Elevating ASEAN Higher Education and the Talents Within
Organization Profile
Foreword

This year has been one of both recovery and discovery. As the world asks questions of what we should all do now, they look towards universities and academics to give them insight and advice. The ASEAN University Network (AUN), as always, sits in a unique position to elevate the work of these academics to the next level through building and developing regional collaborative efforts. On that front, the AUN is more committed than ever to its mission of developing the ASEAN higher education sector and the talents that reside within.

That effort has taken us along a thorny path. With COVID-19 travel restrictions in place, many of our own day-to-day operations have had to be digitalized and all of our collaborative projects turned virtual. But the greater the difficulty, the greater the innovation. Not only has the AUN continued to perform despite all limitations, it has been able to squeeze every ounce of opportunity given to them. The AUN’s reach is extending greater than ever with more projects with youth and academics alike. The AUN-QA, an example among many from the AUN’s thematic networks, has been a leader in providing quality assurance services with their remote site visits.

The AUN’s COVID-19 recovery plan is beyond simply coming back to ground zero. It is about building up to it despite the conditions so that when conditions become ripe for work, the AUN is more than well-prepared to jumpstart into a sprint.

This annual report serves as evidence of the effort that the network has poured in to collectively develop the ASEAN region’s higher education sector.

Prof. Sirirurg Songsivilai, M.D., Ph.D.

- Chairman of the AUN Board of Trustees
- Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation
The University is an amazing place. Many of human life’s greatest marvels and discoveries have been made as a result of its existence. And in its long history of service, it has not remained an unchanging monument. Rather, it has adapted and reinvented itself to continue to address the changing needs of a growing humanity. It has been an intellectual center for society, a hub of scientific research for the nation, and now it has taken up the challenge of innovation and entrepreneurial excellence.

One of the core foundations that has made the University such a potent force in pushing society forward is the practice of building and nurturing connections. As a nexus, the university is a place where pioneers, experts, cutting-edge knowledge, the latest technology, and many more types of resources from various disciplines are located and connected. By virtue of their proximity, these connections between people, technology, and knowledge across disciplines are formed organically and it extends beyond the university borders to various stakeholders as well.

The ASEAN University Network (AUN), pushes these connections to the next level by forming connections between local university ecosystems with each other on a regional, systematic level. As a fully developed, but always growing, strategic networking entity, the AUN is a platform that offers space and opportunities for universities within its network to exercise its own cooperative strategies. Given the diverse needs and the diverse means to reach them, the AUN enables its members to pick and choose options that match their own motives and preferences for alliances. These needs range from catching up to global academic quality standards, the advancement of world-class knowledge, defending and maintaining its position in global higher education, or even using cooperative networking to institute change or internal restructuring.

You are invited to explore the fruits and manifestation of the AUN’s efforts as a platform for development through connection over the past 12 months in this Annual Report.

Choltis Dhirathiti, Ph.D.
AUN Executive Director
The Fourth Meeting of ASEAN Heads of Government held in 1992 emphasized the need to hasten the development of a regional identity and solidarity, and promote human resources development by considering ways to strengthen the existing network of leading universities and institutions of higher learning in the ASEAN region with a view to ultimately establishing an ASEAN University based on this expanded network.

Preamble to the Charter of the ASEAN University Network (1995)
The ASEAN University Network came into being in 1995 when the AUN Charter was signed by Ministers responsible for Higher Education from ASEAN countries, the Agreement on the Establishment of the AUN was signed by the presidents, rectors, and vice chancellors of participating universities, and the formation of the AUN Board of Trustees.

The AUN was formed to address the need for the region to quickly develop a regional identity and solidarity while promoting the fostering of ASEAN talents by creating a platform to allow the region’s leading higher education institutions to collaborate. From 1995 until now, the AUN remains firmly committed to the mission that was set out in the preamble to its charter.

Today, the AUN is a network widely recognised as a vital mechanism for the build-up of an active and renowned ASEAN community in higher education. Given such importance, the AUN was highly commended by the Meeting of Ministers for Education in ASEAN Countries for its achievements in upgrading the capacity of ASEAN human resources and enhancing the quality of education of the AUN member universities. With the strengths and expertise of our members, the AUN can play a major role in broadening the integration of the ten ASEAN countries into one cohesive ASEAN Community and narrowing the development gap among them, which are the ultimate goals of ASEAN.
The Network

A
Alliance of leading universities in ASEAN

U
United in our missions on social, technological and economic progress

N
Network of choice and strength
Membership

Over 200 premier ASEAN universities

17 Thematic Networks

ASEAN+3 UNet with 21 Members from the Plus Three region
Global Engagement

As a conduit for cooperation, the AUN has worked with many organizations from across the globe that wish to work with the very best ASEAN universities. Not only that, the AUN also acts as a united front for these universities when looking to work with organizations in Europe, East Asia, Australia, and beyond. This is a list of AUN partners divided into regions based on where the organization is hosted.

ASEAN
- ASEAN Business Advisory Council
- ASEAN Centre for Energy
- ASEAN Foundation
- ASEAN Human Development Organisation
- ASEAN Secretariat
- ASEAN Youth Organization
- Asia-Europe Foundation
- Asia-Europe Institute
- Asian Development Bank
- Commission on Higher Education of the Philippines
- Foundation for International Human Rights Reporting Standards
- Ministry of Foreign Affair, Thailand
- Office of Higher Education Commission, Ministry of Education, Thailand
- SEAMEO RIHED (The South east Asian Ministers of Education Organisation - Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development)
- SEAMEO Secretariat

Europe/Australia
- Australian Research Council
- British Council
- Coventry University
- Erasmus Mundus
- European Union
- European University Association
- International Association of Universities
- Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- University of Deusto
- University of Groningen
- Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency, Australia
- Tuning Asia-South East

East Asia
- ASEAN+3 UNet
- ASEAN Cyber University
- China Scholarship Council
- Japan Foundation
- Japan International Cooperation Agency
- Korean Council for University Education
- Ministry of Education of the People’s Republic of China
- Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan
- Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Republic of Korea
- Ministry of Gender Equality & Family, Republic of Korea
- National Council of Youth Organizations in Korea
We are driven by intelligence. This intelligence manifests itself in two forms. One is that knowledge is the basis for all our decisions. The other is that our works are based on innovative designs and fundamental principles.

