

# The EIS Newsletter

Ekamai International School

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## Tribute to Teachers

Teachers Appreciation Day

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**Cover Picture:** (L-R) Srithana Mitaree and Cindy Pekkhard carrying traditional decorated flowers during “Wai Kru” Day. (Page 7)

# Letter from the Director



Surapee Sorajjakool, MEd, PhD

Dear Students, Parents, Alumni and Friends,

Welcome to the new school-year of 2010-2011. I want to welcome back the returning students as well as the new students and new teachers who have come to join us.

Frequently I am asked what makes Ekamai International School so special. My answer is quite simple – people. The people who are at EIS, teachers, parents, alumni and friends, provide a wonderful place where youth and experience come together for the purpose of learning about life and living. I am privileged to be able to daily observe the dynamic interaction of its members.

As I walk around our school, it is exciting to see and experience the special and unique opportunities available to our students. Students are continually interacting, whether they are studying in the classroom and library or practicing for their dances in the hallways. EIS students are also engaged outside the school and beyond the classroom.

It is a wonderful experience to share in the excitement of watching our students participate in the drama class, debating club, talent shows, Pathfindering, sports and athletics and other school activities. There is also a tremendous pride in our students who provide community service helping orphans, the needy and handicapped. It seems there is no end to the adventures at EIS.

However, our focus remains, to provide an education that encourages each student to function at his/her highest level and to foster learning as a rewarding and lifelong process. To continue our commitment to excellence EIS has done the following at the beginning of this year:

- Appointed Dr. Jathrow Sikul as the principal for the Middle School to facilitate the needs of students from grades 6-8.
- Organized upgrading workshops for teachers and staff on “Understanding by Design.”

I want to invite you, students, parents, teachers, alumni and friends to enjoy and experience Ekamai International School, a school that empowers, inspires and serves.

Thank you again for supporting EIS. Have a great year, and may God bless you abundantly.

Yours sincerely,

Surapee Sorajjakool, MEd, PhD  
Director

# Enhancing Excellence

## An Interview with Dr. Jathrow Sikul, Principal for the Middle School

By Mr. Lee Chin Beng, Editor

### **Please tell us your educational and working experiences.**

I completed my Bachelor of Science with a major in Biology from Spicer Memorial College, India. I also obtained a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Andrews University, USA and a doctorate in Business Administration from Greenwich University in Australia. I have worked as a teacher and instructor in Anthropology and Sociology at the college level and a company manager in Malaysia for several years. Then, in 2004, I came to Ekamai International School to teach Grade 7 Science. I was appointed as Section Leader in 2008 and Principal for the Middle School in August 2010.



Dr. Jathrow Sikul

### **Please tell what your responsibilities are as Principal of EIS Middle School.**

As Principal of Middle School, I make sure the middle school section and its activities, academic programs and organization run smoothly. I have to deal with students' discipline, look after the welfare of teachers, and care for the needs of students and parents. I also have to work with teachers to meet curriculum standards and set goals and objectives. I will be responsible for communicating the school's mission, goals and policies to teachers, students, parents and the community. I am ultimately responsible for student safety and attendance in every class. In short, the work of Middle School principal is just similar to the work done by school principal except that I concentrate on the Middle School section.

### **What do your day-to-day activities include?**

In addition to my regular teaching load, I will be monitoring teacher assignments, class schedule development and other activities. Most importantly, to enhance excellence, I will monitor instruction to help teachers improve their teaching techniques.

### **How are you going to deal with discipline problem?**

When it comes to discipline, I have to follow strictly the school's policy, rules

**Just let them be themselves, enjoy, and be ready to learn new things as they go through this transitional period.**

and regulations, but I will be kind and tactful as my ultimate goal is to foster a positive environment.

### **What can a student expect in the Middle school?**

Middle School is a transitional period from childhood to being a teenager. The student will want to have more independence. However, the idea of moving up to middle school can be scary for some students. But it's important that they

understand that middle school offers many benefits and opportunities. There are many activities and clubs that they can join. I want to encourage students to become involved right away. Just let them be themselves, enjoy, and be ready to learn new things as they go through this transitional period.

### **What problems or fears will students face in the Middle School and how to solve them?**

At this stage, students will undergo emotional, physical and behavioral changes. They may have problems adjusting with their friends for fear of not being accepted by their peers. The best way to solve these problems is to accept who we are, try to understand our friends and seek help or advice from teachers, parents or those older than themselves.

### **How about the bullying problem?**

Bullying is hard to eradicate, but it tends to diminish every year. Most students will encounter bullying or relational aggression at some point especially among the girls. They tend to be gossiped about, teased, insulted, ignored, excluded, and intimidated. The best way to counter bullying is to get involved in extra-curricular activities in order to make more friends with others who share similar interests. Students can also report such incidents to teachers or counselors.

