

Report of my visit to Thailand as ACP-3-lecturer (21-28 Feb 2008)

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Given a lectureship award in the meeting of ACP-3 at China, I had a chance to visit Thailand. I visited four institutions during this visit: Chulabhorn Research Institute (CRI), Mahidol University and Kasetsart University in Bangkok, as well as Prince of Songklar University at Hat Yai, the southernmost city in Thailand. Professor Somsak as well as Dr. Chittchang, Dr. Thasana, Professor Anuchit (PSU) kindly provided enough care and assistance with everything, which I deeply appreciate. Also in this visit, I met Professor Tim Gallagher (Univ. of Bristol) who was giving a short lecture series at the time in CRI. A short trip and lunch we (also with his son, Dr. Chittchang, Dr. Thasana) shared at Ayudhya remains a valuable memory to me. In this visit, I gave talks with a title, "Gold-Catalyzed Stereoselective Annulation of Carbo- and Heterocyclic Compounds: Developments and Applications" which include our recent redox chemistry with nitrones.

- Feb 21 2009      Arrival.
- Feb 23 (Mon)    I visited various labs at CRI and was impressed with modernized equipments and excellent chemistry and biochemistry programs at CRI. After my talk in the afternoon, I also had a chance to talk to graduate students at CRI, some of whom I met again in ACP-4 meeting in Thailand. With many young faculties at CRI (Dr. Chittchang, Dr. Thasana, and Dr. Ploypradith), I also had very stimulating chemistry discussions which I enjoyed a lot.
- Feb 24 (Tue)    I went to Mahidol University with Professor Thongpanchang being my host. I had chance to meet Prof. Vichai Reutrakul, and many other faculty members. We had exciting chemistry discussions and I also learned of many active international cooperation programs with western countries as well as among Asian countries.
- Feb 25 (Wed)    Dr. Chuawong at Kasetsart Univ kindly picked me up at CRI and Prof. Boonsong Kongkathip, Prof. Ngampong Kongkathip joined lunch. After my talk in the afternoon, I had chances to see a very active natural product chemistry program around the department.
- Feb 26 (Thr)    I headed for Hat Yai via Don Muang airport and arrived at Hat Yai about dinner time. Prof. Anuchit in the faculty of Pharmacy at PSU picked me up at the airport and hosted the visit. He also nicely explained the difference of taste of Thai food in the southern part of Thai.
- Feb 27 (Fri)    I visited Prince of Songklar University at the faculty of pharmaceutical science, and had business talk with Dean and administrative staffs. International cooperation program in this department was certainly excellent. I also had chance to look through various laboratories in five departments in pharmaceutical science program.
- Feb 28 (Sat)    Departure.

I would like take this opportunity to thank all people I met in Thailand, who showed such a good hospitality and provided extremely nice care of me during this visit. I am deeply obliged and I will certainly return the favor when I get the chance in the future. Everywhere I went, students and faculties were very open to the visitor, and I could see a very active chemistry programs evolving in Thailand.



(after the talk at CRT on Feb 23)



(at Ayudhya remains, with Prof. Gallagher, his son, and Dr. Chittchang)