# King Mongkut's University of Technology North Bangkok

# International News

No. 103 Quarterly April - June 2024

#### MoU Signing Ceremony: KMUTNB, BYD CO., LTD, and FXB CO., LTD



**Picture from 1-r of 1<sup>st</sup> row:** Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Suchart Siengchin (7<sup>th</sup>), KMUTNB President, Mr. Xun Meng (9<sup>th</sup>), Deputy General Manager of BYD Human Resources Division, Mr. Wang Yubiao (6<sup>th</sup>), CEO of FXB CO., LTD, and Prof. Dr. Teravuti Boonyasopon (8<sup>th</sup>), Chairman of KMUTNB Council Committee.

On 23 April 2024, the MoU signing ceremony was held at BYD's headquarters in Shenzhen, China. Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Suchart Siengchin, President of KMUTNB, represented the university in signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with BYD CO., LTD., and FXB CO., LTD. The BYD side was represented by Mr. Xun Meng, Deputy General Manager of Human Resources Division, and the FXB side was represented by Mr. Wang Yubiao, CEO. The ceremony was also attended by Prof. Dr. Teravuti Boonyasopon, Chairman of KMUTNB Council Committee, together with the executive teams of KMUTNB, BYD and FXB. This trilateral partnership aims to promote a wide range of cooperation, including training and internship programs, curriculum development, and research. The three parties also agreed to jointly establish the Center of Excellence in Electric Vehicles and Automation Systems at KMUTNB.

# A Visit by the Delegates from the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs of France



**Picture:** French Delegates take a group picture with KMUTNB executives and French students who are doing an internship at KMUTNB.

at KMUTNB. They were warmly welcomed by Prof. Dr. Somrerk Chandra-ambhorn, Vice President for Research and Information Technology Development, and Asst. Prof. Dr. Pornsak Srisungsitthisunti, TFII Director.

The French delegation had a fruitful dicussion on further cooperation with the team of KMUTNB executives and visited the Renewable Energy Research Center (RERC) and the TFII-Schneider Electric Center of Excellence at TFII which originated from the more than three-decadelong close cooperation between KMUTNB and France.

On 29 May 2024, a delegation from the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, led by M. Matthieu Peyraud, Director for Culture, Education, Research & Networking Coordination, and Dr. Xavier Grosmaitre, Attaché for Scientific and Higher Education Cooperation at the Embassy of France in Bangkok, visited Thai-French Innovation Institute (TFII)

#### Inside

| Academic Cooperation | p.2 |
|----------------------|-----|
| Academic Cooperation | p.3 |
| Academic Cooperation | p.4 |
| Academic Cooperation | p.5 |
| Campus News          | p.6 |
| Campus News          | p.7 |
| TGGS                 | p.8 |
|                      |     |

#### MoU Signing between KMUTNB and Meranti Green Steel



On 11 June 2024, at KMUTNB, Mr. Hans-Ulrich Südbeck (8th from l-r of the 2nd row), Deputy Chief of Mission of the German Embassy, and Dr. Cholachit Vorawangso Virakul (4th), Assistant Secretary General of EECO, honored the MoU signing ceremony between KMUTNB and Meranti Green

Steel (Thailand) Co., Ltd. Representing their respective institutions were Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Suchart Siengchin (6<sup>th</sup>), President of KMUTNB, and Dr. jur. Sebastian Langendorf (7<sup>th</sup>), CEO & Founder of Meranti Green Steel. The event was attended by executives from both KMUTNB and Meranti Green Steel.

Meranti Green Steel, a pioneering leader in the green steel industry, is taking a significant step with its new green steel project in Thailand, one of the first green steel initiatives in the ASEAN region. This MoU signifies a commitment to exploring new avenues for research and development, innovative solutions, and educational programs in Green Technology.