### **What are the joys and pains to be found in Middle School?**

Homework and other activities tend to increase and students often find themselves unable to cope with specific subjects. But with diligence and hard work, they can still tackle the assignments and complete class projects on time, and at the same time they can also enjoy their lives. They should open to new adventures and seek advice from teachers.

### **Please give some advice on how to be successful as a student in the Middle School.**

Be open to new adventures and seek advice from your teachers or parents. Listen and follow their advises as they help to mold you to be a better person.

# Today We Follow, Tomorrow We Lead

## Graduation Commencement 2010

By Mr. Lee Chin Beng, Editor

On May 30, 2010, a regiment of graduates – 100 in all – marched into the auditorium of the Royal Thai Army Club to begin the 2009-2010 Senior Commencement. An impressive sight, but the afternoon truly got underway when Pastor Alberto Gulfan, President of the Southern-Asia Pacific Division of SDA, strode up to the microphone to give his presentation address.

This crop of seniors was blessed with idealism and ambition. They first chose “Today We Follow, Tomorrow We Lead” as their motto and then summed up their collective aim with the phrase, “Conquer the Impossible.” Now, as parents, relatives and friends watched proudly, the graduating class applauded as their peers received recognition for academic excellence. Thirty-six cum laude graduates received silver cords. Fifteen of their friends did even better – 15 summa cum laude scholars took home gold cords. Highest honor went to Nattikarn Jantakananuruk (CGPA: 3.92).

As graduates sang, “Our Dear E.I.S.,” most kept a calm composure. But within a minute, dry eyes became history as our departing students began singing their senior class song, “In the Blink of An Eye.” Each would soon begin a new life chapter. EIS could no longer be called their school. It had become their alma mater.



Nattikarn Jantakananuruk is being congratulated by Dr. Surapee Sorajjakool, Director for graduating with the highest honor in her class.



Supakarn Niruktisart is receiving the diploma from Mr. Karlton Keller, Principal for Academic Administration.



(Back L-R) Cattleya Phureepipat, Chulalak Limthanyalak, Sireethorn Kanyaratnamongkol, Chavalrat Rerkkajornnamkul, Pavinee Siripanichsutha, (front) Suchaya Jiworrawatanakul, smiling broadly as buddies from EIS.

# Welcome Back! Bienvenido!

By: Klittima Vacharobol (12C)  
Chanoknan Nuntananate (12C)  
Penpitcha Chayanurak (12A)

On August 27, 2010, the Student Council organized an event called “Welcome Back Bash” to welcome the returning students as well as the new students that have joined Ekamai International School. Performances were held at the covered court to entertain everyone. The highlights of the performances were traditional and hip-hop dances by the students and alumni. There were lots of laughter and fun as students from various grades and alumni mingled together and had a great time.

“I think it was great, we put a lot of efforts on this event,” said Adrian Thaik Din, the SC President. Cindy Pekkhad, SC Vice-President also said, “Besides having fun, it also bonded students in the same grade and in different sections together.”

Supakorn Kowathana from Grade 10E commented, “It was a very interesting and fascinating event. I really enjoyed it.” Thornnipa Vatcharobol, a recently graduated alumna said, “I really miss EIS. EIS was like my second home.”

Welcome Back Bash has become a tradition at EIS. It provided students with memories and created a bond for students from various grades.



New and returning students gathering at the covered court are being welcomed and entertained by the Student Council.



A musical band is entertaining the students.



Teeraporn and friends are performing the hip-hop dance.



(Top two pictures) Students were flocking to buy food prepared by students to raise fund for their classes.



Many students are disappointed when the food ran out, but happy to be back at EIS.



Siraya Anantaratikun from grade 3C is very happy to come back to school to see her friends and teachers again.



# Tribute to Teachers

## Teachers Appreciation Day

(L-R front) Srithana Mitaree and Cindy Pekkhard carrying traditional decorated flowers to be presented to EIS Directors Surapee Sorajjakool and Udom Saengsavang as tribute on Teachers Appreciation Day.

*By Mr. Lee Chin Beng, Editor*

**O**n September 2, 2010, EIS observed “Wai Kru Day” or Teacher Appreciation Day. Students from grades K-12 gathered at the cover court to show their respect for their teachers.

Yanisa Vilairatanasuwan from 12A read the following tribute:

*True teachers do not just teach academic lessons to their students. They also give advice and guide them.*

*A teacher helps students in every sphere of life. They are future makers.*

*In this world, few achievers have succeeded without the guidance of a teacher.*

*Teacher’s Day looks to acknowledge the very important contributions of teachers.*

*I will remember you always.*

*Teachers are a rare breed. They foster optimism and confidence, provide knowledge that leads to success and act as good role models.*

*You will live in my mind ... forever.*



Primary School students are waiting patiently for their turn to give flowers to their teachers.



Kindergarten students too are waiting patiently for their turn to give flowers to their teachers.



High School students paying respect to their teachers.



Mr. Bronsen Stolz is receiving a ‘wai’ and flowers of appreciation from a student.