Our name and our presence is a stamp of reliability. We are constant and vigilant in our delivery of quality, relevant, and impactful work.

We do not constrain ourselves to any limits because we understand that to be the best we can be, we must look beyond our confines as well as extract all we can from within. Only by looking at international quality standards within our region can we truly be the best Secretariat we can be.
Governance and Accountability

The ASEAN University Network Secretariat falls under the Human Development Directorate of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Department (ASCC Department) of the ASEAN Secretariat.

The ASEAN University Network must report its activities to five different meetings which include:

01. Senior Officials Meeting on Education
02. ASEAN+3 Senior Officials Meeting on Education
03. ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting
04. ASEAN+3 Education Ministers Meeting
05. AUN Board of Trustees Meeting

(which also serves as a policy meeting for the AUN)
What we do

The AUN serves as a platform for leading ASEAN higher education institutions to work together to reach new heights. To accomplish this goal, the AUN organizes its activity into five distinct areas of collaboration:

I Advancing Curriculums and Learning Approaches

With new knowledge and technology emerging more rapidly than ever, the learning environment that is responsible for preparing youth for the professional world must also advance to reflect the changing circumstances.

II Assuring Quality in Higher Education

Creating an academic culture that is cognizant of quality is critical to ensuring that top institutions remain strong and developing institutions are keen on how to proceed.

III Developing Student Skill Through Cross-Border Exposure and Experiences

The capabilities of our youth is a direct indicator of our prosperity. In today’s world, it is invaluable to have experiences that expand their horizons and to meet with their international peers.

IV Promoting and Cultivating Academic and Research Cooperation

One of the major reasons for academia to exist is to further humanity’s pool of knowledge. This is why it is important for us to connect academics and provide opportunities for them to cooperate on research endeavors in their pursuit of knowledge.

V Serving as a Platform for Networking

To facilitate ASEAN higher education institutions in their cooperation, the AUN serves as a platform and conduit that connects these top-tier institutions together as well as to parties interested in working with these institutions from outside the region to do significant and meaningful work.
Key Results
Talent and Human Resource Development
**Key Results**

- **Talents Nurtured**: 799 talents
- **Informative Sessions Delivered**: 4,845 viewers
- **Scholarships Offered**: 30
- **Publications**: 1

**Projects and Events**

- **110** ASEAN-Korea Youth Summit
- **31** AUN-KU Winter Seminar on Human Security Development Through Energy Science
- **57** AUN-EEC Workshops
- **6 projects ongoing, 4 initiated** AUN/SEED-Net Collaborative Educational Program (CEP)
- **470** E-ASEAN Youth Volunteer Programme (AYVP) 2020
- **80** AUN-UIE Summer Bootcamp
- **51** AUN Internship Programme
- **303** AUN-EEC Conference on Ecological Education and Culture: Cultivating Ecological Mindsets and Lifestyles
- **1,479** Practical Ethics in a Diverse ASEAN
- **313** The Rise of Corporate Ethics: How companies in ASEAN are balancing Purpose, Profit and People
- **1,800 views** Korea-ASEAN Webinar: Responses from Higher Education to Global Pandemic
- **800** CSID (AUN-SCUD) Solve Climate by 2030 Webinar
- **150** AUN-TEPL Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Webinar
- **30** China-AUN Scholarship 2020/2021
- **1** Environmental Sustainability as a Culture: Preparing Student Leaders for the Green Era - the 8th ASEAN Student Leaders Forum

**Beneficiaries**

- Student participants
  - Students with disabilities
- Local communities
- Higher Education Institutions
- University staff

**Impact**

- ASEAN Awareness
- Lifelong Learning in Higher Education
- Education for Sustainable Development
- Academic Resource Exchange
- Services Provided by AUN Secretariat
Research/Academic Projects
22 oral papers presented, 37 posters presented
The 5th AsiaEngage Regional Conference

48 AUN–EEC Conference on Ecological Education and Culture: Cultivating Ecological Mindsets and Lifestyles

30+ ASEAN Engineering Journal

4 AUN/SEED-Net Alumni Support Program funding

35 AUN/SEED-Net Special Program for Research against COVID-19

9 AUN/SEED-Net Alumni Support Program for Research

4 researchers “Developing an SDGs Impact Assessment Framework for Highways” Project by AUN-SCUD

20 Workshop on the Negative List to Implement the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement with the ASEAN Secretariat

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**Beneficiaries**
- Students
- Academics, Instructors
- Higher Education Institutions
- General Public

**Impact**
- ASEAN Awareness
- Lifelong Learning in Higher Education
- End Outcomes from Thematic Networks
- Knowledge and Information Exchange
- Academic Resource Exchange
SECTION 2 Institutional Capacities
The 4th Lecturer Workshop on Teaching Human Rights

Accessibility and Universal Design Training Course Program 2021

“How to set up online learning in your university” for AUN Member Universities and AUN-QA Associate Member Universities in collaboration with Deusto International Tuning Academy

AUN-QA Program Assessments

Guide to AUN-QA Assessments at Programme Level, Version 4.0

Benefits:
- Students
- Instructors/Academics
- QA Practitioners
- University Administration
- Higher Education Institutions
- Professional Sector/Employers

Impact:
- Lifelong Learning in Higher Education
- Higher Education Quality Assurance and Enhancement
- University-Industry Partnership
- Capacity Building for Educators and Universities
- End Outcomes from Thematic Networks
- ICT in Higher Education
- Knowledge and Information Exchange
- Academic Resource Exchange
- Services Provided by AUN Secretariat
SECTION 2

Networks/Alliances
AUN/SEED-Net Regional Conferences
- 1,324 participants
- 810 The 4th International Conference on Computational Intelligence in Information Systems
- 150 The 5th AsiaEngage Regional Conference
- 64 The 2nd International Disability Inclusion Symposium
- 150 AUN-AEC RCEP Speed Dating Conference in collaboration with the World Trade Institute and Asian FDI Forum

New International Partners
- 3

Publications
- 37
- 37 AUN E-Newsletter, over 19,000 subscribers

Memoranda Signed
- 2
- 1 MoU between ASEAN University Network Quality Assurance (AUN-QA) and Malaysian Higher Education Institutions Quality Assurance Network (MyQAN)
- 1 MoU between MERLOT and AUN-TEPL Thematic Network

Academic Communities formed
- 1
- 1 AUN-TEPL Resource-sharing Community (online) through MERLOT

Platforms Established
- 1
- 1 ASEAN University Student Network
- 1 Thematic Networks Meeting

Beneficiaries
- AUN and Thematic Networks
- AUN Member Universities
- ASEAN+3 UNet Members
- International Partners
- Academics
- QA Practitioners

Impact
- Knowledge and Information Exchange
- Academic Resource Exchange
- Services Provided by AUN Secretariat
Strategies That Shape the AUN in the Hybrid World
Re-enabling existing youth programmes will allow the AUN to continue empowering youth.

