

The EIS Newsletter

Ekamai International School

Volume 10, No. 1

October 30, 2007



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Ekamai International School would like to keep in touch with you.

If you are a former student, faculty member, staff member or a friend of Ekamai International School (EIS, AES, CTC), and would like to receive the *EIS Newsletter* regularly, please send the following information to us:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Year of Graduation _____

Present Occupation: _____

EIS Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Ekamai International School. The school was established in 1946 as the Child Training Center. Later, it became known as the Adventist English School. In 1992 it became Ekamai International School or EIS.

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Cover Picture: EIS students performing a Thai dance at TV Channel 5

Letter from the Director



Mr. David Gouge

Dear Students, Parents, Alumni, and Friends,

Another school year has begun. Each morning at flag line up, I gain encouragement from listening to nearly 1200 students sing the Thai national anthem. Soon, I realize, they will begin another day of learning with their teachers and friends.

Parents, thank you for entrusting us with the education of your children. Not only do we hope to train them to be good citizens and future leaders of their country, but I personally believe EIS does something to prepare them for life in the next world.

Let me provide a snapshot of what's new at EIS.

Mr. Grant Flaiz Promoted

I am very happy the School Board made Mr. Grant Flaiz our Administrator for Curriculum. His promotion means he will be working at a senior level to coordinate curriculum changes.

New Teachers Hired

Last year, a sizable number of teachers retired or moved to other schools, leaving us with the task of hiring 32 new educators as their replacements. A big job, but it got done and now EIS can once again claim its teachers come from every continent on the planet with the exception of Australia and the Polar Regions.

Change brings challenges, but it also holds out promise. I welcome our newcomers and look forward to seeing the improvements they will bring to our school.

PCEIS

Indeed, all signs point to 2007/2008 being an outstanding academic year for Ekamai International School. Of course, I will work closely with the PCEIS, but I also need your help. Children bring to school attitudes they learn at home. If you, as a parent seek my help, I will try to give it. But now, I need your moral support on issues like school uniforms and appropriate student behavior. EIS has captured the winds of positive change in its sails, but no school as big or complex as ours can hope to move forward very long without firm parental support.

It is with great humbleness that I have accepted the responsibility God has placed upon me to be the director of this great school. Please pray for me to be able to lead in the way that God wants this school to go.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

David L. Gouge, Director



Mrs. Perla Camagay, M.A.Ed.
*Principal, Academic Administration
Accreditation Coordinator*

ACCREDITING COMMISSIONS VISIT EIS



**Mr. Grant Douglas Flaiz,
M.A.Ed. (C&I)**
Curriculum Coordinator

The school year 2006-2007 was a major milestone in our school accreditation, since this was the midterm of our full terms of 6 years with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the end of our full terms of 5 years with the Seventh-day Adventist Accrediting Association of Schools and Colleges (AAA).

What Is Accreditation?

Accreditation is our school's ongoing improvement process, using the self-study instruments and criteria prescribed by our accrediting commissions. During our self-study, we assess our educational program to discover our areas for growth and draw up action plans for improvement and implementation. While we monitor, assess and reassess the implementation of our action plans, our accrediting body empowers us by externally monitoring and reassessing our implementation. During the last year of our term of accreditation, we conduct another full self-study for another cycle of improvement process.

Accreditation with WASC

WASC is one of six regional accrediting associations in the United States that is recognized by the U. S. Secretary of Education, works closely with the U. S. Department of State, Office of Overseas Schools and is known world-

wide. On April 25-27, 2007, WASC sent us the two-member Visiting Committee (VC) comprised of an experienced WASC VC chairperson from California, U. S. A., and an experienced WASC VC member from one of the schools in East Asia Regional Council of Overseas Schools (EARCOS), for an onsite visit. They commended us for the progress we made in achieving our action plans and urged us to intentionally work on three areas in our action plan for the remaining years of our term.

1. Professional Development

First, we will continue to work on the area of professional development. EIS is thankful for its hard-working teachers who spent their summer time completing graduate courses in education through the Distance Learning Program offered by the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIAS), an accredited international higher education institution based in the Philippines. Eight teachers will complete Master of Arts in Teaching in July 2008, three will complete the Master of Arts in Education. Graduation is scheduled in October 2008. One teacher will complete his Master of Arts in Teaching Science from the University of the Philippines in March 2008. Right now we have a total of 57 teachers holding the Master of Arts in Education.

2. ESL Needs

Second, in order to support the ESL needs of our students, we signed last June a contract with the School for International Training (SIT), an accredited higher education institution of world learning in Vermont, U. S. A. Sixteen teachers representing their subject areas took the four-day seminar on July 31 to August 3, 2007. The implementation portion of the course, which is being supported online, started this month and will continue through the next fourteen weeks. Graduates of this course will serve as coaches and mentors in their subject areas in the near future.