With smiles on their faces, Teachers Vivian Balao-od and Dorothy Gentapanan (L-R) received flowers of appreciation from their grateful students.



With tears of joy on her eyes, Teacher Amporn Malapat gratefully received flowers of appreciation from her students.

# In Pursuit of Excellence

A series of workshop for EIS Teachers

By Mr. Karlton Keller,  
Principal for Academic Administration

In its pursuit of academic reform, EIS invited Dr. Penny Lorwatanapongsa to deliver a series of workshops on “Understanding by Design.” The first workshop, held on August 12, 2010, was followed by a second on September 19, 2010. The final workshop will be held in February 2011.

Understanding by Design starts with goals and works backwards. It helps teachers focus on curricular units and follows the following basic steps:

1. Identification of desired results
2. Determination of acceptable evidence
3. Planning learning experiences and instruction

Good “backward design” ties curricular units together to produce higher student achievement. Teachers as designers of the curriculum craft the learning experiences to meet specified purposes. By starting with learning goals, teachers design the course to meet specific objectives.



(Above) Dr. Penny Lorwatanapongsa is giving a lecture. (Below) Faculty and staff listening attentively to the lecture.

Backward Design is goal directed. Teachers gain clarity on their goals by establishing what content is critical for the students to learn. Teachers ask the following essential questions to understand what EIS students need to know to be successful.

1. What are the enduring understandings needed for success in life.

2. What are the programs, level tasks, and rubrics needed to accomplish students mastering understanding.
3. What are the essential questions that need to be asked.

As one teacher said, “We go backward in order to move forward.”





(Above) (Front row L-R) Elementary School teachers dressing up as cats are Mr. Roy Ejurango, Mrs. Maurice Meringuez, Mrs. Evelina Espenorio, Mrs. Merrycel de Jesus, Ms. Emiline Lazarus. (Top row L-R) Mrs. Consuelo Lim, Ms. Vivian Balao-od, Mrs. Dulina Dawat, Mrs. Dorothy Gentapanan, Mrs. Phonphen Trakoonlakkana. (Below) Various scenes from the variety show and during the inter-color games.

*By Tommy Thomas, General Business Teacher*

On the afternoon of September 29, 2010, bus loads of teachers and staff at Ekamai International School, left bustling Bangkok for their annual two-day retreat. A few hours later, the Springfield Resort's scenic golf courses welcomed them to its lavish facilities.

Next day they began an exciting day with the inter-color games – these intra-mural games had mind boggling event like a water-balloon tossing race and the holed water-bin filling contest.

Many hours later, they were ready to relax at the evening variety show, a world class display of cultural entertainment. Performances surprised everyone, including the participants. Everyone received a lucky draw gift to remind them of the retreat.

Dining was also memorable because there was a great variety of appetizing food.

In addition, the worship services were unforgettable since they emphasized the retreat theme, "Different but Same-Same."



Bravo to the Social Committee and their leader Mrs. Sarah Jawjong, for an excellent job in arranging an innovative, entertaining and revitalizing retreat.



# Parents Day

By: Mr. Asher Vincent, Guidance Counselor



On August 31, 2010, the guidance department organized a Parents' Day for the primary and elementary sections. Dr. Krist Kraiphakdee from Chiromed: Chiropractic and Physical Medicine, Bangkok presented a talk on the topic of "Children's Development in Musculoskeletal System." The presentation focused on how the bones – especially the back bone – can affect the growth of a child. In the picture above, Dr. Krist (wearing a neck-tie) stands with parents.



On September 19, 2010, another Parents' Day was organized for the high school section. Dr. John Perumal, a lecturer from Asia-Pacific International University was invited to give a presentation entitled "The Value of Higher Education." Representatives from different educational institutions also presented information to parents about their colleges and universities. The picture above shows Dr. John Perumal seated 4th from the left.

# SIAM NIRAMIT

สยามนิรมิต



## Amazing Thailand

School-wide field trip to Siam Niramit

Students from 10C with Mr. Mayo Ragui, Teacher (in blue shirt).

By Mrs. Kittiya Kootanasan,  
Principal for Student Administration

**E**IS organized the first school-wide field trip to Siam Niramit on Thursday, September 23, 2010. A total of 1,444 people – students, parents, teachers, and friends – made the trip.

Siam Niramit is a world-class performance of Thailand’s arts and cultural heritage. Set in the heart of Bangkok, this must-see spectacular is performed on the gigantic stage now listed in the Guinness World Records. It features over 150 performers with as many as 500 costumes. On top of this, enhanced special effects with the world’s most advanced technology are used to produce a stimulating, very realistic and inspiring experience.

This is indeed a “Journey to the Enchanted Kingdom of Thailand.” Thanks to the teachers and staff for keeping the students in order and to the Siam Niramit for giving the school a special promotional entrance fee.



Mrs. Luisa Ragui with her kindergarten students enjoying the show.