#### The Executive Team of CIT Visit Taiwanese Universities



During 20–22 May 2024, a delegation of four representatives from the College of Industrial Technology (CIT), led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Smith Songpiriyakij (4th from l-r), CIT Dean, visited five Taiwanese universities. The delegation visited National Chung Cheng University, National Cheng Kung University, and National University of Tainan to discuss potential academic cooperation. Additionally, they represented KMUTNB in

signing Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with National Sun Yat-sen University and National Kaohsiung University of Science and Technology. The mission aimed to promote and build academic cooperation networks between KMUTNB and Taiwanese universities.

#### MoU with Henan Mechanical and Electrical Vocational College and BYD CO., LTD.



On 29 June 2024, Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Suchart Siengchin (6<sup>th</sup> from l-r of the front row), President of KMUTNB, signed the MoU with BYD CO., LTD., and Henan Mechanical and Electrical Vocational College (HMEVC). Representing their respective organizations were Mr. Xun Meng (7<sup>th</sup>), Deputy General Manager of BYD, and

Mr. Yao Yong (8<sup>th</sup>), Secretary of the HMEVC Party Committee. This MoU partnership was aimed to develop the curriculum and integrate the education in the vocational level to the higher education level. Following this MoU, the Bachelor of Technology Program in Modern Automotive Technology and Automation Systems will be offered to eligible HMEVC students by KMUTNB Techno Park. The event was attended by KMUTNB executives and delegates from BYD and HMEVC. Future cooperation will be extended to joint research projects, innovation development, conferences, and student and staff exchanges. These efforts aim to enhance education and industry partnerships strengthen academic bonds, and

These efforts aim to enhance education and industry partnerships, strengthen academic bonds, and foster people-to-people ties between Thailand and China. Together, KMUTNB, BYD CO., LTD., and HMEVC will work to shape the future of automotive technology and automation systems education.

# MoU with PENG SHEN Technology (Thailand) Co., Ltd.



On 27 June 2024, at BITEC Bangna, Prof. Dr. -Ing. habil. Suchart Siengchin, KMUTNB President, and the KMUTNB executive team attended the MoU signing ceremony between Peng Shen Technology (Thailand) Co., Ltd., KMUTNB Technopark and other 5 Thai universities. This MoU partnership focuses on the development of human resource in the PCB industry.

# AMPM'24 Symposium



**Picture:** Prof. Dr. -Ing. habil. Suchart Siengchin, KMUTNB President, is delivering a remarks at the opening of the program which consists of the online and onsite sessions.

On 24 May 2024, KMUTNB organized the AMPM'24 Symposium for 24 hours duration, starting at 12:00 Midnight until 11:59 pm (GMT+7). Funded by National Science Research and Innovation Fund (NSRF), Thailand Science Research and Innovation (TSRI) and KMUTNB, the symposium was attended by 260 participants from different countries such as Australia, Brazil, China, France, India, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, UK and USA.

### **Durban University of Technology, South Africa**



On 3 July 2024, Prof. Fulufhelo Nemavhola (2<sup>nd</sup> from l-r), Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research Innovation and Engagement, Durban University of Technology (DUT), South Africa, paid a courtesy visit to KMUTNB. The DUT delegates were welcomed and had a meeting to explore the possibility for cooperation with Ms. Sikan Kulchonchan (3<sup>rd</sup> from l-r), Vice President for International Affairs, and Asst. Prof. Dr. Peerawatt Nunthavarawong (4<sup>th</sup> from l-r), TGGS Assistant Dean for Research and Industry Relations.

# **KMUTNB's Progress in THE University Ranking 2024**



KMUTNB has made a steady progress in the latest Times Higher Education Asia University Ranking for 2024. KMUTNB has secured the notable 5<sup>th</sup> position among Thai universities and was placed among the top 401 – 500 universities of Asia. Remarkably, KMUTNB climbs up to one hundred positions in the prestigious THE Asia University Rankings 2024. It emerged among the top 401 – 500 universities of Asia, from its original place among the top 501 – 600 universities in 2023. Especially, KMUTNB has been placed at the 3<sup>rd</sup> position among the universities across Thailand for research quality, which indicates the university's outstanding progress on the improvement of research quality and impact.