3. Curriculum Mapping

Third, as part of our WASC curriculum strategic plan, the faculty and administration will begin the process of curriculum mapping this year. We are pleased to announce that we have selected Rubicon Atlas, a curriculum development firm, as our curriculum mapping software provider.

Curriculum Mapping will enable faculty to design courses that follow clearly outlined benchmarks and standards. It will also help to eliminate redundancies, so that students spend less time relearning previously studied information. Overall however, the real advantage to curriculum mapping is that it ensures our students are receive-

(Continued on page 15)

EIS

Strategic Plan

2006 - 2010

By The Leadership Team

Background

The Strategic Plan for Ekamai International School is our vision for our future which comes as a result of our self-study, recommendations from the Visiting Team of Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), recommendations from the Adventist Accrediting Association of Schools and Colleges (AAA), directives from the Private Education Council of the Thai Ministry of Education, recommendations from students and parents, recommendations from Thailand Adventist Mission, our governing body, and our SDA church leaders and members.

Our Mission

We offer a challenging, Christ-centered academic program and the opportunity for students to exercise and expand their varied abilities and potential. We endeavor to create a climate marked by a sense of God's presence and action in the world, love for one's neighbor and a concern for the social justice and equality of all people.

Our Philosophy

We recognize that true education identifies God as the source of moral value and truth. It involves the whole person and promotes the harmonious development of the physical, mental, social, and spiritual dimensions of human nature.

Our Expected School-wide Learning Outcomes (ESLOs)

We focus our efforts toward preparing each student to be:

1. A Complex Thinker
2. A Quality Producer
3. An Effective Communicator
4. A Collaborative Worker
5. A Self Manager
6. A Responsible Citizen

Our Vision

An international Seventh-Day Adventist institution providing a state-of-the-art education in a Christian environment to prepare students for the challenges of the 21st century.

Our Goals

1. To integrate service, worship, fellowship and Adventist Christianity into the curriculum and programs of the school.
2. To achieve academic excellence by coordinating clearly articulated benchmarks and standards.
3. To provide ongoing professional development opportunities for teachers and staff.
3. To allocate plant and facilities to best utilize our limited space for safe and efficient function of each department.
4. To develop and implement a decision-making model for change that includes all stakeholders of the school.

5. To improve English communication skills to prepare students for careers in a global community.

6. To constantly ensure a safe, comfortable, and attractive school environment.

7. To annually update our Emergency and Life Safety Plan.

8. To ensure that our communication with parents and stakeholders is clear concise, professional and caring.

Key Performance Indicators

- Behaviors consistent with SDA standards
- Curriculum standards
- Student achievement
- Facilities, technology and campus safety improvement meet the Ministry of Education specifications
- Stakeholder satisfaction and participation
- Regular conversations in English among students, teachers, and staff.
- Administrators and teachers fulfill the minimum requirement of 15 PD units or the equivalent through EARCOS/external in-service every three years; staff attends an external seminar once a year. ■

Interview with Mr. David Gouge, Director of Ekamai International School

By Lee Chin Beng, Editor

Mr. Gouge, can you tell me something about your personal and educational background?

My bachelor's degree in English is from Walla Walla College. I received my Master of Education degree from the same university. I have taught in classrooms ranging from grade two through college. I have also been an educational superintendent, registrar, business manager, principal, curriculum coordinator and night watchman.

What are some of your short and long term plans for the development of EIS?

Professional development is a major priority. We are making it possible for all teachers to upgrade their qualifications. We are also expanding our facilities. Building Three, now demolished, will soon be replaced with a six-storey structure large enough to accommodate the Middle School and several specialized departments. Once that work gets done, we will start work on a sports complex containing a swimming pool, gymnasium, exercise areas and auditorium.

What do you think are the strengths and weaknesses of EIS?

Our teaching staff has both strengths and weaknesses. Luckily, our already fine facilities can



Mr. & Mrs. David Gouge

be upgraded thanks to our solid finances and strong alumni support.

I noticed many new teachers arriving this year. How can parents and senior teachers assure these newcomers achieve success inside their classrooms?

One of our strengths is our values

program which teaches students how to behave, both towards each other, and towards new and old teachers. Of course, we must be patient with recent arrivals and let them settle into a productive routine. "Above all," I say, "be friendly. If something does need improvement, speak kindly to those who have yet to learn how all the pieces of the EIS puzzle fit together."

Do you think EIS is a good place to study?

EIS, with its teachers who care about their students, is a good place to study. Proof of that statement lies in the sizable percentage of our graduating class who gain entry into first level universities.

I am confident our principal, Ma'am Camagay, working closely with our new curriculum coordinator, Mr. Grant, will continue to add intellectual muscle to our academic program.

What would you say to anyone thinking of enrolling their child here? Please mention what makes us unique?

First, I would advise them to talk to other parents and alumni. No one can judge the taste better – or more honestly – than those who have sampled the pudding themselves.

Our uniqueness ... well, we are one of the few international schools that

teach values. In fact I have been told that we are the only one.

