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# CMU-UMN

## Veterinary Education Twinning Project

September 2014

Reporting Period: 1/01/2014-  
6/30/2014

### ***New Dean briefs OIE***

Dr. Khwanchai Kreausukon briefed OIE headquarters in Paris just days before he became the new Dean of the Chiang Mai University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Khwanchai was in Paris participating in the Engaging Intergovernmental Organizations (EIO) professional development program offered by UMN. This program is designed to help expand OIE Advanced Competencies among key global leaders and provide new skills for effectively engaging intergovernmental organizations. During the week-long program, participants visited the OIE headquarters in Paris, as well as the World Trade Organization and World Health Organization in Geneva, and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome. Dr. Khwanchai's participation familiarized him with the workings of the OIE including their role as the international standard-setting organization for animals, animal products and zoonoses within the context of the World Trade Organization. The personal relationships he developed with OIE staff will strengthen collaborations for years to come.



*Chiang Mai faculty visit University of Minnesota. See page 2.*

***Assuring high quality National Veterinary Services through the alignment of veterinary educational curriculum with OIE recommendations on competencies of graduating veterinarians is the overarching objective of this OIE sponsored Twinning Project.***

### ***Complementary funding expands Twinning activities***

Careful planning and creativity have allowed the Veterinary Education Twinning Project to partner with other projects to reduce the costs of faculty and student exchanges. This coordination provides the opportunity for faculty to meet the needs of multiple projects during international trips. Cost reductions were also realized through the use of the CMU Veterinary Faculty hostel and UMN dormitories for the student exchanges. These savings facilitated greater faculty participation in continuing education activities, created more opportunities for teaching observation, and increased the number of students participating in the exchanges.

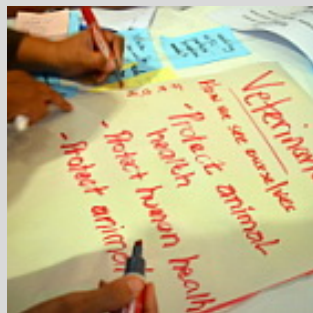
## Highlight of Activities

### CMU faculty exchange to UMN, 13-17 January 2014

Dr. Tongkorn Meeyam used her week at UMN to observe the Public Health rotation for final year veterinary students, discuss details of the veterinary student exchanges, and learn new teaching methods. She served as an apprentice on the teaching team for the course "Leadership to Address Global Grand Challenges" to enhance skills in teaching communications, facilitation and leadership skills (Day 1 Competency 2.11 and Advanced Competency 3.8). Upon returning to Thailand, Dr. Tongkorn co-led a similar workshop for veterinary faculty members and helped lead a teaching skills workshop. Dr. Tongkorn (Tip) teaches food safety and public health at CMU and serves as the Director of the Veterinary Public Health Center for Asia Pacific within the Veterinary Faculty. She is also the Secretary for the Ecohealth-One Health Resource Centre, a joint activity with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI).

### UMN faculty exchange to CMU, February 2014

UMN and CMU faculty contributed to the second Global Health Institute (GHI) at Chiang Mai incorporating a number of OIE Day 1 and advanced competencies as well as demonstrating alternative teaching methods. After GHI, the CMU/UMN faculty team worked on the next phase of curriculum mapping and refined the approaches for collecting more detailed information from individual teaching staff. The visit concluded with a teaching workshop to illustrate a number of non-traditional teaching methods possible. Dr. Agnes Poirier of the OIE Regional Office in Bangkok joined the workshop to present an overview of the OIE Day 1 competencies and the veterinary educational twinning projects as part of the larger Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) initiative.



*Global Health Institute 2014*



*Associate Dean Rutch Khattiya speaking at the 2014 American Veterinary Medical Association annual meeting.*

### Faculty share OIE veterinary educational twinning experience with veterinary education leaders

Drs. Lertrak Srikitjakarn, Rutch Khattiya, and Khwanchai Kreausukon from CMU joined Karin Hamilton, Will Hueston and Linda Valeri from UMN to discuss twinning at the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges annual meeting in Washington DC March 13-15, 2014. CMU and UMN twinning project leaders met the U.S. Delegate to the OIE, Dr. John Clifford, and senior officials of the Veterinary Services of the United States. They reviewed the status of the twinning project and discussed educational materials available from the USDA that can help fill gaps identified in the curriculum mapping. Dr. Alain DeHove from OIE Headquarters joined the group for a symposium to inform other veterinary schools interested in participating in a twinning program. Representatives from 10 or more Veterinary colleges listened to presentations and surrounded speakers to ask more questions after the symposium.

### CMU Faculty Exchange to University of Minnesota

March 2014 - Associate Deans Rutch Khattiya and Khwanchai Kreausukon visited UMN to discuss strategies for enhancing the teaching of OIE Day 1 and advanced competencies with veterinary faculty and senior leaders. The visit included consultations on overall curriculum design and how both faculties can best utilize the outcomes of the twinning project. Tours of the Veterinary Medical Center (the teaching hospital for the veterinary college) and the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (which also serves as the regulatory disease testing laboratory for the State of Minnesota), and other UMN CVM clinical teaching facilities capped off a week of meetings and in-depth discussions.