# A Visit by the Delegates from French Embassy in Bangkok



Picture from 1-r: Asst. Prof. Dr. Tanaporn Rojhirunsakool (2<sup>nd</sup>), Assistant Dean for International Affairs and Public Relations of Faculty of Engineering, Asst. Prof. Dr. the Faculty of Engineering. Fol-Pornsak Srisungsitthisunti (3<sup>th</sup>), Director of TFII, and Lieutenant-colonel Franck lowing the meeting, the delegates ARNAUDON (4<sup>th</sup>), Defence Attache of France to Thailand. visited the laboratories at TFII.

On 20 May 2024, Lieutenant-Colonel Franck Arnaudon. Defence Attaché of France to Thailand, French Embassy in Bangkok, was welcomed by Asst. Prof. Dr. Pornsak Srisungsitthisunti, Director of the Thai-French Innovation Institute (TFII), and the executives of the Faculty of Engineering. He and his team have a meeting to discuss potential future collaborations with TFII and the Faculty of Engineering. Folvisited the laboratories at TFII.

#### A Visit by the Delegate from Chinese Embassy in Bangkok



**Picture from l-r of 1<sup>st</sup> row**: Mr. Wu Zhiwu (6<sup>th</sup>), Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of China in Bangkok, Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Suchart Siengchin (5<sup>th</sup>), President of KMUTNB, and the team of KMUTNB executives

# of KMUTNB, and the team of KMUTNB executives A Visit by the Ambassador of Romania to Thailand



On 21 June 2024, Mr. Wu Zhiwu, Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of China in Bangkok visited KMUTNB to deliver a special talk on Thai-Chinese relations and economic cooperation, and was welcomed by the KMUTNB President. This special talk was a part of the meeting of the Council of Science Deans of Thailand, hosted by the Faculty of Applied Science from 21 to 23 June 2024, at Benjarat Hall, Navamindra Rajini Building, KMUTNB.

On 25 June 2024, at Ratcha phruek Meeting Room, Navamindra Rajini Building, H.E. Mrs. Daniela-Brînduşa Băzăvan (10<sup>th</sup>), Ambassador of Romania to Thailand, visited KMUTNB and had a meeting on the potential cooperation between KMUTNB and Romanian universities with the team of

KMUTNB executives led by Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Suchart Siengchin (9th), KMUTNB President, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pianpool Kamoljitprapa (8th), Dean of Faculty of Applied Science. Over years, KMUTNB has developed the cooperation with Romanian universities such as Pitesti University and Transilvania University of Brasov. The ambassador of Romania and her team also visited the Virtual Reality Startup Center at KMUTNB Technopark and laboratories at Faculty of Applied Science. This visit emphasized the commitment to further strengthening bilateral ties between Thailand and Romania through educational initiatives and technological innovation.

2024 Forward Together: KMUTNB-NFU Research Partnership and Cross Cultural Exchange (KMUTNB-NFU RC<sup>2</sup>)



Picture: The representative of lecturers from KMUTNB and NFU together with the team of staff of International Cooperation Centre, take a group tural exchange and enhance research writing photo with the KMUTNB and NFU students who participate the program. skills. NFU has developed a strong research cooperation and fruitful student exchange activities with the three faculties of KMUTNB's Rayong

From 9 -12 April 2024, King Mongkut's University of Technology North Bangkok (KMUTNB) and National Formosa University (NFU), Taiwan, jointly organized the KMUTNB-NFU RC2 Program. The event was held at KMUTNB's Rayong Campus. 25 selected students from three faculties of Rayong Campus and 21 students from NFU participated in the camp.

This initiative was designed to foster cul-Campus. The opening ceremony was presided over by Prof. Wen-Chi Lu, NFU Vice President, and Prof. Dr. Thanin Silcharu, KMUTNB Vice President for Rayong Campus.