What could EIS alumni do to support EIS?

Our alumni advertise the school just by being quality people. Besides that indirect support, EIS graduates who financially support our building program will earn themselves a special place in my heart. ■



Mr. David Gouge with officers of the PCEIS (2006-2007)

Thai Language Department

By Lee Chin Beng,
Editor

Since English is the medium of instruction at Ekamai International School (EIS), the majority of our students graduate with reasonable levels of proficiency in that language. Indeed, historically, students exiting EIS readily found homes in the international sections of Thai universities.

Given several of those universities have stiff entrance requirements, gaining entry is an accomplishment. Clearly, after their stint at EIS, our students are well on their way to becoming citizens of the world.

World citizenship, however, is not enough. Our students should also contribute to the development of Thailand. Parents, knowing their children must live and work inside the kingdom, have long urged EIS to expand its Thai Studies program. More recently, the Ministry of Education, concerned about national unity, ordered international schools to inject five periods of Thai language and cultural studies into their weekly curriculum schedules.

Today, Ekamai International School has eight teachers in its Thai department. Because the department works with students from kindergarten to high school, parents can now immediately place their children in EIS knowing they will eventually emerge fluent in two languages and knowledgeable about a third – in addition to Thai and English, the school offers high



Thai teachers L-R: Ms Monchai, Mrs Amporn, Mrs. Lamyai, Ms Tharika, Mrs Viriya, Mr. Prasarn, Mrs. Walaya, Mrs. Prapatsorn

school students another language as an option.

That sounds good, but some parents fear their children will end up speaking more Thai than English. Mrs. Lamyai, the head of the Thai department, does not agree. “We are promoting reading, writing and culture. Thai is an academic subject. Almost all our students speak Thai already so our program will have no impact on their conversational language preferences.”

Students, knowing academic Thai language skills are critical to their future success, have responded positively to the program. Most also enjoy exploring their own culture in some depth.

“We do not only teach language,” said Mrs. Lamyai. “We cover so much more. Thai history. Thai art. Thai cooking. Thai folk songs and dancing. We even find time to talk about our unique Thai wisdom.”

The department does nothing by half measures. During the summer sessions, high school students who

took Thai Culture had to attend classes dressed in the traditional costumes.

Mrs. Lamyai has set her team a special departmental goal for this year. “We are emphasizing Thai manners in the hope our students will speak politely wherever they go.” ■



Junior Thai boxers of EIS



Young Thai dancers



Thai Bamboo Dancers

Thursday Night Live

TNL & SMiLe



L-R: Akrahep, Piya, Renon, and Pongsakorn



Ma'am Bee (in yellow blouse) also went to the meeting



The Praise Singers leading the song service

By Howard Vandermark Chaplain

Thursday Night Live (TNL), our two-year old teen outreach program, so quickly became an institution at EIS that its organizers decided to launch a week-end version labeled Saturday Morning Live (SMiLe).

This new teen fellowship adventure, held in Building 9, begins every second Saturday at 10:30 AM with a light breakfast. TNL, of course, is still going strong on weeks unblessed by SMiLe.

What comes after the toast varies from week to week, but participants normally sing, watch a video, take part in a group discussion or stage a play with a moral lesson. Thanks to the varied format, students have fun and get a chance to discuss gnarly personal problems too sensitive for the classroom or home front.

So far, the light touch linked to

bursts of spiritual exploration has generated positive feedback. Although participants would prefer sponsors deliver shorter “messages,” most admit they enjoy the food, small-group discussions and games. Many also appreciate having an alternative to Thursday evening involvement – active students tend to have their after-school hours booked solid.

Adults have also begun jumping onboard. Some teachers now offer ESLO points to participants and several parents claim their children look forward to having something meaningful to do on Saturdays.

TNL Camp – Sign Up Now!

In addition to SMiLe, organizers staged a TNL Camp from October 26 – 28, 2007. Last year, thanks to an agenda of games, group-building activities, messages and music, the camp in Kanchanaburi drew 50 students. Like TNL and SMiLe, the get-together is open to EIS students and creaky bone types still young-at-heart. ■



Steffi is smiling between the boys



Students listening attentively

Adventurer Club

By Maria Ejurango
Director of Adventurer Club

On August 30, 2007, many proud parents and teachers witnessed the induction of new students from grade one to four into the Adventurer Club. The club, open to all children between the ages of six and nine, unites school, church and the home in a campaign to help children grow joyfully in the sight of God and man. It is a worldwide organization focused on making the lives of children richer and more meaningful.

Importance to Parents and Students

1. assist parents fulfill their responsibilities as their children's primary teachers
2. strengthen the parent/child relationship



Students carrying the Adventurer flag and the flag of Thailand

3. work together with parents to develop a mature, happy children

Goal and Objectives

The club helps children in the following ways.