Teachers trying out the Thai traditional and colorful umbrellas.



A primary student holding the “weapon” of the “devil.”



Students watching an outdoor show.



# Sowing Seeds of Love

## Adventurer Induction Ceremony

(Top) Five-year old Samantha Jawjong, K2, Little Lamb Commander, is pondering the significance of the induction ceremony.  
 (Below) Students and parents are participating in various activities during the ceremony.

*By Mrs. Maria V. Ejurango, Director of Adventurer Club*

**O**n September 21, 2010, 21 Little Lambs (K2), 39 Eager Beavers (K3) and 131 Adventurers (Grades 1-4) marched down the aisle of the EIS auditorium to make a commitment to the Adventurer Club and all its activities.

The program started with Adventurer Commander Jirakit Yingyuenyong from Grade 4A leading in reciting the pledge and singing the theme song. Later Pr. Danai Agartsupa, Pathfinder Director of the Thailand Mission gave a talk challenging all Adventurer Club members to become good and responsible students of EIS.

It was a beautiful scene when the members of the club come together to the altar with their parents to light the candle symbolizing their pledge and dedication to the service of God and humanity, followed by a dedicatory prayer by Chaplain Jonathan Montes.

“Teach children how they should live, and they will remember it all their lives.”  
 Proverbs 22:6 (Bible)





# Developing Civil Responsibilities

## Pathfinder Induction Ceremony

Joon Seo Park is giving the command to salute the Pathfinder flag.

*By Mr. Samson Cometa, Pathfinder Director*

**O**n September 29, 2010, 126 new Pathfinders, mostly from Grade 5, were inducted into the Pathfinder Club by Thailand Adventist Mission Pathfinder Director Danai Agartsupa.

The induction program started at 7:30 a.m. with all the new Pathfinders facing the middle aisle saluting the participating Master Guides as they walk passed them to the stage. It was a solemn ceremony as Pathfinders lit candles representing their membership in the club.

Pathfinding has been part of the curriculum for the past 10 years and is actively participated by students from Grades 5 to Grade 8.

Throughout the school year, Pathfinders are involved in different activities like camping, nature hikes, leadership trainings, and acquiring honors where they learn live skills.



A student is lighting the candle to signify his membership in the Pathfinder club.



Dr. Surapee Sorajjakool, Director is putting the Pathfinder scarf on a new member of the club.

# Science and Math Discovery Camp 2010



Students showing their participation certificates at the completion of the Science and Math Discovery Camp 2010, flanked by teachers on the extreme left and right.

*By Mrs. Beatrice Kootanasan, Principal for Student Administration*

**E**IS organized another Science & Math Discovery Camp in June & July 2010. The program was specially planned for the Kindergarten to Grade 5 students. Our goal was to improve their confidence, strengthen their skills, and have fun while learning about possible careers in these fields through hands-on learning experiences that excite participants about science and math.

It was an educational experience for the students. In the morning they learned math and science through self discovery and experimenting. In the afternoon they had activities using physical and social skills.

Each session was designed to accommodate students who have different backgrounds and level of skills. All shared a common enthusiasm for science and math.

It also helped students develop the desire to adopt hobbies in their lives. The field trip to Funarium, the largest play facilities on Sukhumvit 26, was an eye-opening experience for many.

Over the course of each week, students not only had fun but at the same time learned how science and math could be applied in their everyday lives.



Mr. Ronn Daguro is helping one student to do an experiment.



A student is doing some painting.



Mr. Welmer Lozada (L) and Mr. Samson Cometa (R) playing a game with two students.



Students making cakes with clay dough.

# Trip to Finland



EIS Pathfinders and teachers in Moscow, Russia.

*By Zhanping Ling 10G and Vareesa Dangprasert 10B*

**O**n July 20, 2010, a contingent of 15 EIS Pathfinders and six EIS teachers flew to Helsinki, Poland to attend the 10th Trans European Division Pathfinder Camporee at Iso Kirja, Finland from July 27 to August 3, 2010.

We landed at the Helsinki airport in the morning, excited, but sleepy and tired from the long journey. We soon took another flight to Moscow, Russia for sight-seeing. The weather was hot, but the wind was chillingly cold. We went around the city by subway and were also able to see Russia's famous circus and cultural dances.

After two days in Moscow, we took a bullet train to St. Petersburg. Later we headed to Tallinn, the capital of Estonia. The weather was pleasantly cool in Tallinn. The Estonians were peace loving people and we enjoyed the serenity of the city.

Later we took an hour's trip by the cruiser Superstar to get back to Helsinki where our group stayed for the next three days before proceeding to the campsite. In Helsinki, the weather was very chilly but sunny. We toured the city and the famous seaside market



EIS Pathfinders at the campsite, jumping for joy.

and sea fortress on Soumelina Island.