## Activities - continued

**CMU faculty exchange to UMN April 25-May 16, 2014.** Drs. Lertrak Srikitjakarn and Terdsak Yano (Jek) traveled to UMN in late April for the International Conference on One Medicine, One Science (iCOMOS). Jek remained at UMN for 2 additional weeks to observe teaching methods, expand work on mapping competencies in the veterinary curriculum, and explore the integration of a diagnostic laboratory and infection control program into the UMN veterinary faculty. Dr. Lertrak was one of the invited keynote speakers at the iCOMOS meeting, interacting with a Nobel Prize Laureate and internationally recognized scientists from across the US. The meeting also provided an opportunity for Dr. Lertrak to join UMN Professors Will Hueston and John Deen in a meeting with Sam Thevasagayam of the Gates Foundation. The Gates Foundation is very interested evaluating how training veterinarians in the areas of Day 1 competencies increases the effectiveness of National Veterinary Services and leads to stronger collaborations with government public health agencies.

**The First veterinary student exchange occurred from May 21 to June 8, 2014:** A group of 5 CMU final year veterinary students traveled to UMN with their Public Health/Food Hygiene instructor, Dr. Tongkorn Meeyam, and one of the Veterinary Public Health (VPH) residents, Dr. Sakulrat Pattamakaew from the Veterinary Public Health Centre for Asia Pacific at CMU. The CMU veterinary students joined 5 UMN veterinary students to complete the 4<sup>th</sup> year Veterinary Public Health rotation and a one week *farm-to-table* study program that provided them experience in how the food system and veterinary medicine operate in Minnesota and the US. The CMU students also attended a week-long short course on *Surveillance of Foodborne Pathogens* taught by a veterinarian working for the Minnesota Department of Health. The participating students from both CMU and UMN were very enthusiastic about the benefits of this exchange which directly addressed Day 1 competencies.



*CMU students discuss Thailand with UMN students.*



*CMU and UMN students on UMN campus.*



*Group with iconic Spoon and Cherry Sculpture.*



[Student Exchange Video](#)

## Curriculum Review Completed for Day 1 Competencies

Faculty meetings, course syllabus reviews and individual interviews contributed to the overall veterinary curriculum review for Day 1 competencies. Educational objectives, core curriculum sequence and the coverage of the Day 1 competencies were compared to OIE recommendations for both Chiang Mai University (CMU) and University of Minnesota (UMN).

The results demonstrate that the veterinary educational objectives are consistent with those outlined by OIE in the Background and Scope of the recommendations on the Competencies of graduating veterinarians ('Day 1 graduates') to assure National Veterinary Services of quality. Also, the veterinary core curricula sequence of courses at both CMU and UMN are aligned with the OIE guidelines for Veterinary Education Core Curriculum even though there are differences in the two programs. The CMU veterinary students enter University directly from secondary education in contrast to the UMN students, all of whom complete at least 2 years of university education prior to beginning the veterinary educational program. Consequently the CMU veterinary educational curriculum covers 6 years while the UMN veterinary educational curriculum covers 4 years added to their undergraduate university coursework of at least 2 years.

The veterinary education curricula at UMN and CMU have many similarities. Both begin with general subjects followed by "normals" (i.e. anatomy, physiology), then "abnormals" (i.e. disease processes), and finish with practical application of knowledge. The courses early in the veterinary educational curriculum sequence utilize more lectures and laboratory experiences. Later in sequence, the courses involve more practical hands-on experience with animals in the clinic and field settings. Some of the final year clinical experience activities such as medicine and surgery are divided by species of animal, such as small animal clinics, equine clinic and food animal clinic.

Several differences exist between the curricula of CMU and UMN. CMU students all take the same courses with only the last semester available for elective internships. UMN students choose a practice track (small animal, equine, mixed animal, interdisciplinary) early in the curriculum and then take a series of elective courses specific to that track in addition to required core courses that all students take.

### Veterinary Education Twinning's aims and objectives \* Chiang Mai University (CMU) and University of Minnesota (UMN)

Our principal objectives are to:

- Strengthen effective veterinary services by aligning veterinary education within the framework of the OIE PVS pathway
- Improve the veterinary workforce by ensuring that new veterinary graduates demonstrate compliance with OIE Recommendations on the Competencies of Graduating Veterinarians ('Day 1 Graduates') to assure the high quality of national Veterinary Services (Day 1 competencies)
- Deliver continuing professional development for veterinarians working in both public and private components of National Veterinary Services in order to advance knowledge and skills as outlined in the advanced competencies developed by OIE
- Promote the One Health approach for interdisciplinary collaboration in addressing health issues at the human, animal, and environmental interface

**\*Activities highlighted in this newsletter promote the Twinning objectives.**



#### Enhanced communications between CMU and UMN

The President of CMU provided complementary funding for teleconferencing equipment so CMU and UMN faculty and students can interact more effectively from the opposite sides of the world. The teleconference facility will support research collaborations, faculty discussions, mentoring of each other's students and public health residents and joint teaching activities.