Through empowering ASEAN Talent, the Talents themselves will come up with creative means to get things done despite the pandemic conditions.

Having more partners and sponsors means that youth programs can become even stronger.

By focusing on developing talent at a high level, more institutions and organizations will be interested in the growing talents that we work with.

By growing our network, we can share ideas with more partners which gives us new avenues for designing programs for the hybrid world.

By being a leader in adapting to the hybrid world, more partners will want to work with us so that they can flourish in these new conditions.

With clear, concise communication, more people will be interested in cooperating with us.
Developing and nurturing ASEAN talent is one of the core goals of the ASEAN University Network with a particular focus on youth. By empowering talents who are the cornerstone of the future, they will be more proactive, more autonomous, more creative, and more prepared to lead ASEAN through challenges.

Notable Developments

• The establishment of the ASEAN University Student Network
  The ASEAN University Student Network (AUSN) was consolidated this year. It is a platform to connect governing student bodies from institutions within the AUN to allow them to discuss and share various common and interregional concerns and come up with practical solutions on a regional level.

• Further refining of the AUN Internship Programme
  With COVID-19, many internships are now virtual. While many institutions are unprepared to offer a comprehensive program, the AUN has invested significant time and considerations into creating and designing a program that allows interns to still develop proper work experience and their skills.
Enabling Programmes for the Hybrid World

The future world of academics will be radically different from what many are used to. The ASEAN University Network Secretariat has begun and will continue to work on adapting and improving its current programs, in addition to creating new ones, that will allow the network to accomplish its goals.

Notable Developments

• **AUN-QA Online/Remote Site Visits**
  Under the careful consideration of the AUN-QA Council and Technical Team, the remote site visit method was developed in order to enable study programme assessments under pandemic conditions. Currently, implementation has not only been successful but has also generated significant interest from members who wish to participate in the effort.

• **“How to set up online learning in your university” for AUN Member Universities and AUN-QA Associate Member Universities in collaboration with Deusto International Tuning Academy**
  Adapting classically on-site academic courses to the online medium requires a holistic and deliberate approach. The AUN offers assistance in the important considerations through this course developed by Deusto International Tuning Academy, one of its key European partners.

• **AUN-QA Hybrid Training Model**
  In order to re-enable all the functions of the AUN-QA Network, including new membership intake and assessor development; the Secretariat, the AUN-QA Council, and Technical Team are planning to develop a method unique to the network that allows it to take advantage of both its experts and local talent to deliver a true hybrid training experience.

• **More to come!**
  Various youth flagships that have been postponed are being adapted and redesigned so that they can be offered to ASEAN youth once again while keeping their health and well-being as the primary concern.
In order to expand the range and scale of all AUN programs, the network must reach out to more partners regionally and globally. With additional partners and resources, the network will be in a stronger position to design precise programs that will push ASEAN higher education to greater heights while providing mutual benefits to its partners.

Notable Developments

- **CALOHEA project**
  In collaboration with the University of Groningen, the AUN is acting as a coordinator for the project that is aiming to refine curriculums within the ASEAN region.

- **Partnership with Coventry University**

- **Representation at the Expo 2020 Dubai as part of the ASEAN Pavilion**

- **Detailing the ASEAN-India University Network plans**

- **Conducting webinars with the Korean Council for University Education**

- **Assisting the National Council of Youth Organizations in Korea conduct their ASEAN-Korea Youth Summit**

- **Organizing a webinar series focused on ethics with the ASEAN Human Development Organization and the Foundation for International Human Rights Reporting Standards**

- **ASEAN+3 Working Group**
Developing Stronger Communication and Documentation Strategies

With the need for global engagement, a stronger communication and documentation strategy is needed so that the Secretariat can present itself clearly and concisely through visual, auditory, and textual means. Although the AUN is home to many great programs, if their stories are not told then the programs cannot grow. Thus, the need to build greater awareness is strong in order to attract more participants and resources.

Notable Achievements

- **Newsletter**
  With over 50 issues, the AUN E-Newsletter has acted as an agent for institutions within our network to share their activities and opportunities to one another as well as act as a convenient point of entry for external institutions to communicate to our expansive network.

- **Youtube**
  The AUN is home to many of ASEAN's greatest intellects and talents. This Youtube channel was formed in order to allow us to share their ideas and skills through a visual medium.

- **Producing publications for AUN Flagship Activities**
  Previously, information on AUN Flagship Activities like the ASEAN Student Leaders’ Forum can be quite scarce leading to difficulties in attracting promising talent, sponsors, and new partners. To counteract this, books that detail these activities are being produced on a year-by-year basis that encaptures each year’s activities in a manner that is both informative for newcomers and fun to read for those who attended the programme.

- **Social Media**
  Increasing engagement through social media to attract the interest of people in AUN activities.