Finally, on July 26, a bus picked us up from the hotel in Helsinki and we headed for Iso Kirja, the campsite, to attend the Trans European Division 10th Camporee. The campsite lay on a vast plain of grass, with a huge marquee as the chapel. Twenty-one countries were represented at this camporee. EIS group campsite for the next five days was located in a beautiful area next to the lake. Three delicious daily meals were prepared by Ma'am Bee and Ma'am Joy.

From Tuesday until Friday, the Pathfinders were busy learning new honors, trading pins, watching competitions, trying out new games and skill and many other "cool" activities to keep everyone busy. Each day was filled with endless activi-



EIS Pathfinders ready for action.

ties which were organized to meet the need of the Pathfinders. The activities allowed them to make new friends from different countries and learn new skills.

At the closing ceremony many good-byes and hugs were exchanged with new friends. It became a moment everyone will always remember throughout their lives. The trip has given the EIS Pathfinders long lasting experiences and memories that they can cherish and share. They want to thank the school for giving them the opportunity to learn life beyond home and school.

Mr. Samson Cometa, Director of the EIS Pathfinder Club wants to invite many more students to attend the next camporee which will be held in Holland in year 2014. See you there!



# More Than Just Kicking Around

## A Thai Cultural Display by Grade 5 Students

(Top) Students dressing up in Southern Thailand costumes. (Below) Various display from the four regions of Thailand.

*By Mrs. Consuelo Lim, Grade 5 Teacher*

October 7, 2010 was a very auspicious day as the 5th graders showcased the richness of the Thai culture.

The main objective was to let people know that Thailand is a diversified country. Students created displays of each region that gave information about geographical features, people, cultural features, tourist attractions and food.

At the end of the day, the students felt their goals were achieved when one of their non-Thai friend said, "I understand and love Thai culture more than ever before."



# AP Macroeconomics Updates

By: *Mrs. Rachaniphorn Ngotngamwong, AP Macroeconomics Teacher*

Congratulations to the five high school students who passed the AP Macroeconomics examinations in 2010. The score-range is between (1) and (5), with (1) as the lowest, (5) as the highest, and (3) as the passing score. AP courses are recognized in many universities abroad. Mahidol University is presently the only Thai University that will accept AP courses. The names and scores of those who passed the exam in AP Macroeconomics are as follows:



Theeraphat  
Palawongse

Chotipol  
Anantasainont

Xiang June Wan

Ekasit  
Kunaderekwong

Primchat Sakpitak

1. Primchat Sakpitak (presently enrolled in BE Thammasat): score of (4)
2. Ekasit Kunaderekwong (presently a senior at EIS): score of (4)
3. Theeraphat Palawongse (presently enrolled in BE Thammasat): score of (3)
4. Chotipol Anantasainont (presently a senior at EIS): score of (3)
5. Xiang Jun Wan (presently a senior at EIS): score of (3)

There are currently 16 students enrolled in the AP Macroeconomics class and the AP program is growing and receiving more student interest. If you are interested in learning more about what AP is all about, you may find this website useful: <http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/Controller.jspf>



Mrs. Rachaniphorn Ngotngamwong,  
MBA, AP Macroeconomics and General  
Business Teacher.

## In Memory of Mrs. Mary Anderson

By *Mrs. Sarah Jawjong, Administrative Assistant*

Mary Anderson passed away on September 21, 2010, shortly after midnight Bangkok time after succumbing to cancer of the liver. She was the wife of Mr. Ronald Anderson, former Administrator of EIS from 1998 until the First Semester of 2003. Mrs. Mary was EIS Head Librarian.

She will be remembered as a strong, genuine, and compassionate person. "Last week," said Mr. Anderson, while I was beside her bedside, I felt something special. Difficult? Of course. Meaningful? Absolutely. Last July, she was still very much like her old self with the added realities of treatment. This time it was very different. Her life was obviously being taken away but her spirit was



Mrs. Mary Anderson

still strong and positive in whatever way was possible."

Mr. Anderson plans to spend more time in America with his daughters. He said Mrs. Mary was very appreciative and



Mr. Ronald Anderson

thankful to have those important to her around her in her last hours. "It is another illustration," he said, "that for people who care, adversity brings unity and focus. Mary's life was a blessing for all of us."

# New Teachers

By Mrs. Sarah Jawjong, Administrative Assistant



**Carlos Cirilo**

I am **Carlos Cirilo**, a native of Mexico. After finishing high-school I had the opportunity to further my education at Southern Adventist University in Tennessee, U.S.A. I graduated with a Bachelors in Religious Studies and Theology.

Prior to coming to EIS I was a student Pastor at my local church in Tennessee. I would like to go on and get a Masters and also pursue a PhD. But for now I have joined the EIS faculty as the Values 4 Teacher.

My impression of EIS so far is that "it is a very large and culturally diverse school", and while at EIS I hope to learn from each student's culture and religion, and in turn share with them values that can make them a better person and citizen.



