



# CUU Information Bulletin

Volume 26 Issue 1 November 2009

## 38TH MEETING OF THE SEAMEO RELC GOVERNING BOARD, 28-29 SEPTEMBER 2009



Assistant Professor Wattanawan Sanguanruang, Deputy Director for International Affairs, CUU, attended the 38th meeting of the SEAMEO RELC Governing Board (28-29 September 2009) at RELC,

Singapore. Dr. Tinsiri Siribodhi, Deputy Director for Administration and Communication, representative of SEAMEO Secretariat also attended the Governing Board Meeting. ■

## On June 24, 2009,

Seven scholars from different educational institutions who receive teacher's training 2009-2010 scholarships to study at the SEAMEO Regional Language Center in Singapore attended the orientation



in Room 305, Prem Purachatra Building. Miss Natthika Boonrasamee, the invited speaker and a graduate of Course 103: Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Linguistics in the year 2008, kindly gave some guidelines, as well as suggestions to the new batch of scholarship holders. ■



## CUU Teacher

### Honored A Model Teacher



The Faculty Senate of Chulalongkorn University has honored Assistant Professor Dr. Pavinee Thirakhupt, a CUU teacher from the Division of Social Science and Humanity, as a model teacher in the Humanities.

Assistant Professor Dr. Pavinee Thirakhupt received her B.A. (First-Class Hons) from Chulalongkorn University, and her M.A. in ESL and Ph.D. in Second Language Acquisition and Teacher Education from the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign). She has been working with CUU since 1980.

On Friday September 18, there was a ceremony to honor model teachers at the CHULA Auditorium. In this ceremony, 4 model teachers from different fields, including Assistant professor Dr. Pavinee Thirakhupt, were presented with plaques in recognition of their service to their students. ■



## CUU Teachers Joined a Workshop at West Ed, USA.

Associate Professor Dr. Boonsiri Anantasate and Assistant Professor Dr. Kulaporn Hiranburana attended a summer workshop at West Ed, San Francisco, from July 13 to July 17, 2009. The topic was Quality Teaching for English Learners with a focus on teaching adolescent English learners. Professor Aida Waiqui, the Director of West Ed and Ms Leslie Hamburger, the Program Director of Literacy warmly welcomed them. ■

## Report on Research Activities

The Creating REsearch AtmospherE (CREATE) Project has featured a series of talk on a number of topics from July to September.

### July 28, 2009

Associate Professor Dr. Annabel Bhamani Kajornboon reported on her research project which focuses on learners' strategies. In her talk entitled "Successful Language Learners' Strategies", she shared her research experience, along with some insightful findings from this research which aims to discover the techniques, and strategies that good language learners use to be successful.



## A Welcome to Distinguished visitors

On August 4, 2009 Chulalongkorn University Language Institute (CUI) had the honour to welcome our distinguished visitors, Dr. Gary W. Matkin, Dean of Continuing Education and Ms. Denise A. Davis, Associate Director, English Certificates for Internationals, University Extension, University of California, Irvine, U.S.A., who met with CUI Director and Deputy Directors to discuss the possibilities of establishing collaboration between the two institutes. A number of issues were discussed at the meeting, including student summer programs, teaching professional development and research collaboration. ■

### August 21, 2009

CUI Research Department invited Assistant Professor Dr. Jirada Wudthayagorn, from Maejo University to give a talk on "Statistics Used in ELT Research." Dr. Jirada presented very practical and insightful information on the subject, providing the audience with an overview of the three main types of research in ELT, namely qualitative, quantitative, and mixed approaches. She also explained how to use statistics to answer different types of research questions. After the talk, she provided consultancy to some of the audience concerning their research projects.



### August 25, 2009

Associate Professor Suchada Nimmanit gave a talk on 'Conversation Analysis'. She provided some insightful information regarding what, why, and how Conversation Analysis can be useful in English language teaching and learning. She also shared her experience on her recent research 'Collaborative Learning in Chat Mail, Synchronous Computer-Mediated and Face-to-Face Discussions' which yields productive findings for developing students' competency in English.