- provides them with creative fun
- helps them develop their character
- allows them to experience the

joy and satisfaction of doing things well

- provides opportunity for them to express their love for others in a natural way
- teaches them good sportsmanship and strengthen their social skills
- helps them discover their God-given abilities
- builds inside them an understanding of what makes families strong

Activities and Highlights

Adventurer Fun Day features the following activities.

1. talent presentations & exhibitions
2. fun and games
3. sale of finished crafts to raise fund for handicapped children
4. community service ■



Adventurers displaying their honors



Adventurers waiting for command



Adventurers waiting for command



Adventurer Club Band



Adventurers on a hike



Adventurers having fun at a camp-out

Focusing on Strengths: A New Approach to Behavior Management

By Edward Roy Krishnan
Lecturer, Mission College

On September 9, 2007, a seminar was conducted by Dr. Edward Roy Krishnan from Mission College on a new approach to behavior management. He said that managing children's disruptive behavior at home and in the classroom is one of the most frustrating tasks for parents and teachers. Marthonoh Jessen
Guidance Counselor

“He can't be handled....” Such was the experience of a parent or teacher, who came face-to-face with a disruptive student, whose primary interest was soccer. The student became even more difficult to handle as time went by.

The New Approach: Focusing on Strengths. The new approach to behavior management requires that we shift our gaze and attention from children's weaknesses, problems, deficits, to their strengths and potential. According to Buckingham and Clifton (2001), “the real tragedy of life is not that each of us doesn't have enough strengths; it's that we fail to use the ones we have!”

Preoccupation with a problem behavior and trying one's best to treat, reduce, or eliminate it only accentuate and reinforce the behavior. A better approach to deal with a disruptive behavior is not to



Dr. Edward Roy Krishnan speaking to parents about ways to motivate their children

discuss it at all. Instead, examining, identifying, and discussing about the strengths one possesses yield a more positive result in the long run. Further, a sense of fulfillment and accomplishment derived from one area of strength help children to gain control of and experience success in other areas of life. Eventually, children become internally motivated to behave con-

structively in all of life's situations.

He can be handled. Employing the new approach and behavior the parent and teacher can communicate an important message to the child – “I am proud of you and I believe in your potential to continually succeed in soccer!” Children are more motivated to change when their strengths are supported.

How does it happen?

The new approach to behavior management takes into account children's strengths. As such, the primary role of parents and teachers

would be to identify and use these strengths to deal with any sort of behavioral crises.

Conclusion. When parents and teachers identify, support, and celebrate children's strengths, they provide an opportunity for the young ones to find meaning and gain satisfaction in life. Focusing on strengths rather than wrongdoings allows for a more positive interaction between children and adults. As such, the new approach to behavior management will yield definite and explicit encouraging results in terms of behavioral changes. ■

Parents Day

**By Udom Saengsavang
Head of Guidance Department**

Being a parent in the 21st century involves awesome responsibilities, as Ellen White pointed out, "No work entrusted to human beings involves greater or more far reaching results than does the work of fathers and mothers."

Moms and dads want the best for their children and we, counselors are there to support them. For this reason, the guidance department organized three different seminars during the months of September and

October, 2007, for the parents of

"No work entrusted to human beings involves greater or more far reaching results than does the work of fathers and mothers." E. G. White

each section, Primary, Elementary, and High School. We want the parents to understand their children better, and to provide greater support and assistance to their child in preparing for college. We are pleased that many parents were able to attend our meetings. We, counselors are there to assist. It is our hope and prayer that our students and families will grow closer together and stronger. The titles of the seminars conducted were:

1. "How to Raise Your Child Effectively and Enhance Your Child Brain Development" by Dr.

Chanpen Chuprawan from the Thai Research Association for Children and Family Development.

2. "Reinventing our Perception Towards Children." By Dr. Edward Roy Krishnan, Psychologist and Lecturer from Mission College, and Ms. Rupali Jeswal Psychotherapist, from Assumption University.

3. "Building Academic Success Through Parent Involvement." By Dr. Suthep Madarasmi, lecturer from King Mongkut University of Technology. ■



Ms. Rupali Jeswal answering parents questions about how to deal with their teenager at home



Dr. Marthonoh Jessen welcoming the parents



Parents listening to the seminar

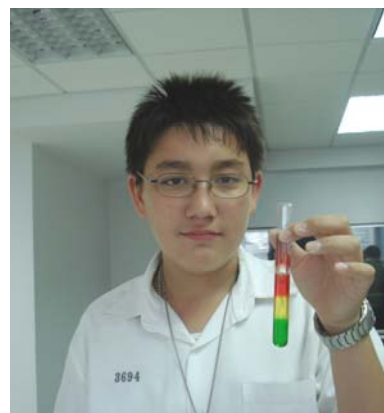
Summer Activities

Science & Math Discovery Camp



Dr. Jathrow Sikul (left), assisting students with their lab experiments

The first Science & Math Discovery Camp was organized during the Summer Session (June 18 – July 13, 2007). Activities included science experiments to develop interests in learning science, and making model construction to create interest in learning mathematics. There were 55 students that participated in the program. It was a learning experience that kept the students on task every minute. We want to invite parents to enroll their children in this exciting Science and Math Discovery Camp the coming summer. ■