**Ian M. Cordero**

I am a new teacher.  
With a degree in English from MVC  
Plus a Grad Dip T from SKPSC  
Along with a postgraduate degree in MAT  
*Ching ching*, my profession is ELT

I have experience.  
Five fruitful years in a Chinese school  
Six solid years in a Korean school  
Barely three months of rock n' roll  
Teaching Thai students in Ekamai International School

I am inspired.  
I've got the impression  
That EIS students do admire  
Teachers dedicated to their profession  
Whose passion can inspire

I have a goal.  
My aspirations for my students  
To hitch their wagons to the stars  
To work hard thus paving the way for success  
To stop and smell the roses as they reap their rewards

I am **Ian M. Cordero**, a Filipino, an English teacher.



**Rachel Zhang Tong**

I think EIS is a beautiful place where the warmth of human interaction abounds. Its international setting provides the students with a favorable learning environment.

I admire the teamwork attitude here that really encourages me a lot. As a Chinese teacher, I would like to improve my teaching ability so that someday I can be a university professor.

While working at EIS, I would like to promote Chinese as a foreign language to my students, encourage them to learn more and more about it, and develop my own teaching plans, activities and goals.

Most of all, I am hoping to fulfill God's plan for me here and be a blessing to whomever I will meet.

In addition, I taught Chinese in Beijing Jing Cheng Xue Yuan from 2005 to 2006.

I pursued a postgraduate degree in public health at AIIAS.

My Chinese name is **Zhang Tong**, and **Rachel** is my nickname.



**Jacob Andrew Brassington**

I left my home in the USA when I finally decided to come to Thailand and work at EIS. I am **Jacob Andrew Brassington**. I went to Walla Walla University to major in history, though now I am in a totally new and different surroundings.

When my stint at Saipan SDA School in Micronesia ended, I developed a growing desire to gain more experience in teaching, so I accepted the challenge of teaching fourth-grade social studies and language arts at EIS.

As I daily serve the EIS community for one year, I believe I will grow closer to Christ. The commitment of the entire EIS staff is very impressive, and I look forward to a good year working with each one of them as well as getting to know them and my students.



**Alexandra Buell**

I am **Alexandra Christine Dybdahl Buell**, a native of USA. I will be completing my BS in Environmental Studies at Walla Walla University when I return to the US next year.

I am now teaching second grade phonics in EIS, but I want to be around to help with whatever is needed as well as to learn and contribute as much as possible. I am also open to many different options if opportunity arises.

I want to learn about Thailand and the amazing culture in this country and I have a very good impression of EIS. In fact, I love it here because the faculty and staff are very friendly and welcoming though, at first, I thought I might have a hard time adjusting being in another country without knowing anyone.

EIS is very well equipped and I am very impressed with the facilities here. I have mostly been around smaller schools, so I am excited to see all that go on at a school this size. I am learning so much from everyone around here.

I have had many work experiences before coming to Thailand. I have been a basketball coach, track & field coach, lifeguard and swim instructor, fitness instructor, health and physical education staff and barista at a coffee shop.

I think it is going to be a great experience to be at EIS, and how lucky I am to be here!



**Emilene Cynthia Lazarus**

I am **Emilene Cynthia Lazarus** from South Africa. Before moving to Asia, I picked Thailand as my country of destination.

Fallen in love with teaching, I seriously pursued a degree in secondary education from Notre Dame of Marbel University and a teaching certification from Asia Pacific International University, formerly Mission College.

I taught at RAIS and SDA Language School before coming to EIS where I am currently teaching fifth-grade science. I will build friendships with my students and make them aware of their potential for success.

My goal is to enhance the learning potential of every student through individual and group interventions, modern technology and multimedia, etc.

