboration through initiatives such as a double degree in Political Science, visiting professor programs, and the Erasmus+ Consortium. On 23–24 September, Thammasat representatives, along with colleagues from universities in Canada, Turkey, Belgium, and Germany, visited the University of Caen Normandie (UNICAEN). This visit included one-on-one meetings and roundtable discussions on best practices in exchange programs. The team also enjoyed a historical tour of the university, learning about its founding during World War II.



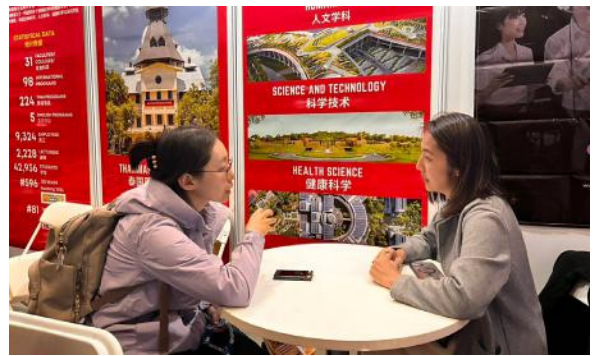


Thammasat University at the China Education Expo (CEE) 2024

From 26 October to 02 November 2024, Thammasat University, led by Dr. Usanee Lertrattananon, Assistant to the Rector for International Affairs, participated in the China Education Expo (CEE) 2024 across four major cities: Guangzhou, Shanghai, Chengdu, and Beijing. The Thammasat team engaged with prospective students, parents, educators, and international partners, sharing insights into the university's programs and commitment to world-class education.

The Thammasat delegation included executives, faculty members, and staff from various departments, including the Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Public Health, Thammasat Business School, Faculty of Social Administration, Faculty of Journalism and Mass Communication, Pridi Banomyong International College, Thammasat Design School, Sirindhorn International Institute of Technology, and the Office of International Affairs.

At the expo, Thammasat University's booth showcased a wide array of international programs, emphasizing the university's unique "One TU" philosophy, which embodies its dedication to excellence in global education. Additionally, the university introduced a variety of short programs and interactive activities for students to explore. The event provided an excellent opportunity to connect with international partners interested in collaboration with one of Thailand's leading universities.



Thammasat University Participates in the “8th Thailand Education Fair” in Yangon, Myanmar

Thammasat University’s Office of International Affairs (OIA), led by Dr. Usanee Lertrattananon, Assistant to the Rector for International Affairs, proudly represented the university at the “8th Thailand Education Fair”. The event, held from 17 to 18 November 2024 in Yangon, Myanmar, was co-organized by the Association of Myanmar Alumni from Universities in Thailand (AMAUT) and the Royal Thai Embassy in Yangon.

The Thammasat delegation included executives and representatives from several academic units, including the Thammasat Business School, the Faculty of Economics, the Faculty of Engineering, Pridi Banomyong International College, and the School of Global Studies.



Welcome Dinner and Networking

On 16 November, the Thammasat team attended a Welcome Dinner hosted by AMAUT, providing an excellent opportunity for networking and collaboration. During the event, Dr. Usanee Lertrattananon introduced Thammasat University to attendees and representatives from other Thai universities. In her address, she shared insights on the future of education for the younger generation in both Thailand and Myanmar, emphasizing the importance of cross-border collaboration in higher education.

Education Fair Highlights

The Thailand Education Fair officially commenced on 17 November, featuring opening speeches from notable figures, including the Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar, the Vice President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI), and the President of AMAUT.



Courtesy Visit to the Thai Embassy

On 17 November, Dr. Usanee Lertrattananon, along with the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and other staff members, paid a courtesy visit to H.E. Mr. Mongkol Visitstump, the Ambassador of Thailand to Myanmar. During the meeting, both sides explored areas for comprehensive cooperation, including education exchange, job opportunities, trade and investment, and infrastructure development. Dr. Usanee emphasized Thammasat University's commitment to fostering partnerships at the university level and expanding study-abroad opportunities for students from both nations.

Thammasat University's participation in the "8th Thailand Education Fair" demonstrated its dedication to strengthening educational ties between Thailand and Myanmar. The event not only showcased Thammasat's diverse academic offerings but also reinforced the university's role as a bridge for international collaboration and innovation in education.



International Relationships

Thammasat University Strengthens Ties with Bhutan in Diplomatic Visit

On 16 October, 2024, a delegation from Thammasat University, led by Assoc. Prof. Supreedee Rittironk, Vice Rector for International Affairs, and Ast. Prof. Dr. Thanyaporn Soontornthum, Director of the Thammasat Institute of Area Studies (TIARA), paid a courtesy call on H.E. Mr. Kinzang Dorji, Ambassador of Bhutan, at the Royal Bhutanese Embassy in Bangkok. The delegation was warmly welcomed by the Ambassador, along with Mr. Karma Tshosar, Deputy Chief of Mission, and Mr. Sonam Palden, Second Secretary.