James Wilson, proudly showing the result of his experiment

Hong Kong Cultural Exchange Trip

Eight students joined the Cultural Exchange program in Hong Kong last summer and visited the Tai Po Sam Yuk Secondary School. It was a combination of cultural exchange and sightseeing. Students enjoyed the hospitality of the teachers and students in that school. EIS students presented Thai cultural dances and sang Thai songs in their chapel program. It was an experience that they will never forget. We want to invite more students this coming summer to visit another country. ■



EIS Students attending regular classes in Hong Kong



EIS students were about to perform a Thai folk dance



EIS students demonstrating Thai cooking



EIS students with students from Hong Kong

Summer English Program in Australia

Another successful Summer English Program was held at Border Christian (Adventist) College in



Charlie, Supakorn, Kortang and Aussie friends.

Aulbury, Melbourne, Australia from June 4 to 29, 2007. Four students - Charlie Visudharomn, 7A; Matika Pornpattanasarai, 6E; Supakorn Siritasanakul, 5D; and Kortang Siritasanakul, 6D participated in it. They have enjoyed four fruitful weeks joining ESL lessons for two periods in the morning, and regular classes with Aussie kids for the rest of the day until 3:30 p.m. They proved to be competent enough with the native kids. In fact, Matika Pornpattanasarai scored the highest in Grade 5 values class. The teachers who taught our EIS students were well

pleased with their performance because they were able to complete the entire given load.

Aside from studies they also had the privilege of joining one-day trips to snowy mountains and the Philip Island in Melbourne to see the koala and penguin parade respectively. They also enjoyed a two-day trip to Canberra to visit the old and new Parliament, Telstra tower, Bell tower, and Lake



Matika and Aussie friend.

Burley Griffin. The students were treated very well by wonderful host families. These families have taken every effort to make our students' stay comfortable and memorable. The parents of our students were extremely happy

with the whole program.

This is one of the best ways for Thai children to expose themselves to western culture and practice English with native speakers at the same time. I am looking



Students making a snowman.

forward to organizing another trip in June 2008. I encourage you to send your child/children to participate in such valuable trips. Parents and non-EIS students are welcome. If you need more information, kindly contact the EIS reception 02-391-3593 or 089-490-1035. ■

Herbert E Perera
Coordinator
ESL Summer Programs in Australia and New Zealand

Math Wizards of EIS



Intuon Intatisan (4C), standing on the left with Mrs. Pattana Nabong, Principal, and Pamornpol Hanmatheekuna (4A), standing on the right with Mr. David Gouge, Director, won a gold medal, and a silver medal respectively, from Kumon, an after school Math program. Intuon is doing level G, the equivalent of Grade 7 Math and Pamornpol is doing level F, the equivalent of Grade 6 Math. Congratulations!

Purple Slip Motivates Students to Speak English

By Perna Kishore
Student Council Officer

Purple slips were back in action from August 27-31 as students practiced their English in return for a small reward. Speaking English Week was an SC event encouraging students to sharpen their English skills. Each day, different teachers gave the slips to students who demonstrated good English language skills. The purple slips lasted the entire week and students who had them could come to the basketball court after school to exchange them for a five baht coin.

Sophomore Veena Mohnani, who got the purple slip twice throughout the week said, "The purple

slip motivated people to speak English, although I feel like the reward should have been ten baht for the whole week."

To make the event interesting, the SC officers and sponsors planned a Spelling Bee for each chapel. Students in the primary section excelled as they easily spelled out words read by grade one reading teacher Ms. Maile Wikum, while in the elementary section, grade four ousted the other grades. In the intermediate chapel, grade eight beat grade seven in a two-round game, the first round went to the seventh graders and the second round was taken by the eighth graders. Competition was fierce among high school students as sophomores beat freshmen and seniors prevailed over juniors to

become the champions.

The final activity of Speaking English Week came on Friday as each grade made up their own cheering song in English. The song had to be related to the event, and was sung right after flag line-up. After a close tally in the scores, the fifth graders became the winners in the grades 1-6 section, with the sixth graders right behind them in second place. From grades 7-12, the seniors were crowned victors with the sophomores close behind.

