



UP VOICE

The Official Newsletter of the University of Puthisastra (UP)

UP MEDICAL GRADUATES AND STUDENTS ARE NOW ELIGIBLE TO SIT IN USMLE

UNITED STATES MEDICAL LICENSING EXAMINATION



The University of Puthisastra (UP) is rapidly growing from strength to strength and we are very proud that our Faculty of Medicine is now recognized internationally (<https://search.wdoms.org/home/SchoolDetail/F0005811>).

UP is very proud to be the only University in Cambodia with internationally recognized Medical, Dental and Pharmacy Schools – a fantastic achievement. This international recognition of our Medical School means that UP medical students and graduates are now eligible to apply to Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates Examination (ECFMG) for ECFMG Certification. This certification allows international medical graduates to apply for residency or fellowship programs in the United States. UPs registration in the World Registry of Medical schools means that UP medical students are now recognized internationally and have much better opportunities to study and train abroad. We look forward to seeing UP students being Medical Leaders not just in Cambodia but across the World. We are delighted in the progress that UP is being recognized across the World as well as making a real difference to Cambodian lives.

TWENTY YR-4 PHARMACY STUDENTS VISIT NORTHEASTERN THAILAND FOR SUMMER INTERNSHIP



Located in the northeastern Thailand, the University of Khon Kaen (KKU) is very prestigious university which brings tremendous outcomes to the development of the region through higher education.

UP is really pleased to collaborate with KKU, allowing students from both universities the opportunity to share knowledge, skills, experiences, and attitudes. Each year, KKU happily welcomes interns from UP during the spring and summer breaks and this summer, 20 UP students are doing their one-month internship at KKU in different sectors - 14 students in clinical pharmacy; 1 in R&D; 4 in community pharmacy; and 1 in pharmaceutical technology. We are sure that our students will learn many things including the hard skills, soft skills, and cultures, so that they later can apply these skills for Cambodia and the whole world.

MEDICAL LABORATORY STUDENT VISITED BIOMEDIC DIAGNOSTIC CENTER (BDC)



On 11th September, 2019, the Department of Laboratory Sciences conducted a study tour with Yr-2 medical laboratory students to the Biomedic diagnostic Center (BDC) allowing students to improve their practical knowledge about medical laboratory testing as well as improving collaborations. BDC also agreed to draft MoU with UP which includes 30% discount to UP's staff for using BDC's health services, especially blood testing.

UP LAUNCHES NEW DIPLOMA OF IMPLANTOLOGY



Dr Tak Ranuch
(Cambodia)
Course Director
Periodontics



Dr Patrick Tseng
(Australia)
Course Co-ordinator
Periodontics

UP in partnership with a group of international dental specialists (mainly from Australia) is proud to launch a new 18-month diploma course in Dental Implantology which will start in December 2019.

The course was approved last week by the UP Academic Board. It is based on a similar part-time post-graduate implant course conducted at Sydney University, and will be the most comprehensive ever offered to Cambodian dentists. The course comprises 4 two-week blocks of teaching, with a strong clinical component, and additional on-line learning. Three of UP's lecturers, Dr Tak Ranuch (Course Director), Dr Soeurn Visal and Dr Sok Chhen Chhean (all specialists with overseas degrees) will be teaching, alongside the highly qualified overseas team, which is led by Australian periodontist Dr Patrick Tseng.

UP is proud to be able to partner with overseas experts to bring the latest advances in dentistry to the local dentist community. We believe this course will help raise the standard of implantology in Cambodia, which will be of benefit to patients across the country.

THIRTEEN UP MEDICAL STUDENTS JOIN KHON KAEN UNIVERSITY, THAILAND



On 31st August 2019, UPs Deputy Dean of Medicine, Dr. An Srim, led 13 of our 4th and 5th Yr medical students for the elective period of studying in division of Surgery, Dermatology, Radiology, Internal Medicine, Otorhinolaryngology and Obstetrics and Gynecology Department at the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University (KKU) from August 31, 2019 to September 29, 2019.

UP is planning many oversea training so that as many students as possible can have international experiences and best practice to develop their skills and knowledge to become best possible Doctors for Cambodia.

PHARMACY STUDENTS ARE BUSY DURING THE SUMMER VACATION



During this summer break, UPs Pharmacy students are involved in so many activities to develop their knowledge and skills to prepare themselves to be fully qualified pharmacists immediately after graduation to be work ready from Day 1.