Both sides expressed their deep satisfaction with the longstanding relationship between Thammasat University and Bhutan, highlighting the continued support for Bhutanese students through Thammasat's scholarship programs. The discussion also reflected on a key milestone in June 2024, when Thammasat University conferred an honorary doctoral degree in



Creative Development upon His Majesty King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck of Bhutan. The delegation for that ceremony was led by Prof. Woothisarn Tanchai, Vice Chairman of the University Council, and Prof. Dr. Supasawad Chardchawarn, the Rector of Thammasat University, and included a visit to the Royal University of Bhutan.

During the productive meeting, both parties explored future collaboration, including the establishment of Thailand's first Bhutan Studies Center at Thammasat's Rangsit campus, to be overseen by TIARA. This initiative marks a significant step in enhancing academic and cultural ties between the two nations.





Thammasat University Strengthens Ties with Japanese Partners at Rangsit Campus

On 16 October, 2024, Dr. Usanee Lertrattananon, Assistant to the Rector for International Affairs, along with Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chaiwat Meesanthan, Director of the Institute of East Asian Studies, and Asst. Prof. Dr. Chaiwatt Mansrisuk, Director of the Center for Japan Studies, welcomed Ms. Maki Kawamura, Counsellor of the Japanese Embassy, as well as Mr. Masayuki Kuriyama, Director-General, and staff from the Japan Foundation in Bangkok to Thammasat University's Rangsit Campus.

The meeting served as an opportunity to review and update information on ongoing exchange programs, including student exchange numbers, while celebrating the successful collaboration among the Japanese Embassy, the Institute of East Asian Studies, and the Center for Japan Studies. Their joint initiatives, such as the Japan Festival 2023 and other academic activities, were highlighted as milestones of their cooperation.

In addition, both parties discussed strategies to enhance Thailand-Japan relations and expand cultural and academic opportunities for Thammasat students. Plans include organizing cultural events, seminars, special lectures, and offering scholarships to deepen bilateral ties.

During the visit, the Japan Foundation introduced its new initiative, the "WA Project 2.0," which focuses on promoting exchange among the next generation and developing human resources across Japan and ASEAN countries. Thammasat University emphasized the importance of this collaboration and sought further support from the Japanese side, particularly in enhancing student exchanges and scholarship opportunities.



Thammasat Partners with the EU to Advance THE-GLOW Project

On 15 November 2024, Thammasat University welcomed high-level representatives from the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) to its Rangsit campus to discuss the progress of the “Transdisciplinary Higher Education for Global Well-being” (THE-GLOW) project. Leading the university delegation were Assoc. Prof. Dr. M.L. Pinitbhand Paribatra, Vice Rector for Research and Innovation, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Supreedee Rittironk, Vice Rector for International Affairs.

Joining them were Asst. Prof. Dr. Pol. Maj. Katiya Ivanoitch, Deputy Dean for Administration and International Affairs, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Thongchai Kanabkaew, Deputy Dean for Graduate Studies and Research from the Faculty of Public Health.

THE-GLOW project, spearheaded by Thammasat’s Faculty of Public Health in collaboration with the European Union (EU), aims to develop a transdisciplinary educational framework that promotes global well-being and aligns with the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The project has received significant financial support from the EU, underscoring its importance in fostering international cooperation and sustainable development.

During the visit, participants reviewed the project’s progress and discussed strategies for further implementation. The meeting served as a platform to strengthen ties between Thammasat and the EU, emphasizing the shared commitment to advancing education and research for global impact.

Following the discussions, the delegation celebrated Loy Krathong, a traditional Thai festival symbolizing gratitude and renewal. Participants released beautifully crafted krathong into the pool in front of the iconic Dome Building, marking a meaningful conclusion to the day.



International Award Winner Talk



“
**Empowering
Educators
for
Sustainable
Education**
”

Dr. Nuttavikhom Phanthuwongpakdee, an instructor at the Puey Ungphakorn School of Development Studies (PSDS), specializes in Development Geography and Sustainable Development. With degrees in Chemistry, Environmental Engineering, and Human Geography, he conducted a Master’s thesis on flood modeling in Mozambique. His expertise grew during Thailand’s 2011 Mega Flood disaster, where he combined social dimensions with technical solutions, emphasizing the role of social factors in disaster resilience.

Career Pathway

After earning a joint PhD in Geography, Dr. Nuttavikhom began teaching courses like TU100: Civic Education and TU103: Life and Sustainability across multiple faculties at Thammasat University. He joined the Puey Ungphakorn School of Development Studies (PSDS) after working with SDG Move, where he promoted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Thailand, and contributing as a researcher to the Urban Futures and Policy Research Unit on climate change adaptation.



When PSDS had an open position in 2019, I was encouraged to apply. This opportunity allowed me to align my passion for teaching, research, and sustainable development, and that's how I became a part of Thammasat.

Success and Inspiration

At PSDS, Dr. Nuttavikhom integrates sustainability into operations, applying SDGs to CSR and ESG frameworks and employing tools such as Social Return on Investment (SROI) to assess the social impact of development initiatives. As Deputy Director of SDG Move, he has overseen projects like Thailand's National SDG Knowledge Hub and engaged with the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) - Thailand.