"Speaking English Week is a new event to make people speak English. I feel like it is a good practice for Sports Day," Senior President Chandni (Amy) Premmanisakul said in response to the seniors winning the cheer competition. ■

Rashee Pandey Wins Award

On October 15, 2007, Rashee Pandey of grade 11D received an honorary mention for an essay writing competition organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand. The topic was highly relevant to the present situation: "*Opportunities, Status, and Roles of Muslim Thais in the Thai Society; whether our Muslim compatriots enjoy to equal rights, freedom and opportunities as others in Thai society; and to what extent Thailand has enjoyed its social and cultural harmony.*" "Not every student would tackle such a complex issue. It was a very serious topic," said Rashee, "and it had to be written in not less than 3000 words." It was a tough assignment, but for Rashee, it paid off, "My happiness knew no bound when the results were announced. It was an overwhelming experience to receive the award from His Excellency the Deputy Foreign Minister of Thailand." In addition to a certificate, Rashee also received a cash award of Baht 5000. Rashee deserves the final word, "I dedicate this award to my school (EIS) and all my teachers who have inculcated the knowledge I have. I would particularly like to show my gratitude to Mr. James Yoong for encouraging me to participate in this prestigious competition." ■



Rashee Pandey, left, with His Excellency the Deputy Foreign Minister of Thailand

EIS Honors Retirees



Pastor Surachet Insom from the Thailand Mission paid tribute to those who were retiring

By Sarah Jawjong
Administrative Assistant to the Director

On July 1, 2007, Ekamai International School honored those who were retiring with banquet. EIS and the SDA church were grateful for their dedication to the institution and to the church. Those who were retiring are as follows:

1. Mrs. Perla Camagay, current Principal for Academic Administration and has served 41 years in the denomination
2. Mr. Johnny Ruch, current Director for Finance and has served 44 years in the denomination
3. Mr. Laurence Chu, High School Values teacher and has served 41 years in the denomination
3. Mrs. Edith Chu, current Kindergarten Teacher and has served 25 years at EIS
4. Mr. Somsak Songput, PE Teacher and has served 37 years in the denomination
5. Mrs. Kobkuer Koobkangploo, current Snack Bar supervisor and has served 23.6 years at EIS
6. Mr. Vichai koobkangploo, current Maintenance supervisor and has served 40.6 years in the denomination
7. Mrs. Monica Das, Elementary English Teacher and has served 18 years at EIS
8. Pastor Sukrit Das, Highschool Chemistry and Physics Teacher and has served 18 years at EIS
9. Mrs. Varaporn Anukong, current Cafeteria supervisor and has served 16.5 years in the denomination ■

Accrediting Commission

(Continued from page 4)

ing the best education possible.

Role of Parents Council

One critical area pointed out by the Visiting Committee is the clarification of the role of a group of parents acting as the Parent Council of EIS. We need to reaffirm the PCEIS Constitution to help clarify the involvement of parents at all levels within the school.

Accreditation with AAA

AAA is established by the Seventh-day Adventist Church education system to provide professional assessment and recognition to its schools throughout the world. Its world headquarters for the education work is located in Maryland,

U. S. A. The AAA operates much like other accrediting associations. It has standards, accrediting instruments and a system of school evaluations. Schools are evaluated by a team of professionals that represent not only local educators but often include members from regional and international educational institutions.

5-Year Term Accreditation

Since our 5-year term with AAA ended last school year, we conducted another self-study. Last August 27-28, the AAA Visiting Committee of seven members came for an onsite assessment. As a result of their close observations and intensive series of meetings and interviews with personnel, staff, teachers, parents and School Board members, the committee unanimously gave us the full terms

of five years. The committee commended us for having implemented our action plans and achieved our goals during the last five years; its major recommendations were for us to intentionally work on our school's spiritual program, to continue our professional development program and to set up our alumni website.

In Thankfulness

The school administration, faculty and staff give God all the glory and honor for what He has been to EIS. The school administration would like to thank all our teachers and staff for their constant support and hard work in making EIS what it is now; we thank the EIS Board for its active and professional support and commend our students and supportive parents for their invaluable assistance. ■

EIS Welcomes New Teachers

By Sarah Jawjong
Administrative Assistant

Maile Kaleialoha Wikum

Maile Kaleialoha Wikum is from Honolulu, Hawaii, USA. She graduated from the University of Hawaii at Hilo with a Bachelor of



Maile Kaleialoha Wikum

Arts in Anthropology and a Teaching Certificate in Elementary Education (K-6). She teaches Reading for Grades 1, 2 and 3. Maile commented that she loves Thai food too and that is one huge reason that pulled her to Thailand. One of her major goals is to instill confidence in understanding and using the English language in every student that she works with.

Roger Williams

Pastor Roger Williams comes from America. He is married and



Roger Williams

with two children. Pastor Williams is currently working on his MAPM at Andrews University and

has completed his BA Theology and BA History from Columbia Union College. Pastor Roger is one of our School Chaplains and is also the Pastor of the BIC Church. He commented: "I see a great opportunity for ministry here at EIS."

Manh Tan Le

Manh is from Vietnam, graduated with BA in English Language at Mission College and his MEd (TESOL) from Avondale College, Australia. He taught English to



Manh Tan Le

Grades 11 and 12 and IGCSE O' level class. Currently, he is the homeroom teacher of Grade 6D and also the Reading teacher for all the Grade 6 classes. Manh hopes to be a caring teacher who can assist students both in their academic and spiritual needs. Manh also said that everyone here at EIS is very friendly, polite and helpful.