- **Renovated Website**
  With interest in the AUN at an all-time high, our website has been undergoing renovation so that not only will the information be up to date but also professionally designed and maintained to be easy to use for all our visitors.
Thematic Networks act as specialized areas of academic cooperation that are deemed significant enough for a new secretariat to be established to tackle it. Each thematic network is given relatively high autonomy to pursue their own areas of higher education in ASEAN, whether it is focused on innovation or economics. They also benefit from being part of the AUN, being able to access a platform of collaboration between the AUN Secretariat, member universities, and other thematic networks.
Thematic Network

ASEAN University Network for Technology-enhanced Personalised Learning (AUN-TEPL)

ASEAN University Network-Quality Assurance (AUN-QA)

ASEAN University Network on Ecological Education and Research in ASEAN (AUN-EEC)

ASEAN University Network for Business and Economics Network (AUN-BE)

AUN Thematic Network on Architectural Design Education and Research in ASEAN (AUN-ADERA)

ASEAN University Network on Culture and the Arts (AUN-CA)

ASEAN Thematic Network on Ecological Education and Culture (ASEAN-EEC)

AUN University Innovation and Enterprise (AUN-UIE)

ASEAN University Network on Culture and the Arts (AUN-CA)

AUN Disability and Public Policy Network (AUN-DPPnet)

AUN Human Rights Education Network (AUN-HRE)

ASEAN University Network on Culture and the Arts (AUN-CA)

ASEAN Credit Transfer System (AUN-ACTS)

AUN University Social Responsibility & Sustainability (AUN USR&S)

ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net)

AUN Health Promotion Network (AUN-HPN)

Libraries of ASEAN University Network (AUNILO)

AUN AEC Thematic Network (AUN-AEC)

AUN University Innovation and Enterprise (AUN-UIE)
**AUN Thematic Network timeline**

- **1995**
  - ASEAN University Network (AUN)
    - Established by the signing of its Charter by the Minister responsible for higher education from six ASEAN member states.

- **1998**
  - AUN-QA
    - Initiated during the 4th AUN-BOT (Board of Trustees) Meeting with the QA system endorsed alongside the Bangkok Accord in November 2020 at the 9th BOT Meeting.

- **1999**
  - AGBEP
    - Established in June during a meeting at Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia.

- **2001**
  - AUN/SEED-Net
    - Established after several meeting between ASEAN and Japanese leaders following the 1997 Japan-ASEAN Summit Meeting.

- **2004**
  - AUNILO
    - Following the 2002 Manila Conference to establish an AUN Inter-Library Online, the AUNILO Working Committee affirmed its Secretariat’s creation.

- **2009**
  - AUN-HRE
    - Initiated at the 25th AUN-BOT Meeting.

- **2011**
  - AUN-USR&S
    - Following the 2010 Burapha Workshop and AUNUSR&S Conference at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, the network was established during the AUN-BOT meeting in Luang Prabang.

- **2014**
  - AUN-HPN
    - Established following the first AUN Health Promotion Conference at Mahidol University.

- **2015**
  - AUN-DPPnet
    - Following approval in 2014 at the AUN-BOT Meeting and the 5th IDPP Advisory Meeting in 2015, the network was established with support of The Nippon Foundation.

- **2016**
  - AUN-SAN
    - Officially established and endorsed at the 32nd AUN-BOT Meeting in Phuket following the 1st AUN Student Affairs Meeting in 2015.

- **2017**
  - AUN-CA
    - Endorsed at the 33rd AUN-BOT Meeting in Nha Trang after its proposal by De La Salle University.

- **2018**
  - AUN-SCUD
    - Endorsed at the 33rd AUN-BOT Meeting in Nha Trang, Vietnam.

  - AUN-UIE and AUN-ADERA
    - Formed following the restructuring and rebranding of the defunct AUN-IP at the 10th AUN Rectors’ Meeting.

  - AUN-EEC and AUN-ADERA
    - Endorsed during the 10th AUN Rectors’ Meeting in Brunei.

- **2019**
  - AUN-TEPL
    - Following survey responses from 51 members of the ASEAN +3 University Network in 2018, the network was established during the 35th AUN-BOT Meeting in Siem Reap.
The ASEAN University Network-Quality Assurance (AUN-QA) Network was created to realise the mission of harmonising educational standards and seeking continuous improvement of academic quality of universities in the ASEAN region. AUN-QA activities are carried out in accordance with the Bangkok Accord adopted in 2000, which provides a series of guidelines to promote the development of a quality assurance system as instruments for maintaining, improving and enhancing teaching, research and the overall academic standards of AUN member universities. Since the establishment of the Bangkok Accord in 2000, AUN-QA has been actively promoting, developing, and implementing quality assurance practices based on an empirical approach where quality assurance practices are shared, tested, evaluated, and improved.

To accomplish its mission, AUN-QA conducts quality assessments for Higher Education Institutions that are members of its network. These assessments include the AUN-QA Programme Assessment and the AUN-QA Institutional Assessment. It also conducts other activities including capacity building, outreach programmes, and knowledge management and enabling systems for its members and resource persons. These include the organization of regional and international conferences, calibration workshops for AUN-QA Assessors, training services, remote learning services, and policy meetings. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, Online/Remote Site Visits in the AUN-QA Programme Assessment is the AUN-QA’s solution to transnational operations. It delivers the classic AUN-QA quality assurance service, with added flexibility, without sacrificing any of its spirit or essence by going online.
Section 4

Thematic Networks

Organization Structure

Board of Trustees

AUN Executive Director

AUN-QA Council (Maximum of 8)
1 x Chairperson
3 x Deputy Chairpersons and Council Members

CQOs’ (From Members)

AUN-QA Technical Team

AUN-QA Experts

AUN-QA Secretariat

AUN-QA Chief Assessors

AUN-QA Lead Assessors

AUN-QA Assessors
The AUN-QA Network currently has 124 assessors consisting of 51 Lead Assessors and 73 Assessors from 48 universities, 1 agency, and 1 ministry of 9 ASEAN countries.
Activities in Review

38 Assessments conducted (online)

125 Programmes assessed (online)

Trainings conducted
- “How to set up online learning in your university” in collaboration with Deusto International Tuning Academy - 2 batches, 60 participants

Publications
- Guide to AUN-QA Assessments at Programme Level, Version 4.0

New Partnerships formed
- Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Malaysian Quality Assurance Network (MyQAN)
The AUN for Business and Economics Network has been established with the main mission of facilitating collaboration among ASEAN universities so as to strengthen education, research, and industry relevance in business and economics for the benefit of ASEAN Economic Community.