20 students are doing internship at the University of Khon Kaen (KKU) for one whole month; 35 students are participating the Pharmacy Practice Summer Course at the simulated pharmacy at the University of Puthisastra; 49 students are doing volunteer work at different pharmaceutical domains (in which 12 students found the sites for volunteering on their own). We are very excited by our students' commitment and passion within pharmacy. UPs Faculty of Pharmacy has a very exciting future!

AHHA ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP FOR TWO DENTAL STUDENTS TO GO ON EXCHANGE PROGRAM TO SYDNEY



UP's partner AHHA (Australian Humanitarian Health Association) has announced that it will provide scholarships to send two UP dental students to Australia for a two week exchange later this year.

This is a wonderful opportunity for students to see dentistry in a different setting, as well as learning about another country and culture. The students will spend most of their time visiting the private clinics of AHHA dentists (some of whom are specialists) as well as visiting the dental school at Sydney University and Westmead Hospital where many Sydney dental students do their clinical training.

AHHA has been a partner of UP for the past four years, and sends a large team of dentists and support staff each year to provide care for underserved and special needs children in the UP dental clinic.

UP is fortunate to be able to provide many opportunities for overseas exchange to many students each year, thanks to the close ties we have with our overseas partners. Thank you AHHA!

UPS FACULTY OF MEDICINE VISIT 3 NATIONAL PHNOM PENH HOSPITALS

Professor Sandro Vento, Dean of Medicine of UP and Dr An Srim, Deputy Dean of medicine of UP recently visited 3 national hospital: National Pediatric Hospital, Preah Kossamak Hospital, and Khmer-Soviet Friendship Hospital.

The visits was very successful and centered around improving the quality of training for UP medical students.



SK MEDICAL CARE SUPPORTED STUFFS AND REAGENTS TO MEDICAL LABORATORY STUDENTS



On September 04, 2019 SK Medical Care collaborated with Laboratory Sciences Department, University of Puthisastra running a day training for medical laboratory students. The objective of this training was to provide students with general knowledge in medical laboratory methods of biochemistry testing, donation reagents, and how to set up Spectrophotometer analysis machines.

FIRST THESIS DEFENSE WORKSHOP OF FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Recently, UPs Dr. Chhim Sarath, Deputy Dean of Faculty of Medicine, led a Thesis Defense Workshop to help improve skills in Thesis Defense. More than a hundred of participants included current thesis supervisors, Yr 7 and 8 MD students, UP research committees and medicine staff.

During the workshop, Dr. Sarath presented valuable suggestions on how to successfully defend Yr 8 MD thesis defense.

The workshop was considered to be very successful as students were engaged and understood the importance of presenting the best possible defense for this critical aspect of their medical education.

UP will definitely continue to hold more useful workshop for students in the future.



MEDICAL LABORATORY STUDENTS TAKE MOCK EXAM

On September 07, 2019, Laboratory Sciences Department created the first Mock Exit Exam (MCQ and OSCE) for medical laboratory students generation batch 6. The purpose of the mock exam was to test their ability before their main MCQs and OSCE, get them familiar with the exam processes as well as get them to practice more before the real one coming up.



SUMMARY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE FACULTY OF PHARMACY FOR 2018-2019

Faculty of Pharmacy's mission is to provide the highest quality pharmacy education to prepare students to become professionally qualified pharmacists and leaders in the field of pharmacy through in-class education, laboratory practice, on-field research, voluntarism, clerkship and internship within hospital pharmacies, community pharmacies, laboratories, and pharmaceutical enterprises both in and outside the country. Below is the summary of our achievements for the academic year 2018-19:

1. Enrollment rate

- UP Faculty of Pharmacy had the highest number of students who chose UP pharmacy as the first priority across UP
- UP Faculty of Pharmacy had the highest enrollment across UP after the national entrance exam result was released.