Isaiah Babu Gudipati

Isaiah is from India graduated with



Isaiah Babu Gudipati

a Bachelors in Liberal Arts from Spicer Memorial College and is currently completing his master degree from AIIAS. Isaiah teaches Geometry in Grade 10 and he is also the homeroom teacher of Grade 10A.

Alpha Joy Lee

Alpha Joy completed a Bachelors degree in Elementary Education



Alpha Joy Lee

from the Philippines. She has 6 years of teaching experience before coming to EIS. Alpha feels that EIS is a very good school where teachers are kind and caring, and students are respectful and love learning.

Antonino Salvatore Galfo

Antonino (Nino) is from Ontario,



Antonino Salvatore Galfo

Canada. He has two degrees, BA Education and BA Science. Currently he is the homeroom teacher of Grade 7A and also teaches Grade 7 Social Studies and Health. Nino aims to instill a sense of confidence amongst his students. He commented that EIS students are

Lal En Kawli

Lal En Kawli is from Myanmar. She has a Master of Arts in Education from AIIAS in the Philippines and is the assistant teacher for



Lal En Kawli

Grade 1B. One big reason why she came to EIS was that she sees EIS as the place where she can serve wholeheartedly and where she can grow professionally. She looks forward to improving her teaching skills to the highest level.

Rebecca Po

Rebecca Po is also from Myanmar. She holds a Bachelor's degree in



Rebecca Po

Religion. She is the teacher assistant for K2-B. She wants to focus all her teaching effort to planting seeds of love in the heart of each student under her care.

Filipinas Festejo Sigua

Filipinas Festejo Sigua is from the Philippines and has a BS degree in Nursing, but has recently completed a Professional Teacher Education Certificate from Mission College. She is currently the assistant teacher in K1. Her goal is to fully utilize her extensive skills to be able to bring maximum performance in the young learners as

well as in helping co-workers. She feels that EIS is a very good place to study and learn new things, and it is a challenging place to work in.

Virnie Belnas-Zulueta

Mrs. Virnie Belnas-Zulueta is from the Philippines. She graduated with a Bachelor of Music, Major in Music Education. Virnie is



Virnie Belnas-Zulueta

one of our Music teachers. Her previous experience includes teaching at AUP and Maryland Learning Center in the Philippines and at Meta International School and St. John Mary International School here in Thailand.

Hussien Pueyo Domocmat

Hussien Pueyo Domocmat is from the Philippines. He has completed his Bachelor's degree in Music Education at the Adventist University of the Philippines. Mr. Hus-



Hussien Pueyo Domocmat

sien is one of our new Music teachers with several years of teaching experience. He commented that he came to EIS not only to educate students about Music, but help them also how to

make right choices of music as well. To serve God through Music without compromises is what he plans to accomplish here at EIS. He also feels that EIS is a God-fearing international school, with supportive administrators, and great teaching staff.

Jowelyn Joy Cuatriz-Domocmat

Mrs. Jowelyn Joy Cuatriz-Domocmat, also from the Philippine, has a BS degree in Mathe-



Jowelyn Joy Cuatriz-Domocmat

matics. Joy is currently the home-room teacher of 9D and teaches Math to the Freshman students. She wants to impart her knowledge well and prepare the students for a bright future.

Kanchana Borisuthiratana

Miss Kanchana Borisuthiratana (Karn) is a Thai, and an EIS alumna. She has a BBA in Inter-



Kanchana Borisuthiratana

national Business with a minor in Marketing from Mahidol University International College. Karn is responsible for all the interscholastic and intramural competitive sports at EIS. She aims to fulfill students' happiness through sports.

Alumnotes

Chanpen Phureepipat (Class of 1976), works as the Information Technology Director for Microchip Technology here in Thailand. She finished with a bachelor's degree from Simon Fraser University, Canada with a degree in



Mrs. Chanpen Phureepipat (right) and family

Computer Science and Economics. She has a daughter, Cattleya, currently a 10th grade student here at EIS and a son, Kanitin (Class of 2006) who is studying at Assumption University.

Chanpen.Phureepipat@microchip.com

Yuvadee Kulvanichpisit (a.k.a. Lilly) graduated from the University of San Francisco, USA with a Bachelors Degree in Business Ad-



Mrs. Yuvadee Kulvanichpisit (right) and family.

ministration and has been working in equities sales for the past 15 years. She has a son, Wasupol, who is attending kindergarten here at EIS. She remembers EIS for its kind and helpful teachers and learned during the fun fair that "raising money from strangers is not easy".

yuvadee@asiaplus.co.th

Dr. Anooprani Gorowara (Class of 1987) is currently working at Bumrungrad International Hospital in Bangkok. After graduating from



Dr. Anooprane Gorowara (left) with family

EIS, then known as AES, she went to further her education in Bangladesh and finished with a bachelors in medicine and a bachelors in surgery (M.B.B.S.) from Dhaka University.