The main objectives of AUN-BE are:

- To strengthen and leverage the relationship among members in the areas of business and economics
- To uplift the quality level of programs in the areas of business and economics among members with a possible engagement of other ASEAN universities
- To enhance the internationalization of programs in the realms of business and economics

The network was founded in 1999. In the spirit of shared leadership, the AUN-BE Secretariat initially moved from one university to another based on the host of the Annual General Meeting. This went on until, in 2013, the network appointed a permanent secretariat for the network at the Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Gadjah Mada in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
Activities in Review

Annual Meeting held

20th AUN-BE Annual General Meeting on 15 April 2021. Co-hosted by Ramon V. del Rosario College of Business De La Salle University and the School of Economics De La Salle University, Philippines

Conferences held

1st AUN-BE Conference “Enabling the Transformation of Resilient Business Environment and Innovation Ecosystem in the ASEAN” on 16 April 2021. Co-hosted by Ramon V. del Rosario College of Business De La Salle University and the School of Economics De La Salle University, Philippines

Programme launched

ASEAN Master in Sustainability Management, commencing in August 2021. In collaboration with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Universitas Gadjah Mada (Indonesia), University of Agder (Norway), and the ASEAN University Network Secretariat
ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net) was established as a sub-network under the auspices of AUN in 2001 to promote human resource development in engineering for the sustainable socio-economic development of the ASEAN region.

Full operation of AUN/SEED-Net Project started in 2003 with main support from the Japanese Government through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Member Institutions (MIs) and Member Governments. To date, the project has been implemented in 4 phases and with key milestones:

- **Phase 1:** 2003-2008 - Establishment of framework
- **Phase 2:** 2008-2013 - Strengthening and promoting the network
- **Phase 3:** 2013-2018 - Addressing common regional issues and industries
- **Phase 4:** 2018-2023 - Developing sustainable scheme for collaborative education and alumni support

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- **Phase 4:** 2018-2023 - Developing sustainable scheme for collaborative education and alumni support
Section 4
Thematic Networks

Organization Structure

Steering Committee Meeting

- Member Institutions
- Japanese Supporting University Consortium
- ASEAN Secretariat
- AUN Secretariat
- AUN/SEED-Net Executive Director
- JICA

AUN/SEED-Net Secretariat

- Executive Director
- Chief Advisor
- Assistant Executive Director
- Deputy Chief Advisor

Japanese Government
Activities in Review

Conferences held

- The Regional Congress on Membrane Technology 2020 (RCOM 2020) and Regional Conference Environmental Engineering (RCEnvE 2020) (16-17 Jan 2021)
- Regional Conference in Civil Engineering & Sustainable Development Goals in Higher Education Institutions 2020 (RCCE & SDGs 2020) (23-24 Jan 2021)
- The 4th International Conference on Computational Intelligence in Information Systems (CIIS 2020) (25–27 Jan 2021)
- The 13th AUN/SEED-Net Regional Conference on Chemical Engineering 2020 (RCChE-2020) & The 5th International Symposium on Conservation and Management of Tropical Lakes (4-5 Feb 2021)
• 35 Research Projects under the Special Program for Research against COVID-19 (SPRAC) received grants and the project period is from October 2020-Dec 2021

• 9 Research Projects under the Alumni Support Program for Research (ASP-R) were awarded and will start the implementation from April 2021

• 6 projects under the Collaborative Educational Program (CEP) are being implemented during 2018-2022

• 4 additional projects under the CEP were awarded in April 2021 and will be implemented until March 2022

• 5 alumni groups will receive funding support from Alumni Support Program for Events (ASP-E) and will start the activity from May 2021 until March 2022

• Video Contest for Alumni Network (V-CAN)

• 10 papers published in the ASEAN Engineering Journal from July-December 2020

• 20+ papers will be published in the ASEAN Engineering Journal during January-June 2021
The Libraries of ASEAN University Network (AUNILO) is a thematic network that serves as a platform for academic resource sharing, information exchange, and networking among the academic libraries of AUN Member Universities and academic communities in the ASEAN region through an online resource sharing system. This initiative was taken as AUN members became aware of the increasing role of information and communications technology (ICT) in national development. AUNILO continues its collaborative work in strengthening the network among its Member Universities and improving each one's access to information and various resources for the increasing developmental needs of our nations and the impactful globalized role that technology plays in our society.

The AUNILO working committee held their first meeting in Singapore in 2004 to reaffirm the collective will of Member Universities to promote information networking in ASEAN. Universiti Sains Malaysia Library served as the first AUNILO Secretariat to coordinate activities and encourage collaboration among its Member Libraries. In 2018, the AUNILO Secretariat was moved to the Philippines, with responsibility shared between the Ateneo de Manila University, De La Salle University, and University of the Philippines.

Quick Facts

- **Establishment**: 2004
- **Focus**: Library cooperation
- **Secretariat**: Ateneo De Manila University, De La Salle University, University of the Philippines
- **Members**: AUN30
- **Chair/Convener**: Vernon R. Totanes, PhD
- **Contact**: secretariat@aunilo.net
- **Website**: https://aunilo.net
AUN-HRE strives to place human rights and peace high in the educational and research agenda of not only partner universities but also of the governments and other stakeholders. The AUN-HRE’s vision is to see a Southeast Asian where the culture and values of human rights, peace and democracy are instilled through widespread research and teaching in higher education.

We believe that the various forms of threats to human rights and peace cannot be effectively addressed unless there are highly skilled network of experts and evidence-based knowledge in the Region.

We are determined to build regional cooperation on human rights and peace in higher education which would contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights and sustainable peace for all peoples in ASEAN/Southeast Asia.
Activities in Review

- Training on teaching human rights and/or peace
  - **The 4th Annual Regional Lecturer Workshop on Teaching Human Rights and/or Peace 2020**
    - The workshop was held virtually between 31 August to 7 December 2020, attended by 22 university lecturers of diverse academic backgrounds from 6 AMS.

- Strengthening inter-institutional and regional cooperation
  - **The 4th Regional Network Meeting on Human Rights Education**
    - The Meeting was held virtually, in a series of discussions, from 2nd November to 7th December with a particular focus on access to remedies in the context of business, human rights and environment. 43 academics and practitioners from different universities from 9 countries in East and Southeast Asia attended the meeting.

- **AUN-HRE Online Meeting**
  - The Meeting was held as the first consultative meeting among member universities in August 2020.
The ASEAN Credit Transfer System (ACTS) was initiated by the ASEAN University Network with the primary objective of facilitating student and academic mobility in the ASEAN region. The system has been managed by the AUN-ACTS Secretariat which has been hosted by Universitas Indonesia since 2010.