### September 11, 2009

Associate Professor Dr. Jirapa Vitayapitak, lecturer at King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, gave a talk on "Corpus-based Research for English Language Teaching". The focus of her talk was on how a corpus offers new opportunities in English language teaching. To illustrate, she presented the research project she conducted at King Mongkut Institute of Technology using corpus to create a food science dictionary. She also talked about the application of corpora in three domains, namely corpus-based descriptive linguistic studies, language learning and teaching, and lexicography. ■

## Journal Club Activities

The Journal Club has changed its format to accommodate four specific research interests groups, which consist of Linguistics, Learner strategies, Class interaction and collaborative learning, and Assessment and evaluation. Members meet regularly to discuss recently published articles in depth with the guidance of mentors. It is hoped that a report written on articles discussed will be published in the form of a critical review, or annotated bibliography, while the ultimate aim is for CUI instructors to initiate their own research projects. ■

## Research Workshop

CUI Research Department will organize a workshop on "Writing Academic/Research Articles for International Publication" by Dr. Dee Parker, Director of courses at AUA on October 9, 2009, at room 305, Prem Purachatra Building. ■

### Professor Kreidler gives lectures at CULI

During May 18-22, 2009 Chulalongkorn University Language Institute was honored to have a very distinguished speaker, Professor Dr. Charles W. Kreidler, a former Chair of the Department of Languages and Linguistics, Georgetown University, U.S.A. to give a series of lectures on English Linguistics and Language Teaching. The focus of the lectures was primarily on English lexicology and semantics as well as English phonology, which are essential for English language teachers. The participants, including CULI teaching staff and graduate students, gained valuable insights into how the phonological, morphological, and lexical systems work. Professor Kreidler has authored a number of books, namely The Pronunciation of English, English Vocabulary, Describing Spoken Language, and Introducing English Semantics. ■



### A Visit to Wat Botevoradit Orphanage



On October 9, 2009, CULI's Public Relations Committee together with CULI staff visited Wat Botevoradit Orphanage in Ang Thong to help improve the quality of life for underprivileged children. This was part of the celebration for the occasion of CULI's 32nd anniversary. Money, stationery, 35 bags of rice as well as other needed items were given to the orphanage. Moreover, each child received a bag containing shampoo, soap, detergent, baby powder, comb, toothpaste, toothbrush and cookies. A special lunch was also provided for 540 children (most are orphans) and 70 monks. ■

### International Research Seminar (2009) Update

To celebrate CULI's 32nd anniversary, CULI Research Department is organizing an annual International Research Seminar entitled "Invigorating ELT Research: Pathways to Teacher - Learner Empowerment in an EIL Context" on November 23, 2009, at Mahitalathibet Building. The two keynote speakers are Professor Dr. Jun Liu (University of Arizona) who will deliver a talk on "Quantitative Research Qualitatively and Qualitative Research Quantitatively : ELT Research in New Pathways" and Professor Dr. Curtis Kelly (Kansai University, Japan) who will give a talk on "How Discoveries in Neuroscience are Changing EIL Research." The seminar also features parallel sessions and poster presentations. ■

### On June 17, 2009,

Dr. Hayo Reinders ran a workshop entitled "Computer Games in Language Learning and Teaching," organized by CULI Academic Development Unit. The session began with the rationales behind the integration of computer games into language classrooms, followed by an introduction to several language games Dr. Reinders developed. After that, CULI teaching staff had a chance to play those games reminiscent of their childhood days. The workshop concluded with the participants' further discussion with Dr. Reinders, during which he emphasized that games should be integrated not solely for fun but essentially for the ultimate objective of promoting learners' acquisition of the target language. This enlightening yet entertaining workshop was very well received by the audience.

Dr. Reinders is currently Adjunct Professor at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands, and Head of English Language and Learning Support, Middlesex University, the UK. He also authored and co-authored several books, such as Language Learning and Teaching in the Self-Access Centre : A Guide for Teachers, Key Concepts in Second Language Acquisition, and Task-Based Language Teaching and Technology. ■

## Chulalongkorn University Language Institute (CULI) International Research Seminar 2009

Invigorating ELT Research: Pathways to  
Teacher - Learner Empowerment in an EIL Context  
November 23, 2009

Mahitalathibet Building, Chulalongkorn University  
Bangkok, Thailand

Registration fee : Free

More information : [www.culi.chula.ac.th](http://www.culi.chula.ac.th)

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## Chulalongkorn University Language Institute (CULI) National Seminar 2009

Empowering Teachers of English as an International Language  
November 24 - 25, 2009

Sasa Patasala Building, Chulalongkorn University  
Bangkok, Thailand

Registration fee : 2,200 THB (local), US \$75 per person (overseas)

More information : [www.culi.chula.ac.th](http://www.culi.chula.ac.th)

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