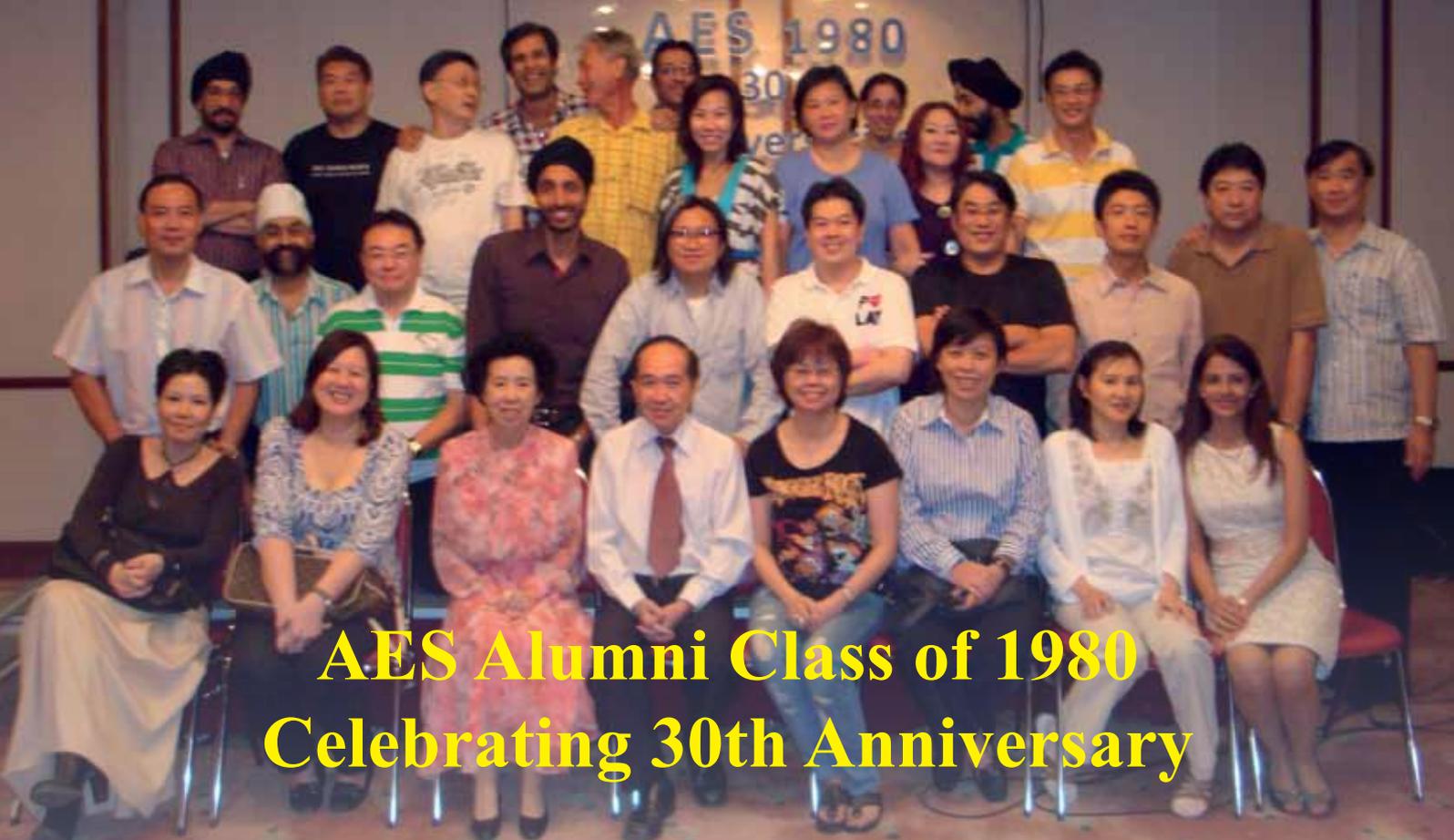
The EIS faculty, staff and students are friendly, welcoming and helpful, and I feel accepted.

# Cassandra Dewi Sariganon Crowned 1st Runner-up in Miss Thailand World



**Cassandra Dewi Sariganon** (Class of 2008) was crowned as the 1st runner-up in the Miss Thailand World competition which was held in September 2010. She is currently studying at Thammasat University and is working towards a bachelors in Chemical Engineering. Below are pictures of Dewi in school uniform and as a cheerleader at the TU-Freshy Game.





## AES Alumni Class of 1980 Celebrating 30th Anniversary

(Above) AES Alumni Class of 1980 with Mrs. Varinee Lee, their former Homeroom, Typing and English teacher, and Mr. Lee Chin Beng, (front row 3rd & 4th from left). (Middle) Dolls in AES uniforms were lovingly made by Mrs. Pornarin and distributed to all present as a souvenir of their anniversary. (Bottom) Various scenes at the anniversary, the alumni were happy to see former classmates again.

*By Mr. Lee Chin Beng, Editor*

On June 9, 2010, 30 alumni of 1980 celebrated their 30th anniversary-reunion at Rembrandt Hotel. Somchai, now a pediatrician in Taiwan, and Peter, a director of the Hollywood films in Hong Kong, flew in to join them.

Enjoying the delicious dishes, reminiscing their unforgettable experiences, events at AES/EIS, singing their favorite worship songs, meeting-chatting with their friends, and receiving the hand-made dolls (depicting EIS students) crocheted by Pornarin, were the high-

lights of the evening.

“It was an evening worth attending and remembering. It thrilled my heart to see that all of them are successful in their careers, even more thrilled to witness their reverence for God while they were singing the worship songs, and a lot of fun to hear them recounting their experiences while they were at EIS. Praise the Lord! Thank you, Boonchu-the president, Pornarin-the secretary, Peter-the MC, and everyone for this memorable evening,” said Mrs. Varinee Lee.