What is ACTS?
ACTS comprises three components:
- Grading scales
- Online list of available courses
- Online application system

ACTS is a modified version, user-friendly, of the credit transfer system.

- The ACTS will be a student-centered system based on students’ workload in terms of the learning outcome.
- The ACTS will be applicable to student mobility and exchange in the general duration of one, up to a maximum of two academic semesters, or a shorter period of study (for example, a summer semester) if deemed necessary.
- The ACTS will take into account the existing institutional and national credit systems for the expression and conversion of credits, study periods and learning outcome achievements.
- The ACTS will not require a modification of the existing institutional or national credit systems.

Project Inception
The differences between the various credit systems in the ASEAN region are considered as one of the main obstacles to the mobility and exchange of students within the region. The AUN has developed and proposed a common credit transfer mechanism to facilitate and promote the mobility of students leading to the adoption of the ACTS Concept Paper in March 2009.
AUN USR&S aims to drive trans-disciplinary social responsibility initiatives between higher education institutions and diverse stakeholders, to promote greater university-industry-community collaborations that enhance the quality of life for ASEAN and Asian communities.

In order to promote regional USR&S activities, AUN USR&S works in synergy with the ASEAN Secretariat and the ASEAN University Network to fulfill the network’s objectives to create mutually beneficial partnerships through research, education, and volunteer missions of higher education with the industry and community stakeholders across ASEAN and Asia. Under AUN USR&S Strategic Planning 2018 – 2022, activities like the AsiaEngage Regional Conference, ASEAN Youth Volunteer Programme, and ASEAN Journal of Community Engagement have been launched to stimulate greater passion and commitment for social responsibility and community development from ASEAN and beyond.

Quick Facts

- **Establishment**: 2011
- **Focus**: Community Engagement
- **Host**: Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
- **Members**: AUN30
- **Chair/Convener**: Prof. Dato’ Dr. Imran Ho Abdullah
- **Contact**: aun_usrs@ukm.edu.my
- **Website**: http://www.asiaengage.org/v2/
Activities in Review

- **Conferences held**
  - 150 participants
  - 5th AsiaEngage Regional Conference

- **Youth Programmes conducted**
  - 470 volunteers
  - E-ASEAN Youth Volunteer Programme (AYVP) 2020
AUN-HPN is a regional network of academic collaboration between health experts, medical practitioners, and higher education institutions to promote the role of universities in promoting healthy lifestyles and environments with a health promotion approach. AUN-HPN takes a leading role in liaising and cooperating with higher education institutions and partners in ASEAN region and beyond to accelerate health promotion campaigns and collaborative research for community well-being and public benefits through regional collaboration, research, capacity building, sharing of knowledge and experience to tackle common health challenges in the region.

Mission:
1. To serve as a platform for ASEAN higher education institutions for collaboration among themselves and with other key stakeholders for the purpose of health promotion in the ASEAN region.
2. To share knowledge, skills and resources among the network members in order to build capacity for health promotion and to develop innovative solutions to common health challenges in the region.

Objectives:
1. To provide a discussion platform for stakeholders (policy makers, academics, university students, communities and other partners) involved in health promotion activities within the ASEAN region for intellectual exchange and experience-sharing on the successes and best practices.
2. To document outcomes of current health promotion policies and practices being implemented by participating universities, with a view to promoting effective health promotion policies and practices in cross-border collaboration among ASEAN universities.
3. To promote the roles of universities in health promotion, particularly on action-oriented policies that relate to community and public health.
4. To proactively promote platforms for knowledge sharing in the area of health promotion.

AUN-HPN was established in 2014. The network is supported mainly by Mahidol University. Thai Health Promotion Foundation provides financial support for some activities in Thailand. AUN-HPN Secretariat is based in the ASEAN Institute for Health Development, Mahidol University.
The AEC Thematic Network has been established to serve as a platform to promote collaborative research between academic, industry, government agencies, and relevant organisations in support of policy making focusing on ASEAN Economic Community related issues. AUN-AEC has the following key objectives:

- To strengthen research collaboration between ASEAN universities and the industrial sector on issues pertinent to the AEC and the deepening of economic integration within ASEAN
- To facilitate the exchange of experts between ASEAN universities and the industrial sector that can facilitate a deeper understanding of the AEC in each ASEAN member country
- To deepen the engagement of ASEAN universities and industries with policy formulation and its implementation in each member country

AUN-AEC was established in 2015 in line with the initiative raised at the AUN Board of Trustees Meeting 2014 that the AUN enhance its engagements in ASEAN Economic Community building through university-industry collaborations. Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia in cooperation with AUN and the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (Ministry of Foreign Relations, Malaysia) organised the first ASEAN Economic Community Forum on 21 May 2015 at the Institute of Diplomacy & Foreign Relations (IDFR), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The outcome of the forum was the proposal to establish AUN-AEC Thematic Network in order to provide a platform for the academic sector to enhance research collaborations, engagements with the business community, and policy relevance to governments toward regional integration.

The ASEAN Economic Integration Forum (AEIF) is the flagship program of the AUN AEC Thematic Network. The first AEIF was held on 21 May 2015 at Oxford University, United Kingdom; the second AEIF at the Institute of Diplomacy & Foreign Relations (IDFR), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2016; the third and fourth AEIF was held in 2017 and 2019 in collaboration with UNESCAP at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok.

The Secretariat is currently based at Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.
Activities in Review

150 participants

Conferences held

RCEP Speed Dating Conference in collaboration with the World Trade Institute and Asian FDI Forum

20 participants

Workshops conducted

Workshop on the Negative List to Implement the ASEAN Comprehensive Investment Agreement with the ASEAN Secretariat
AUN Disability and Public Policy
(AUN-DPPnet)

Quick Facts

• Establishment 2016
• Focus Provide scholarships to students with disabilities to pursue Master’s Degrees
• Host Universiti Malaya
• Members AUN30
• Chair/Convener Chairman: Prof. Dr Kamila Ghazali
AUN-DPPnet Director: Prof. Dr Yahaya Ahmad
• Contact aundpp@um.edu.my
• Website https://aun-dpp.um.edu.my/

Established in 2016, AUN-DPPnet aims to build a cadre of disability policy leaders who will contribute to the vision of an ASEAN region that is inclusive, barrier-free and rights-based. The network is financially supported by The Nippon Foundation of Japan. AUN-DPPnet intends to train and empower this cadre of disability policy leaders to impact the policies that directly affect persons with disabilities throughout ASEAN and around the world.

