

# The Report of My Stay in Thailand

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## 1. The purpose of my stay

The purpose of international internship program was to take part in enterprise of a company, to develop my English skills and to acquire useful knowledge.

But there was no company accepting me due to my term of the stay is too short to achieve something in company's project. Therefore, I had to review my purpose of the stay again. My purpose was decided by discussing with my supervisor after arriving in Thailand.

I show the purpose of my stay in Thailand and training program in the following

- To develop my English skill through this program
- To learn Thai language
- To enjoy all of Thailand

According to training program, I have to have discussion 2 times a week. In truth, I had only to do a presentation regarding my research a week. Instead of that, I could concentrate on studying Thai language



He is my supervisor, Asst. Prof. Wassanai Wattanutchariya.

He always took care of me and disciplined me. Due to his help, my English skill was developing and I could spend significant days.

His smile is quite charming. When I met him first time, my stress was released. I really appreciate him.

This is my laboratory. In this laboratory, students study artificial born made form HA(hydroxy apatite), bio grass and something of bio materials. Their research is totally different form my research. It is interesting to know their research.



## **TRAINING PROGRAM**

**Period:** August 22 - September 17, 2011

**Venue:** Faculty of Engineering, CMU, Thailand

**Advisor:** Prof. Dr. Wassanai Wattanutchariya

### **Tentative Schedule**

Week 1	Detail	Key Person
August 22 - 26, 2011		
Day 1	Orientation & Department Tour	
Day 2	Research Discussion: Biomaterials	A. Wassanai
Day 3	Lab Meeting	
Day 4	Research Discussion: CAD/CAM/CNC	A. Wasawat
Day 5	Thai Cultural Tour (1)	

Week 2	Detail	Key Person
August 29 - September 2, 2011		
Day 1	Research Discussion: MEMS	A. Choncharoen
Day 2	Preparation of presentation	
Day 3	Lab Meeting & 1st Presentation	
Day 4	Research Discussion: Information Technology	A. Uttapol
Day 5	Thai Cultural Tour (2)	

Week 3	Detail	Key Person
September 5-9, 2011		
Day 1	Research Discussion: Hard Disk Technology	A. Komkrit
Day 2	Preparation of presentation	
Day 3	Lab Meeting & 2nd Presentation	
Day 4	Research Discussion: Electrostatic Deposition	A. Anirut
Day 5	Thai Cultural Tour (3)	

Week 4	Detail	Key Person
September 12-16, 2011		
Day 1	Research Discussion: Automation	A. Worapod
Day 2	Preparation of presentation	
Day 3	Lab Meeting & 3rd Presentation	
Day 4	Discussion and provide training report	Lab Members
Day 5	Present training report	Lab Members

Note: Schedule can be rearrange

## 2. About presentations

I had to present my research one time a week. That was my first time to present something in English. And I had to present to the people in different field. At first time, I explained only background of my research and some technical terms to

understand my research. I was really nervous and I cannot present well at all. Through this experience, I realized that I had had to practice more. I also noticed that speaking skill is different from listening, writing, reading skills. From that day, I started training my speaking skill of English. They seemed to manage to understand my research because they developed their English skill through weekly discussion. This is impressive point for me. In my laboratory of Mie University, we have only to use Japanese. Asst. Prof. Wassanai told me the reason why they have to present in English at weekly discussion. They could work as a leader in international office in the future. Actually, their presentation is better than mine. After the presentation, I was exhausted and slept immediately.

At second presentation, I explained my research in detail and there were Kagawa University students and Prof. Sawada from Kagawa University as a visitor. Prof. Sawada asked me "Why you don't explain the background of your research" after my presentation. I answered to him "I already explained the background last week". He requested me to explain it again. After that, he told me "Nobody can understand your explanation. It is not enough to understand" and he started to explain the background instead of me. That explanation is easier to understand than mine. I'm so embarrassed that I could die! At the same time, I felt I had to change my mind and I asked him how to develop my English skill immediately. He advised to me "You have to read English paper regarding your research and memorize technical sentences and words. You have to present again otherwise your stay will be ruined." I felt I have to practice more and more. Frankly, I was in bad mood. Now, it is also good experience.

At the final presentation, I explained my stay in Thailand. I had never succeeded at presentation since I came to Thailand. So I had to succeed this presentation. After my presentation, everyone told me "well done" "good job". These words made me satisfied. Due to them, I could do this presentation and spend significant days. They also told me to keep contacting and never forget them. I really appreciated their kindness. Therefore my third presentation was successful.