#### KMUTNB Leadership Camp 2024: 21st Century Skills for Global Citizens



Picture: The participants make excurisons to EGAT Learning Center on 19 June 2024, and also Musuem Siam and Bang Saen Aquarium at Burapha University Chonburi on 21 June 2024. Also, in the leader talk session, the ketnote talks were delivered by Mr. Jay Teo, CEO of KMUTNB's commitment to equipping students AMW Tech Company and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Malinee Sriariyanun, Assis- with the knowledge and skills necessary for tant President for Internationalization Strategies and Special Affairs. their future roles as global citizens.

From 18-21 June 2024, at KMUTNB Bangkok Campus, the International Cooperation Centre organized the Leadership Camp 2024: 21st Century Skills for Global Citizens. The event was attended by 33 students from KMUTNB and 33 students from partner universities in China, Korea, Indonesia, Taiwan, Vietnam, Cambodia, India, and Myanmar. These students brought a diverse range of study backgrounds and cultures to the program.

The camp featured various activities aimed at enhancing participants' leadership, critical thinking, creative thinking, and communication skills. The Leadership Camp 2024 underscores

#### VKU-KMUTNB Innovation & Intercultural Exchange Camp 2024



Picture: All participants from KMUTNB and VKU, along with the executive management representatives from both universities, take a group photo and the three faculties at KMUTNB together during the opening ceremony of the event.

From 24-30 June 2024, a group of 16 KMUTNB students and 16 VKU students participated in the VKU-KMUTNB Innovation & Intercultural Exchange Camp 2024, held at the Vietnam-Korea University of Information and Communication Technology (VKU) in Vietnam. The program aimed to foster innovative ideas and a startup mindset among students from both universities by integrating various sciences, knowledge and cultures.

Since the MoU signing in 2023, VKU Prachinburi Campus have developed a

close and fruitful cooperation, particularly in the area of student exchange activities.

Special thanks to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Huynh Cong Phap, President of VKU, and his management team for their enthusiastic and active efforts in building cooperation between the two universities.

### Campus News

# College of Industrial Technology's Outbound and Inbound Student Activities



Picture: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Smith Songpiriyakij, Dean of CIT, and Assoc. 4 students at Okinawa College, France: 8 students Prof. Dr. Rattanakorn Phadungthin, CIT's Associate Dean for International and Special Affairs, take a group photo with outbound students University of Burgundy and Indonesia: 6 students on the orientation day.

The College of Industrial Technology is renowned for its exemplary student exchange programs. Each year, the college welcomes interns from overseas partner universities and sends its own students for internships abroad.

This year, 31 students will participate in outbound exchange programs. The placements are as follows: Germany: 6 students at Esslingen University, 2 students at Coburg University; Japan: 4 students at Okinawa College, France: 8 students at CESI Engineering School; 5 students at the University of Burgundy and Indonesia: 6 students at Universitas Negeri Surabaya.

Additionally, the college was hosting 57 inbound exchange students, enhancing departments diversity. This year's inbound students include: 35 students from French universities and 22 students from Victoria University College, Myanmar. These exchange programs provide students with invaluable opportunities to gain practical experience in their fields and immerse themselves in different cultural environments, fostering both professional and personal growth.

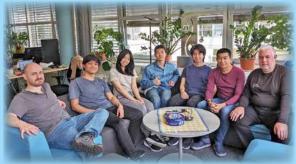
#### KMUTNB Students' Internship at ZDT, China



During 19-20 June 2024, a team of KMUTNB lecturers, led by Asst. Prof. Dr. Nophadon Wiwatcharagoses (6<sup>th</sup> from l-r), Deputy Director of Academic Affairs of KMUTNB Technopark, visited Zhen Ding Technology Holding Limited (ZDT) in Huaian, China. ZDT is a global leader in the PCB industry. The visit aimed to strengthen the cooperative education partnership between KMUTNB and ZDT.