AUN-DPPnet strives to be the preeminent university network to partner with ASEAN governments to foster public policies that promote persons with disabilities entering society to compete on par with their non-disabled peers, and to prepare disabled leaders in the field of public policy.

Objectives:

1. To facilitate the development and the conduct of postgraduate, internship and fellowship programs
2. To facilitate the sharing of evidence-based practices, experiences and address accessibility and disability issues
3. To conduct and promote continuing education and capacity building programs
4. To encourage collaborative research and build network of experts within AUN and ASEAN countries
5. To serve as a resource body for the policy-making to the governments and related agencies
Section 4: Thematic Networks

Organization Structure

UM Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International)

Executive Board

Director AUN-DPPnet

- ASEAN University Network
- THE NIPPON FOUNDATION

Scholarship Program
Research Projects
Capacity Building / Training
Administrative and Finance
Community Engagement
Activities in Review

- **64 participants**
  - Supporter of the 2nd International Disability Inclusion Symposium

- **20 participants**
  - Accessibility and Universal Design Training Course Program 2021

- **57 scholarships awarded**
  - 57 scholarships given to Persons with Disabilities in ASEAN
The AUN Student Affairs Network was established with the goal of creating a platform for AUN Member Universities to coordinate their student activities to empower and develop the students of those institutions to become regional leaders. It is also a platform for the student affairs offices to share ideas and practices that will help students thrive and become more active in their pursuit of success.

The annual AUN-SAN Meeting is held in parallel with the ASEAN Student Leaders Forum (ASLF).

The AUN-SAN Secretariat is hosted by Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM).
AUN-SCUD is AUN’s sub-thematic network in Sustainable City and Urban Development studies. The sub-network focuses on five research clusters:

A. Sustainable Infrastructure
B. Sustainable Urban Development
C. Sustainable Economy
D. Sustainable Society
E. Smart City

AUN-SCUD is aiming to contribute to the academic advancement and collaboration between academics and professionals in many fields of study including engineering, socioeconomics, psychology, arts, and design in the ASEAN region through its various programs such as collaborative research and international conferences. The objectives of the AUN-SCUD are listed below:

- To strengthen the network of experts, scholars and policy makers in sustainable city and urban development
- To promote collaborative study, research, and educational programs in sustainability and urban development in the ASEAN region
- To increase sustainability awareness and enhance regional cooperation that will lead to better living and sustainable society

The AUN-SCUD Secretariat is hosted at Center for Sustainable Infrastructure Development (CSID), Faculty of Engineering, Universitas Indonesia.
Activities in Review

800 participants
| Solve Climate by 2030 Webinar

Webinars conducted

Research Projects
| SSDGs Impact Assessment Framework for Highway Projects
AUN-CA is a network of cultural offices among AUN Member Universities, aiming to promote creativity, culture and the arts among students in the ASEAN region. The network is composed of offices that are engaged in teaching creativity as well as art education, and programming cultural and artistic activities from AUN Member Institutions and the ASEAN+3 UNet. AUN-CA was established in 2017 and is currently based at De La Salle University.

Objectives

- To serve as a venue for sharing issues and best practices in creativity, cultural education and arts programming in campuses, and the prospects of creative industries in the region
- To serve as platform for policy development on creativity, cultural education and arts programming in higher education
- To collaborate on researches and programs on culture, arts and creativity, and ASEAN awareness
- To facilitate exchanges among AUN members and partners who are engaged in culture and the arts, specifically for students, faculty, and administrators
- To petition for the inclusion of creativity and cultural awareness as one of the
- To pursue joint community engagement activities through creativity workshops for the young people in the region
Activities in Review

AUN-CA Crosslight Learning Sessions

AUN-CA Dialogues Research Forum

AUN-CA Crosslight Arts Festival
AUN University Innovation and Enterprise (AUN-UIE) has the main purpose of strengthening and leveraging the innovative capacity of universities in the ASEAN region by offering them a common space for research, academic cooperation and a network-connection to higher learning institutions, government agencies, industry sectors, and business enterprises across the region. AUN-UIE also plans to equip current ASEAN students and future generations with technological competency and innovative thinking for a society that looks towards the future.

Objectives

In order to tackle complex challenges of the Industry 4.0, AUN-UIE focuses on collaboration in the three areas:

- **Entrepreneurship Education**: Train the new generation of students to develop necessary business skills including project initiation and research development.
- **University-Industry Cooperation**: Produce research to effectively accommodate the demand of the industrial sector and the current ecosystem.
- **Community Development**: Promote cross-disciplinary studies between STEM and SSH to create an advanced and ethical society as well as knowledge sharing on Innovation and Enterprise among AUN Member Universities.

Quick Facts

- **Establishment**: 2018
- **Focus**: University Innovation and Enterprise
- **Host**: Chulalongkorn University
- **Members**: AUN30
- **Chair/Convener**: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Natcha Thawesaengskulthai
- **Contact**: natcha.t@chula.ac.th
- **Website**: -
Activities in Review

Workshops and Seminars conducted

80 participants

Summer Bootcamp
The AUN Thematic Network on Architectural Design Education and Research in ASEAN serves as a platform of intellectual exchange on the futures of architecture design education and research in Southeast Asia.