# Alumnnotes

By Mrs. Hazel Paculanang, Teacher



**First Lieutenant Rawiroj Kasemsri Na Ayudhya (Robert)** graduated in 1999 with a Gold Cord Award from Ekamai International School and then went to complete his Bachelors in Computer Science, from the Citadel (Military College of South Carolina) known to be the toughest military college in the United States. He received scholarships from many sources, including the Citadel Alumni Foundation, was inducted into a national honor society, the Phi Kappa Phi, and graduated with a Magna Cum Laude. Robert also received his Masters in Computer Science, from Georgia State University, Atlanta, USA. His professional research was on Security Visualization Techniques using Computer Graphics Algorithms. He was later inducted into an honor society for international scholars, the Phi Beta Delta, Alpha Lamda Chapter, and graduated with a Cum Laude. He is currently commissioned at the Ministry of Defense and is a part time instructor in Computer Science at Rajaphat Pranakorn University. He applauds Ekamai International School for helping young people develop into a complete person. Through struggles and motivation, it allows an individual to push further for development of oneself.



**Anuraj Narula** obtained his Bachelors in Computer Science from the University of Texas in Austin, Texas, USA. His work experiences include doing research projects at the University of Texas where he engineered the “ClassQuiz” software for students to be able to take interactive quizzes via a personal remote clicker and also developed a multi-player networking game used to gather data for the research on Market Game Theory in Online Payment System. He worked at Microsoft Corporation in Redmond as a Software Design Engineer for one year where he enhanced the “Voice to Text” module for Windows Mobile before moving back to Thailand. He now works part time at Thomas Reuters as the Senior Software Engineer and also as the Project Manager at The Opus @ Thonglor 10 which is a new brand in his family business, a mix use lifestyle center and boutique office for rent to be fully launched in December of this year. He was the winner of RoboCup (Robotic Soccer Competition) in 2005 and the 2nd Top Scorer in C++ TeckCheck Competition. Anuraj, together with his sister, have plenty of memorable moments here at our school. Although he was busy as the Vice-President of his Junior class as well as Sports House Captain, he enjoyed and still misses the basketball and soccer games, which he and his friends still try to replicate by holding their own competitions on our courts every Wednesday evenings. He also misses Pastor Das for his inspiring morning stories, Miss Esther’s daily Wisdom Pearls, Mr. Michael’s Algebra lessons where he would ask the simple question, “Understood?”, and for Mrs. Beatrice’s faith in him. Anuraj is currently engaged to be married on December 17th of this year. His sister Sonia Narula, also an alumnus is married with two children, living in the US, and is working as a Senior Product Manager at Raytheon.



**Sunetr Chakratphahu Kunanantakul** (1989 – Grade 9) (left) graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Business English from Assumption University and later received her Masters in Business Administration majoring in International Business from Armstrong University, USA. She is currently working as the Managing Director of Global Electric Motorcars Asia Co., Ltd. as well as Opera Diamond Co., Ltd. In 2009, she received the Mai Sri Ruen Award which was organized by the Business Association Relations of Thailand. Sunetr presently is serving as the Secretary General to Zonta International Area 6 District 17, a global organization of executives and professionals working together to advance the status of women worldwide through service and advocacy. While at Ekamai International School she was able to serve as the Athletic Vice-President of the class.



**Wei Pien Chang** (seated at right) is currently the Managing Director of Power Fast Construction Co., Ltd. which deals with the construction of buildings, factories, schools, offices and residences. He obtained his Master of Engineering from Asian Institute of Technology and his Bachelor of Engineering from National Taiwan University. He is married and has two daughters and a son.  
weipien@hotmail.com



**U-Maraj Saenglohaphand** graduated from Ekamai International School with a Silver Cord Award and went on to finish her Bachelor of Science in Information Technology, from Assumption University on a full 4-year scholarship. While there, she received the Srisak Chamornmarn Award for Excellence in IT. Currently, she is working as the Computer Management Assistant for United States Agency for International Development (USAID).



EIS shares the pride and honor of Miss **Nattikarn Jantakananurak** (Class of 2010) for being the recipient of a four-year continuing fixed quarter scholarship at the Sirindhorn International Institute of Technology (SIIT) in Thammasat University. Nattikarn graduated top of her class with a CGPA of 3.92. We are proud of her award and have confidence that she will continue to perform her best.



**Thanyarat Komolsingsakul (Kiranjeet Srinarula)** (Class of 1980), graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature at Jesus and Mary College, New Delhi, India. She is currently working for her family business of 28 years as a wholesaler and distributor. The feelings of supreme gratitude are endless as she remembers the monumental experiences, unconditional love and enduring care and genuine regards of all her teachers who worked towards the betterment of all students' characters and achievements. Thanyarat is married with two grown sons who are now attending university.



**Russel Tierra (Class of 2006)** is currently employed in Sei Company as the Marketing Manager's Assistant. He assists with the maintenance of internal and external marketing management of the company, as well as managing and motivating employees to new strategies and techniques to their jobs more efficiently. Russel graduated from Assumption University in March of this year and is awaiting his graduation certificate which will be awarded to him in January 2011. He received a Bachelor in Business Administration with a major in Insurance and a minor in Marketing. While studying at Assumption University he was the president of his class.

# Ekamai International School

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Accepting Applications: January, June



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