Between April and June 2024, six KMUTNB students interned at ZDT, enhancing their practical skills and fostering stronger ties between academia and industry.

# KMUTNB Students' Internship at FernUniversität in Hagen, Germany



During the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, two students (2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> from l-r) from KMUTNB's Faculty of Information Technology and Digital Innovation undertook an internship at Fern Universität in Hagen, Germany, under the supervision of Prof. Dr. -Ing.habil Herwig Unger (7<sup>th</sup> from l-r). For over a decade, FernUniversität in Hagen has offered KMUTNB students this unique opportunity to gain international work experience, which proves invaluable for their future professional life. Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Herwig

Unger's dedication to cooperative education has strengthened the partnership between KMUTNB and FernUniversität, fostering joint research, publications, and conference organizing.

# KMUTNB Students' Internship at National Central University, Taiwan



During April-October 2024, two 3<sup>rd</sup>-year students from the Department of Computer and Information Science, Faculty of Applied Science, participated in a cooperative education program under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Min-Te Sun, National Central University, Taiwan. This opportunity is part of the ongoing cooperative activities established through the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between KMUTNB and National Central University, aimed at fostering academic and cultural exchange between the two universities.

# Campus News

# KMUTNB Researcher Won Bronze Medal at 'The 49<sup>th</sup> International Exhibition of Inventions Geneva, Switzerland



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Benjawan Thumthanaruk, a lecturer of Faculty of Applied Science, along with students from the Department of Agro-Industrial, Food, and Environmental Technology, achieved a bronze medal at the prestigious 49<sup>th</sup> International Exhibition of Inventions in Geneva. Their award-winning creation, "SuperSea," a crispy jellyfish snack, is distinguished for its low-fat, low-calorie, and GMO-free quality. The event, held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 17 - 21 April 2024, brought together innovators and researchers from around the world to showcase inventions and technological advancements.

# KMUTNB Students Received the 'Gold Medal and WIIPA Special Award' at ITEX 2024 in Malaysia



Students from the Department of Industrial Chemistry, Faculty of Applied Science, achieved a prestigious recognition at the 35<sup>th</sup> International Invention, Innovation & Technology Exhibition (ITEX 2024) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. They won Gold Medal and WIIPA Special Award" for the innovation titled "Ayuvy Red Power-Bioactive Colorant" developed with support from the National Research Council of Thailand.

This eco-friendly innovation provides sustainable coloring solution to the industry. The exhibition took place from 16 - 18 May 2024. This innovative bioactive colorant is the outcome of the students' dedication to advancing chemical applications that merge science with environmental protection. Also, it reflects the exceptional competence of the KMUTNB students that was internationally recognized.

# KMUTNB Students Won Second Prize at Near Zero Carbon Campus Forum in China



During 2 – 3 June 2024, at Tongji University, China, the Green Dee You Dee (Live green Live well) Team of the students from Faculty of Business Administration, KMUTNB Rayong Campus, was nominated by the Sustainable University Network of Thailand to participate in the Near Zero Carbon Campus Forum Student Competition and won the second prize. This competition was organized by the Asian Sustainable Campus Network. The team of KMUTNB students was supervised by Ms. Sasawat Gunpai and Asst Prof. Dr. Kedsuda Petchde, lecturers of Department of Industrial Business and Logistic Administration, Faculty of Business Administration.

# **KMUTNB Outstanding Woman of the Year 2024**



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Malinee Sriariyanun, KMUTNB's Assistant to the President for Internationalization Strategies and Special Affairs, was recently selected to participate in two prestigious international events. She attended the International Week at Aalen University, Germany, from 4 to 8 June 2024. Additionally, she was an esteemed speaker at the ASEAN-India Women Scientists Conclave held in Singapore from 24 to 26 April 2024. Besides her international engagements, she is a distinguished lecturer and executive who has significantly contributed to enhancing KMUTNB's global reputation. Her strategic oversight of the university's ranking affairs has played a crucial role in elevating KMUTNB's standing on the world stage.