2. Pharmacy Faculties

- UP is the academic institutional member of FIP (International Pharmaceutical Federation), ASEAN Association of Schools of Medical Technology, and AASP (Asian Association of Schools of Pharmacy)
- Continuing Professional Developments for UP pharmacy staff is maintained through weekly Clinical Club, Journal Club, Research Champion, and Curriculum Development Club
- Clinical Club is conducted to strengthen clinical skills for pharmacy faculties
- Journal Club is conducted to strengthen research capacity for pharmacy faculties
- Technical Curriculum Committee was created to modernize and change the pharmacy curriculum from content-based to competency-based curriculum
- Faculty of Pharmacy was the first faculty across UP who started computer-based exam for MCQ and OSCE for exit exams
- Faculty of Pharmacy strengthened the University-Industry collaboration for job opportunity, internship, and joint project

3. Curriculum Development

Transition from content-based curriculum to outcome-based curriculum through:

- Review 'Core Competency framework for Pharmacists in Cambodia'
- 1st Consultative workshop on Core Competency Framework
- Update of Core Competency Framework for Pharmacists
- Integration of English, Critical Thinking, , Community Outreach, and Pharmacy Practice Summer Course.

4. Laboratory upgrading

- Investment on new pharmacy laboratory equipment and devices worth USD 15,000 for semester I and USD 20,000 for semester II.
- UP simulated pharmacy provided training activities to all pharmacy students prior to hospital and community pharmacy internship/clerkship.
- UP herbarium was created

5. International internship/study tour/conferences/exchanges

111 students are out of the country to join International internship/study tour/conferences/exchanges:

- One-month international internship at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences of Khon Kaen University (KKU), Thailand (41 students joined).
- The International Conference on the 4th industrial revolution and its impact at Walailak University, Thailand (9 students attended), and one of our students gets the best presentation award for research paper presentation.
- The 4th Industrial Revolution: Creating a New World for Health Professions Education at International Medical University, Malaysia (7 staffs attended)
- The 9th Asian Association of Schools of Pharmacy at Ajou University, South Korea (29 students attended with 50%-100% travel grants)
- The 6th International Pharmacy Summer School, at University of Muhammadiyah, Yogyakarta (5 students attended).
- The Asian Science Camp, China (1 year-2 student)
- The Health+ program, Lublin, Poland (1 year-2 student)
- Study tour to International University of Health and Welfare and Japanese Association of Medical Technologist (4 students will join)
- The 3rd International Conference on Pharmacy Education and Research Network of ASEAN (ASEAN PharmNET 2019), which will be held in November 14-15, 2019, Yogyakarta, Indonesia (15 students and one staff will attend)

6. Volunteering work

- During the 1st semester break, 58 pharmacy students had completed volunteering work in community pharmacies, medical laboratories, and pharmaceutical industries.
- In the 2nd semester break, 49 pharmacy students will start to do volunteer work in community pharmacies, and pharmaceutical industries/companies (in which 12 students found the places by their own).



7. Research

UP pharmaceutical students and lecturers have published one full article in USA University Online Journal, 15 research abstracts and posters in local conference and magazine, and 27 research abstracts and posters in international conference and journal. As a result of this, 110 UP pharmaceutical students got actively involved in the 38 research projects. Among these abstracts and posters, three of them received the best poster awards at the International Conference on the 4th Industrial Revolution and Its Impact, at Walailak University, Thailand and at the 9th Asian Association of Schools of Pharmacy, at Ajou University, in Republic of Korea.

8. Conferences/ Workshops

- The 2nd Pharmaceutical Research Conference at University of Puthisastra, Cambodia on December 8-9, 2018 (about 100 pharmacists and students joined it)
- The 1st Consultative Core Competency Workshop on March 23, 2019 (about 30 pharmacists from different areas of pharmacists join it).

9. Extra-curriculum activities

- Community work (Project Sabai (30 students joined), Project Lokun (24 students joined))
- White Coat Ceremony (November 28, 2018) (90 students joined it)
- Pharmacy annual trip 2019 (January 11-12, 2018) (220 students joined)
- 1st Ekiden Race (Running event) (January 12, 2018) (150 students joined)
- STEM Festival (February 21-23, 2019)
- Community outreach (year 5 pharmacy students) (June 28, 2019) (69 students joined)
- Discovery Festival (June 27-28, June, 2019)
- Parasitology project at Takeo province (year 3 students) (July 21, 2019) (100 students joined)
- Career Conference (August 19, 2019): 5 panel discussions (around 20 students participated in each panel) :
 - +Panel 1 * Pharmacy Profession: Preparation for success in pharmacy career by Ph. Pech Chamnan Pranith, Ph. Set Chankakada, and Ph. Chhum Sophan
 - +Panel 2 * Community Pharmacy: Key successes in starting a community pharmacy by Ph. Kruey Kimsour, Ph. Chhou Sopheara, and Ph. Khiev Phalnika
 - +Panel 3 * Industrial Pharmacy: Required skills for success in industrial pharmacy by Ph. Uch Navin, Ph. Khin Chanthearanita, and Ph. Suon Piseth
 - +Panel 4 * Clinical Pharmacy: Challenges in implementing clinical skills in hospital and community pharmacies in Cambodia by Dr. Chea Sin, Ph. Ly Sita, Ph. Kheng Sengly, and Ph. Heang Chanry
 - +Panel 5 * Medical Biology: What are the required competencies (knowledge, skills, and attitudes) to become successful in medical biology career ? By Assistant prof. Chroeng Sopheap, Dr. Oeng Sopheap, and Ph. Lun Sokphyrak