anooprani@hotmail.com

Suthep Madarasmi (Class of 1980) received his Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Minnesota in the USA. He is currently a lecturer at King Mong-



Dr. Suthep Madarasmi (right) and family.

kut University of Technology in the Computer Engineering Department and is also a senior consultant for Genesys InfoCAD which is a software development and information systems consulting company. He is married with two children who are both studying at EIS. He received the National Award for Best Invention in Automated Sheet Rubber Inspection System using Machine Vision System.

suthep@kmutt.ac.th

Gene Charoonruk (Class of 1984), nicknamed Jack, received his Ph.D. from Utah State University, USA, and is currently working as a faculty lecturer at the Institute of Nutrition Mahidol University (INMU) in Thailand. He is



Dr. Gene Charoonruk (right) and family

happily married to his wife, Jan and has two lovely daughters and a son. Dr. Gene commented that, "My memorable teachers have included Ms. Jitapa, Mrs. Macarewa, Mrs. Timple, Mrs. Acot, Mr. Denit, Mr. Harold, Mr. Jimmy Lai, Mr. Nathan, Ms. Bonnie Rudisaile, Mrs. Camagay, and Mr. Chew Tze Ted. Mrs. Varinee taught me a skill that I will never forget, Typing. I also remember Pastor A. F. Bell and Mr. Ron Anderson. I first entered the Talent Show when in the fourth grade and won second prize with my poetic rendering of Mother O'Mine."

gcharoonruk@yahoo.com

Seetha Gopalakrishnan (Class of



Mrs. Seetha Gopalakrishnan (left) and family

1976), earned her Masters in Commerce from Madras University, India, and passed the board for Certified General Accountant from Canada. She now works as the Director at PwC Legal & Tax services specializing in international taxes. She has a daughter, Sukanaya, who is studying in Grade 4A at our school.

seethasg@hotmail.com

Jinda (Jinnie) Udompanyavit (Class of 1996) obtained her Degree in Medicine at Chulalongkorn University and her Board Certification of Family Medicine at King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital. She is currently working at



Dr. Jinda Udompanyavit (middle) with family.

Bumrungrad International Hospital as a Coordination Physician in the International Medical Coordination Office and is also a lecturer at King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital. She plans to continue her study in psychology or family therapy in the US. She can still remember the good old days, such as the Senior trip to Koh Samet, Junior Film Show, and the Senior Party at Sizzler.

jindau@gmail.com

Vinit Pathela (Class of 1993) was part of the first batch of graduates when our school officially changed its name to Ekamai International School. He obtained a degree in BS in Computer Science at Hartford University, USA.

He now works as a computer consultant and trainer and also has experience in teaching psychol-



Mr. Vinit Pathela (right) with family

ogy. Mr. Vinit commented that, "I can still remember assisting a teacher to set up the school's computer network system when I was still a student at 17. Later I became a teacher and system administrator of the EIS IT Department. I also installed the first high speed internet for the school in 2000."

vinit@pathela.com

Surapee Silapachan (Sorajjakool) (Class of 1976), received her Ph.D. from Chulalongkorn University in



Dr. Surapee Silapachan and husband, Winyou.

Higher Education and has worked as a teacher and administrator in EIS over many years. Dr. Surapee is presently the Vice President for Student Administration of Mission College.

surapee@missioncollege.edu

Prasit Ben Vasantachart (Class of 1976) finished with a medical degree from Loma Linda University School of Medicine in USA and has been working as a physician since 1988. He was a finisher of the Ironman World Champion-



Dr. Prasit (right) and family.

ship in 2005 and is now residing in California, USA. Dr. Prasit has many fond memories of EIS, such as the fun fair, gymnastic class by Pastor Art Bell, and so on.

vassanben@aol.com

Savraj Narula (Class of 1987) received her Teacher's Training Diploma from Great Britain and is



Mrs. Savraj Narula (third from left) and family.

now working as a sales lady for her own company. Her sons, Chatchai (Grade 11A) and Ekachai (Grade 5B), are currently studying at EIS.

savrajnarula@yahoo.com

Noppawan Liangsiri is married to **Pairoj Songpechmonkol** who is also an alumni of EIS. Both of them met right here at Ekamai International School. Noppawan graduated with a degree in Business Administration from Baruch College and is now the owner of her own business. Noppawan and Pairoj have two children, Sarun (6A), and Sanamon (K2B), who are currently studying at EIS

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EIS Turns Into Gold Celebrating 50th Anniversary



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The Christian school that Empowers, Inspires, and Serves

Founded in 1957, Ekamai International School continues to offer an unparalleled private Christian education. We adhere to a solid American curriculum coupled with Thai language and culture instruction. Our goals are to educate and inspire our students to be moral, thoughtful, and caring individuals in a growing world community.

If you share our goals of education and would like to learn more about the opportunities for your child, please feel free to give us a call, visit our website, or visit us at our campus.