#### **TGGS**

#### Signing Ceremony of Collaboration Agreement between TGGS and TUM Asia



Picture from l-r: Dr. -Ing. Markus Wächter (1st), TUM Asia Managing Director, H.E. Dr. Ernst Wolfgang Reichel(2nd), German Ambassador to Thailand and Prof. Dr.-Ing. Nisai Fuengwarodsakul (3rd), TGGS Dean.

On 6 May 2024, at the German Embassy in Bangkok, H.E. Dr. Ernst Wolfgang Reichel, the German Ambassador to Thailand, presided over the signing ceremony of an agreement between The Sirindhorn International Thai-German Graduate School of Engineering (TGGS) and Technical University of Munich (TUM) Asia in Singapore. Representing their respective institutions were Prof. Dr.-Ing. Nisai Fuengwarodsakul, Dean of TGGS, and Dr.-Ing. Markus Wächter, Managing Director of TUM Asia.

RWTH Aachen and TUM are leading institutions in engineering and technology, both in Europe and globally. TGGS and TUM Asia represent the German educational model in Southeast

Asia. This collaboration aims to foster academic exchanges in various fields such as student exchange programs, faculty exchanges, research initiatives, and other academic and scientific activities.

#### Two TGGS Lecturers Awarded UK Royal Academy of Engineering Funding

These achievements highlight KMUTNB's dedication to advancing research, fostering international collaboration and promoting a sustainable future. We congratulate them on this well-deserved recognition.



**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Unalome Wetwatana Hartley** and her team are deserving of praise for their pioneering work in utilizing renewable electricity to co-valorize methane and CO2. Partnering with Professor Kang Li of Imperial College London and SCG (Siam Cement Group), their project promises to transform waste methane and CO2 into valuable products, contributing significantly to sustainable chemical production and environmental conservation.



**Asst. Prof. Dr. Peerawatt Nunthavarawong** and his team have made remarkable strides with their project on "Measurement of Residual Stresses and Porosity Studies on Corrosion Resistance of Protective Coatings for Offshore Wind Turbine Foundations Using Thermal Spray Technology." This innovative research, in collaboration with Professor Michael Fitzpatrick of Coventry University and Advance Surface Technology Co., Ltd., showcases the potential of thermal spray coatings to enhance the durability and longevity of wind turbine foundations.

#### Congratulations to TGGS Dean on Being Elected Chairman of GTRA



Picture from l-r: 1st Chairperson: Prof. Dr.-Ing Nisai Fueng-warodsakul, TGGS Dean, KMUTNB; 2nd Treasurer: Mr. Juergen Supik, Dorsch Consultant Asia; 3rd Co-Chairperson – Thai: Asst. Prof. Dr. Monpilai Narasingha, Faculty of Engineering, KMUTNB; 4th Public engagement: Mr. Dirk Pfeiffer, Vossloh; 5th Secretary: Mr. Sumit Srisantithum, Chief Operating Officer of Bangkok Mass Transit System PLC. (BTS); 6th Co-Chairperson – German: Mr. Thomasz Mazur, CEO of Siemens Mobility Thailand; 7th Membership management: Mr. Milind Arvind Nirmal, DB Engineering.

Congratulations to Prof. Dr.-Ing. Nisai Fuengwarodsakul, TGGS Dean, KMUTNB, on being elected Chairman of the German-Thai Railway Association (GTRA) Steering Committee. The election took place on 27 May 2024 at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Thailand.

International News is published quarterly by:

International Cooperation Centre

King Mongkut's University of Technology North Bangkok 1518 Pracharat 1 Rd., Bangsue, Bangkok 10800, Thailand Tel: +66 (0)-2-555-2000 ext. 1024, Fax: +66 (0)-2 586-9007



#### **EDITORIAL TEAM**

Prof. Dr. Teravuti Boonyasopon, Advisor KMUTNB International News Committee

Send news, questions and comments to: icc@op.kmutnb.ac.th