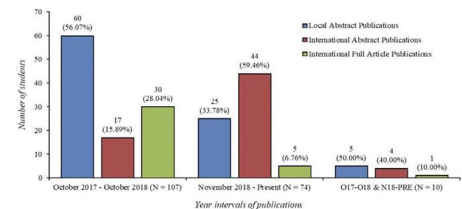


Figure 1. Number of UP pharmaceutical students publishing abstracts or full articles in local or international publications based on year intervals. Note: O17-O18 = October 2017 - October 2018; N18-PRE = November 2018 - Present.

10. Study Clubs:

- PharmaCareer Club is opened every Tuesday from 13:00 – 14:00 in following purposes:
 - Make students explore about their future career
 - Orient them towards their field of interest
 - Show them various job possibilities within pharmacy
 - Encourage them to think out of the box
 - Support and empower them and connect them with different professionals
 - Experience sharing by senior pharmacists
- Senior Pharmacy Club is opened every Monday from 13:00 – 14:00 to help year 4 and year 5 students to be well prepared for graduation exam and national exit exam
- Clinical Pharmacy Club is opened every Saturday from 13:00 – 14:00 to reinforce the students' clinical skills by helping them to understand the clinical roles of a pharmacist, the Good Dispensing Practice, and Prescription Validation.

11. 5 UP Alumni received scholarships to pursue their Master Degree abroad:

- So Visessakseth, Master of Pharmaceutical sciences, Thailand
- Ung HuyKhim, Master of Health Consumer Protection and Health Management, Thailand
- Oeng Sokunvary, Master of Toxicology, Thailand
- Kimyen Oeurn, Master of Pharmacology, Thailand
- Un Sovorleak, Master of Management, France

Beyond these achievements, Faculty of Pharmacy is committed to bring more successes and produce more qualified pharmacists to make impact to the society and the world community.

12. After graduation

- 98.79% of batch 3 pharmacy students have passed the first session of National Exit Exam
- 98.79% of batch 3 pharmacy students got the job according to the survey conducted on the graduation day.
- 6 Alumni passed exam to become government officials for the Ministry of Health



GET TO KNOW UP DEAN FACULTY OF DENTISTRY



Dr. Callum Durward BSc, BDS, MDSc, DComH, MPH, FRACDS
Dean of Faculty of Dentistry

UP is very proud to have an esteemed expert as our Dean of Dentistry - Prof Callum Durward graduated from the University of Otago in 1981. Later he gained an MDSc in "Childrens and Preventive Dentistry" from the University of Melbourne, and an MPH from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In the 1980s he spent several years working in refugee camps in Thailand and Malaysia. In the early '90s he worked in Cambodia for an NGO called World Concern, helping to develop dental services and education. During 2001-2003 Dr Durward spent 6 months in East Timor as the Oral Health Promotion Advisor for the Australia-East Timor National Oral Health Project.

Prof Durward has also been a Senior Lecturer at the University of Otago and AUT University, Principal Dental Officer for the Otago District Health Board, and a Consultant Paediatric Dentist for the Auckland District Health Board.

He has lived in Cambodia for the past 11 years where he also does part-time private practice, and is Dental Director of an NGO called One-2-One Cambodia, which provides dental services for prisoners, children with clefts, and children and adults from deprived backgrounds.

Prof Durward has also been involved in several large school-based research projects including SEAL Cambodia and Healthy Kids Cambodia. Dr Durward is actively involved in several research projects, especially related to ECC, silver diammine fluoride, teaching and learning, sugar consumption, betel quid chewing, oral health of the elderly, restorative dental materials and special needs dentistry.