I had occasion to present about general information of Mie University for the Chiang Mai University students who want to go to Japan as a exchange student. But I have no preparation because I was not told that I have to explain about Mie.

In truth, at first, I intended to take part in the briefing session as a visitor. And there were a lot of Japanese student to present about their university to Thai student. I was really upset. I wrote a draft of presentation instantly with my tutor.

I cannot say it was successful. But I managed to finish my presentation. I could also hear other presentation at this briefing session. Their presentation was amusing and almost Thai student was laughing with their presentation. It is also good experience now.

I also have occasion to hear the presentations of Chiang

Mai University students and Kagawa University students. The reason why Kagawa University students came to Thailand was their supervisor, Prof. Sawada, had a event to come to Chiang Mai University and he brought them. The presentations of Chiang Mai students were very difficult for me. But they explain the back ground of their research. So I could understand the application. Their presentations are better than mine. The English skills of Kagawa University students are not good. But they prepared their presentations hard before coming to Thailand. So their presentations are really good and made me interested in their researches.

I realized the importance of preparation due to them. Through these experiences, first purpose was achieved.



### 3. To learn Thai language



She is my tutor and Thai teacher. Her name is Jah. She had been to Mie University to study. She has a great knowledge of Japan. She always say “ah~ I miss Japan”. She took me a lot of place such as temple, market, Thai village and hot spring. I hope she will come to Japan again. We promise to hang out together in Japan. I met her mother. She is charming and invited me to her house. There, she cooked the spiciest food in Thailand for me.

I knew only a few Thai words before I went to Thailand. My tutor is good at English. However, of course, there were some Thai students who cannot speak English well. In spite of their English skill, they tried to communicate to me in English. I really admired it and I hope that I want to communicate them in Thai. I asked my tutor to teach me Thai language immediately. She accepted my request with pleasure. This is the reason why I want to study Thai language. I bought Thai grammar book on my 4<sup>th</sup> day. I studied Thai language every day. She thought me in various ways. As a result, I acquired basic grammar, a lot of Thai words, sentences and slangs. I can also hear easy conversation. When I had easy conversation in Thai with the students who cannot speak English well, they looked amazed and pleased. And I am also glad to communicate with them in Thai. I think that it is important to communicate using local language to make good relationship with native people when foreign people are in another country. Now, I love Thailand through this program. So I keep practicing Thai language. If I have next opportunity to stay in Thailand, I would try to speak only Thai. She keep teaching me Thai on facebook and I have Thai teacher in my laboratory. I'm looking forward to talking them in Thai. I suppose the second purpose is also achieved.



#### 4. To enjoy Thailand

I had a thing I want to do before I went to Thailand. It is MuayThai that is a kind of Thai martial arts. I played MuayThai only one time. My body screamed at single play. He could teach another martial arts using stick called 'staff'. Then I changed my mind and started to play staff.



He is my master, Aum. He is a member of our laboratory. He said he is the best player at MuayThai in Chiang Mai. He have been playing for 7 years. He can also play another martial arts. He had never been abroad. But his English was good. I was very surprised. He took me elephant camp and snake show. He is one of the closest Thai friend.

At my first day of playing staff, I just played first basic skill. He told me that he had played this skill for 6 hours at his first day. His master quite severe for him because when he fail to play basic skill halfway, his master said to him “play again in the beginning”. He could play using only one hand. On the other hand, his master could play using both of his hands! It was incredible for me. I thought that nobody can approach him. Aum also told me that his defense was smashed at one time of his master’s attack. I really wanted to acquire this martial arts. From that day, I practiced every day. At the last, I acquired all of basic skill. But I cannot play all of basic skill successively. I have to keep practicing to protect myself. So I bought a stick after coming back to Japan and told him that on facebook. He said to me that he wanted to see the video that I’m playing staff. I reply to him that I will show you someday when my skill became mature. I have a lot of tasks after Thailand. Due to these tasks, my present life is quite satisfied.

I enjoyed Thai food. I introduce my favorite or funny Thai foods in the following.



Fig.1



Fig.2



Fig.3



Fig.4



Fig.5



Fig.6



Fig.7



Fig.8



Fig.9

Fig.1 is fermented pork. This is my best food.

Fig.2 is fresh buffalo. The sauce is made from blood. I scared.

Fig.3 is Thai sea food curry with coconut. It suits rice well.

Fig.4 is famous food in Chiang Mai. It is fried noodle with salty and spicy flavor.

Fig.5 is a durian. It is not ripe. So the smell is not strong but it is tasteless.

Fig.6 is papaya salad called 'som-tam'. I cannot usually eat tomato, but I can eat tomato in som-tam. Salad dressing make tomato appetizing.