AUN-ADERA will serve the following objectives:

- To share the best knowledge of experiences and practices in innovative design pedagogy pertinent to ASEAN in particular, and Asia in general
- To create a milieu for the cultivation of architectural knowledge unique to ASEAN that has broad ramifications to and dialogue with the best of humanistic education that improves the quality of life of people and communities.
- To encourage and exchange research documentation, translation and publication of key texts and ideas special to the milieu of development architecture in ASEAN.
- To foster an active discussion on the design futures of ASEAN and their implications on architectural education, research and practice in light of the rapid technological transformations in analysing, making and representing.
- To promote a broader understanding of significant cultural and political connections among the member countries that have given forms to the ASEAN environments

AUN-ADERA was established in 2018 and the Secretariat is based in the Centre of Advanced Studies in Architecture/Tun Tan Cheng Lock Centre of Architecture and Urban Heritage in Asia, National University of Singapore.
Activities in Review

23 speakers

Conferences held

| Inaugural Symposium |
The AUN Thematic Network on Ecological Education and Culture has key missions to develop a generation of Southeast Asians who will have the mindset and competencies to conserve and preserve the environment through ecological education as they face the challenges of social change and economic growth. As a network, AUN-EEC will draw on the expertise from members and partners to:

- Propose curricula/modules/materials that can be used in ecological education
- Undertake initiatives that encourage students and faculty to support a sustainable lifestyle
- Raise awareness on critical issues

AUN-EEC has the following key objectives:

- To serve as a platform to help HEIs incorporate formal and informal ecological education in the ASEAN;
- To develop cooperation among HEIs toward actions that promote a culture of sustainability among ASEAN stakeholders; and
- To contribute to the solution of ASEAN social and environmental problems

AUN-EEC was established in 2018 and the secretariat is based at Ateneo Institute of Sustainability, Loyola Schools, Ateneo de Manila University.

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**Quick Facts**

| Establishment | 2018 |
| Focus         | Student awareness and public awareness of ecology |
| Host          | Ateneo de Manila University |
| Members       | AUN30 |
| Chair/Convener| Dr. Assunta Caoile-Cuyegkeng |
| Contact       | aun.eec@ateneo.edu, acuyegkeng@ateneo.edu |
| Website       | http://auneec.ateneo.edu/ |
Activities in Review

Conferences held

303 participants
AUN EEC Conference on Ecological Education and Culture: Cultivating Ecological Mindsets and Lifestyles

Trainings conducted

- Movement Design and Sustainability - 9 participants
- Creation on Creation - 16 participants
- Storytelling for Ecological Education - 8 participants
- Empathy in Communications - 5 participants
- Biodiversity - 10 participants
- Citizen Science for Marine Species - 9 participants
AUN-TEPL is a thematic network under the ambit of ASEAN University Network (AUN) which aims to foster collaboration amongst ASEAN universities to improve student success through technology-enhanced personalised learning initiatives and approaches.

AUN-TEPL is led by Chairperson, Associate Professor Lieven Demeester of Singapore Management University, together with co-lead universities, Mahidol University and Universiti Malaya.

The key objectives of AUN-TEPL are as follows:
1. Build capacity amongst participating universities through a series of symposiums
2. Create a platform for universities to exchange educational tools and content
3. Promote technology-enhanced personalised learning as an area for inter-university research collaboration
Activities in Review

162 participants

Symposiums and Webinars conducted

Resource-sharing within the AUN-TEPL Community

Academic Communities formed

- AUN-TEPL Resource-sharing Community (online) through MERLOT
- AUN-TEPL Inter-University Writing Group

Academic Communities formed
The Secretariat
The Secretariat In Action
Structure of the Secretariat

The Secretariat has a horizontal structure. As a team, the Secretariat emphasizes high levels of autonomy for each officer to create a working atmosphere where everyone’s input is valued. The Secretariat finds that for smaller teams like this, this working environment engenders higher levels of employee creativity and produces higher quality work due to higher levels of individual investment in projects.

Executive Director
Steers and manages the organization.

First Officer and Chief Strategy Officer
Acts as the second-in-command of the AUN Secretariat. Handles the strategic planning of the organization, with special focus on Quality Assurance.

Chief Programme Officer and Global Engagement
Handles the overall management of the organization’s programmes, including global engagement strategies, as well as managing the Secretariat’s advance team—Pathfinders.

Senior Programme Officer
Ensures the successful delivery of the Secretariat’s various projects and programmes through their experience.

Programme Officer
Delivers and enhances the Secretariat’s services and goals through their capabilities to innovate.

Quality Assurance Officer
Handles the development of the AUN-QA Thematic Network as well as ensures that the day-to-day activities of the AUN-QA are conducted successfully.

Assessment Officer
Ensures the smooth day-to-day operations of the AUN-QA Thematic Network with particular focus on successful organization of Programme Assessments.

Support Staff
A team consisting of the Financial and Budget Officer and Office Assistants. They are responsible for the Secretariat’s administrative needs which are indispensable for the Secretariat’s forward teams.
Operating Strategy

**Goal**
The Secretariat is a results and outcome-based team, with its primary focus being creating, designing, and conducting the highest quality programs for the purposes of elevating ASEAN higher education and the talents that reside in the sector.

**Interconnected Programs**
The Secretariat believes in sharing detailed information about each of its individual programmes amongst the team members. This allows for the latest ideas, innovations, and practices to be used in any-and-all of the Secretariat’s work.

**Pool of talent**
In order to ensure that all programmes are conducted at the highest level possible, the Secretariat carefully allocates its talent into teams based on team chemistry and whether their specialities are suitable for the programme.
Team

Choltis Dhirathiti, Ph.D.
AUN Executive Director

Korn Ratanagosoom
First Officer and Chief Strategy Officer

Supatcha Supapant
Chief Programme Officer and Global Engagement

Achavadee Wiroonpetch
Senior Programme Officer and Aide to the Executive Director

Naparat Phirawattanakul
Senior Programme Officer and Aide to the Executive Director

Ing-orn Jeerararuensak
Senior Programme Officer

Banjong Ujjin
Senior Programme Officer

Chawanvit Panprasert
Programme Officer

Buranond Kijwatanachai
Programme Officer
Special Thanks

The AUN Secretariat would like to extend special recognition to these individuals for their invaluable counsel as Special Advisors to the AUN Executive Director.

Prof. Wan Ahmad Kamil Mahmood, PhD
Universiti Sains Malaysia

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kamolwan Lueprasert
King Mongkut’s University of Technology North Bangkok

Dr. Vorasuang Duangchinda
Sripatum University
# Academic Calendar and Event Calendar

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### Notes:
- All dates are approximate and subject to change.
- Please consult the official university calendars for the most accurate information.
- Events may include seminars, workshops, and cultural activities.