Through the Urban Futures and Policy Research Unit, he also coordinates the Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities Network (EPIC-N) in Asia, connecting academic institutions, local governments, and communities to address societal challenges.



These initiatives inspire me because they demonstrate how interdisciplinary collaboration and innovative frameworks can drive tangible progress. By connecting global best practices with localized action, I hope to continue advancing sustainability efforts that create meaningful change for communities.





Impact on Communities

Dr. Nuttavikhom's work focuses on leveraging the SDGs framework to conduct impactful research, such as SDG Localization and the Interdisciplinary Sustainability Solution Platform for Transformation Towards the SDG Sandbox. These projects empower communities to tackle pressing local challenges, foster inclusive development, and implement innovative sustainable solutions tailored to their distinctive contexts.

As the EPIC-N coordinator, he champions sustainable development, resilience, and education that actively engages with communities across Asia, teaming up with coordinators from the USA, Africa, and Latin America & the Caribbean to exchange transformative lessons learned and craft forward-thinking global strategies.



This approach creates lasting, transformative impacts across diverse regions, bridging research and practice to build stronger, more sustainable communities.





In Dr. Nuttavikhom's View

Thammasat University reflects the spirit of “Thammasat for the People” by serving as a sustainable development hub. By integrating efforts from SDG Move, Urban Futures, and EPIC Asia, he ensures their initiatives are inclusive and leave no one behind. He advocates for starting with small, impactful projects that address immediate needs while building long-term sustainability.



Set measurable goals, monitor progress, and adapt strategies. Transparency builds trust and inspires participation. Engage children and youth by empowering them to become ambassadors of change.



Student Activities



Thammasat organizes “Orientation, Hail and Farewell” for Inter-Students

Nearly 200 international students participated in the Semester 1/2024 orientation at the Tha Prachan campus, where they received insights into Thai culture, basic Thai language, and important visa regulations. The event helped students integrate into university life while preparing them to live in Thailand. A cultural tour followed, taking students to landmarks such as the Emerald Buddha Temple, the Grand Palace, and Museum Siam, offering a deeper understanding of Thailand’s heritage.





At the end of the semester, a farewell party celebrated the students' journey at Thammasat. The event included a Thai-style dinner by the Chao Phraya River, storytelling, and a group photo. Students dressed in colorful attire, shared their experiences, and participated in a lucky draw, receiving Thammasat-themed memorabilia as parting gifts.



Thammasat International Sports Day Fosters Unity Through Sports

On 12 October 2024, Thammasat University's Office of International Affairs, in collaboration with the Student Union and Recreational Creative Association, hosted the annual International Sports Day to promote camaraderie among students through friendly competition.

The event began with opening remarks by Assoc. Prof. Supreedee Rittironk, Vice Rector for International Affairs, who emphasized sportsmanship and enjoyment. Activities included football, volleyball, and traditional Thai sports like three-legged and relay races.





Highlights included:

- A spirited football match between red and yellow teams, followed by trophy and medal presentations.
- Enthusiastic participation in traditional Thai games, fostering unity among Thai and international students.
- A vibrant volleyball match concluding the games in a friendly atmosphere.

The day ended with a Thai-style buffet dinner, celebrating a successful blend of sports, fun, and friendship.





OIA Hosts Halloween Party and Costume Contest

On 30 October 2024, Thammasat University's Office of International Affairs (OIA) organized a Halloween party featuring a spooky costume contest and a fruit and vegetable carving workshop for Thai and international students.

Highlights included:

- Associate Professor Dr. Supreedee Rittironk, Vice Rector for International Affairs, welcoming attendees dressed as Dracula.

- A hands-on carving workshop where students created Halloween-themed jack-o'-lanterns as unique souvenirs.

- A costume contest showcasing creative attire, with winners receiving gift vouchers.

The event successfully combined cultural exchange with festive activities, leaving participants with lasting memories.





Krathong-Making Workshop for Loy Krathong Festival

On 15 November 2024, Thammasat University's Office of International Affairs (OIA) hosted a Krathong-making workshop at the Tha Prachan campus, welcoming nearly 60 Thai and international students. Participants learned to craft traditional krathongs from banana tree trunks, leaves, flowers, incense sticks, and candles while exploring the cultural significance of the Loy Krathong Festival.

Key highlights:

- Associate Professor Dr. Supreedee Rittironk, Vice Rector for International Affairs, introduced the festival's traditions and significance.

- A Thai traditional costume contest delighted attendees, with winners receiving gift vouchers.

- Students released their krathongs into the Chao Phraya River at a festive riverside celebration featuring a night market, live music, fireworks, and Thai food stalls.

The event fostered cultural exchange and community, leaving participants with lasting memories.





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THAMMASAT CONNECT




will help you learn more about Thammasat and will keep us all well connected.

Our international & achievement activities, cooperation of Thammasat University with public and private organizations, upcoming features include scholarships, internships, cultural activities, exchange opportunities and much more, all to be found in our newsletter.

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