Fig.7 is eating insects. I really hate it. But almost Thai student told me "It's delicious. Why don't you try?". I declined their proposal. "You should try it or you will regret." In spite of their advice, at the last, I didn't eat it. My tutor ate it like a starving dog.

Fig.8 is sushi. The salmon still had tiny born. My stomach was all right after eating.

Fig.9 is lobster. I ordered raw lobster. But it was already getting worse. This is grilled lobster. The taste was not bad.



I visited a lot of place as cultural tour.



This is famous temple in Chiang Mai, Doi Sthep. This structure is made from pure gold. It looks quite gorgeous. We can see the whole of Chiang Mai at this place. There are many types of Buddha. We can extend our life to pour oil to specific Buddha.

This is silver temple that is the only one in Thailand. My tutor's mother works here as a teacher. In Thailand, poor people study at temple for free. Women cannot enter inside the silver temple because there are many Buddha under the temple.



This is Sunday market called walking street. This market focuses on Thai people. It is so big that it takes 3 hours to look around whole market. I bought soaps, a instrument of frog here. The picture of that insect was taken here. I tried foot massage and fish spa.

This is night bazaar focusing on foreigner. The price of this market is higher than walking street. There was Aum's mother as a worker and she gave me present. There are many restaurants selling sea food and cigarette shop selling cigarette with scary package. I bought it for the friend who is heavy smoker.





This is hot spring called 'sankhanpang'. The garden is beautiful. We can eat boiled egg putting into the 105 degrees water. I tried 'ashiyu' and I could also try to take a bath. But I didn't because the bathroom looked dirty and small and the price is same to Japan. I thought if I took a bath, I wouldn't feel comfortable.

This is elephant camp. We can try elephant show, riding buffalo, riding elephant. To ride elephant was the most exiting because the back of elephant was unstable and we went down a steep hill. The location is far from Chiang Mai. But I'd like to go there again.



This is the most exiting place for me, snake show. There are many kind of snake such as king cobra. I'd like to recommend this show to my friends. But I never want to go there. I felt my life turned short. Someone kissed snake in spite of I scared only to take a snake.

Thai student love drinking and it's true of me. We went drinking 3 times a week. I got my favorite beer, LEO. It is easy to drink and inexpensive. I also tried Thai whiskey popular in whole Thai. It also easy to drink and I bought it as a souvenir from Thailand. Every party was fun and made us close.



I went to further place for example, Thai massage, mall, palace, various kind of village (umbrella, Thai silk, etc.). Everything was amazing. I spent enjoyable holidays. Needless to say, third purpose is also achieved.

## 5. Conclusion

I realized first important thing that is connection person to person through this program. Due to many people, I could spend significant days. If nobody helped me, I couldn't even eat food. If I didn't have any friend, I would miss home. If my supervisor didn't disciplined me, the first purpose wouldn't be achieved. I thought how to repay for them and I obtained an answer. I should do as they did to me if I have chance to help exchange student spend significant stay. Actually, I had the occasion. Thai student came to my laboratory on September 26. I asked my professor that I'd like to be a tutor for the student as soon as I come back to Japan. I also realized the importance of facebook. Facebook is a kind of SNS(Social Networking Service) like a mixi. Now, I can keep contact with the people in Thailand with facebook. We chat 3 times a week. My tutor keeps teaching me Thai language. I can feel connection with them.

I'm proud of the things I did during my stay.

- I wrote diary every day.
- I never declined their invitation.

These things also made my stay significant. My diary is one of my property. This is first time for me to understand the importance of studying English. It was fun to communicate foreign people. Communicating foreigner, I felt I have to study more. Now, I practice conversation and memorizing English words. If I meet foreigner, I try to talk with them positively. I will have a presentation about my research in English in December. I think using English in real life is the shortest way to develop my English skill.

Once again, my stay is really significant. I hope I could use these experience for my future. And I have many Thai friends. I hope I could go back to Thailand someday. If there are occasions to go abroad for study, I'd love to go.

I'd like to introduce the story at the airport at my last day. When I left from Chiang Mai, Jah and Aum saw me off. We were talking about my next stay in Thailand.

"I want to take you to Phuket next time. You always say you want to go to Phuket"

"When will you come? Next year?"

"OK. I'll come back with my friends when I graduate. I'll try to speak Thai only."

"That's nice. Don't forget to recommend snake show to your friends."

"I won't. But I'll never go there. I just recommend. My friends will see snake show and we will go to Phuket!"...

"It's time to go. See you again." "See you again. Good luck!"