



# UP VOICE

The Official Newsletter of the University of Puthisastra (UP)



## UP ORGANIZES CERTIFICATE AWARD CEREMONY TO UP VOLUNTEER STUDENTS FIGHTING AGAINST COVID-19 IN THE KINGDOM

World Health Organization (WHO) has encouraged all the countries of the world to vaccinate their people, as it is the only current best measure to stop the spread of Covid-19 and to reduce mortality.

Cambodia began the vaccination campaign as early as April 2021. According to Cambodian Ministry of Health, by the end of this August, about 90% of 10 million adults and more than 60% of 2 million adolescents aged between 12years to 18 years will have been vaccinated. That makes Cambodia the TOP country in ASEAN with the highest rate of vaccinated population. This achievement stems from the joint effort from Ministry of Health, T.Y.D.A (Samdach Techo Voluntary Youth Doctor Association), UYFC (Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia), and Health Science Universities.

UP is very proud to have been a very large part of this effort. Hundreds of UP students and alumni from different faculties and departments have volunteered for both providing the vaccination and clinically taking care of covid-19 positive patients. Under the direct supervision of UP Chancellor, His Excellency Sok Puthyvuoth, 114 students/alumni registered for the mission. The volunteers were divided into 11 smaller groups consisting of 8 to 12 people. They were sent to different vaccination centers across the city. The vaccination campaign was divided into two phases, first phase for 6 weeks and the second for 4 weeks. This mission finished successfully when most city dwellers were vaccinated.

<b>WHAT'S UP ON CAMPUS</b>	• 24 SEPTEMBER 2021   CONSTITUTIONAL DAY
----------------------------	--

In order to recognize our students/alumni's effort and sincerely support their heroic activities, UP organized the Certificate Award Ceremony on Friday, 20th August 2021 at the UP campus. Following the safety measure against covid-19 recommended by Ministry of Health, this ceremony proceeded as a hybrid event.

11 representatives of all UP volunteers/alumni attended physically and the rest attended via online platform. It was an absolute honor that H.E. Sok Puthyvuth physically attended this event. Also joining by UP President, the Deans of Faculty of Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry and Heads of Department of nursing and midwifery and of laboratory health sciences.

In the speech, UP president and vice-chancellor, Prof. Ian Findlay praised our volunteers who have joined hands with Royal Government of Cambodia to fight against the Covid-19 pandemic. UP is strongly committing to support this initiative.

H.E Sok Puthyvuth also took this opportunity to thank all the UP volunteers/ alumni. He is very proud of them and especially because T.Y.D.A and MoH gave a lot of positive feedbacks to him about UP teams. He also sent particular special thanks to the five volunteers who tested Covid-19 positive during their mission and all have fully recovered. In addition, H.E. mentioned that this voluntary mission demonstrated UP's slogan of served "Self Honor, Respect Others and Develop Society".

Dr. Chea Siek Ai, a representative of all UP volunteers/alumni, said that the mission provided her the amazing memories that fill with joys and tears. The joys of using her clinical knowledge obtained from UP to serve Cambodian people and the joys of building friendship across the disciplines and background to work as one team. The tears are the tears of excitement and gratefulness to UP, especially to her parents and family who fully supported her in this mission.

This ceremony is ended by the group photo and friendly reunion.

We are all very proud to see efforts producing the very competent and effective human resources for our country.

## MD STUDENTS AS FRONTLINE WARRIORS AT COVID-19 TREATMENT CENTERS



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many training hospitals are reluctant to accept internship and clerkship students due to safety concerns. Therefore, the official practical training is on hold. However, this has not prevented our UP medical students from taking part in volunteer work to fight COVID-19.

Many of our internship and clerkship students have volunteered at treatment centers after the vaccination campaign finished in Phnom Penh.

Mr. Phalkun Roth, a year-6 MD student, describes it as a once in a lifetime experience that he could not miss. He was assigned to provide medical consultation and patient care and was also a member of the patient transferring team. Mr. Yen Chheanghong, a year-4 MD student, proudly echoed the same impression about his volunteer work: "During this pandemic, I am very happy to have made a positive impact for Cambodian people by joining the team of the Doctor Alliance of UYFC as a frontliner at COVID-19 Sen Sok I Hospital under the leadership of Dr. Chuon Channarena. I am so pleased to have contributed to saving our people's life during this pandemic. As frontline warriors, we all contribute to the team and take care of the patients in a professional way."

Ms. Khay Lila, another year-6 MD student, spent one month as a volunteer at Sen Sok 1; she said that she had to work very hard because she needed to look after 80 patients under her responsibility. However, she is happy that the volunteering work taught her both soft and hard skills. "I've learnt how to work as a team at the call center and to provide medical consultation, to properly wear PPE, to collect throat swab samples and to transfer the patients."

These activities could not have happened without the support of their parents and family. To accomplish this mission, the students always thought of the sentence "We are in this together and will get through this together".

# USAID AND PACT AND UP GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT



UP’s Associate Professor Tineke Water, Ms Eng Muyn gim, Ms Sundas Waheed and Mr Kama Sos have been awarded a PACT Cambodia’ WE Act project grant, funded by USAID for “Young women mentors/researchers influencing civic participation in the development of social, economic and health outcomes through youth led research”.

WE Act project is funded by USAID through PACT Cambodia “Young women mentors/researchers influencing civic participation in the development of social, economic and health outcomes through youth led research”.

This project seeks to address issues such as the over-representation of certain groups such as women in adverse statistics related to health, social and economic outcomes, yet who are underrepresented in academic institutions that contribute to research, knowledge, and solutions for better outcomes; siloed and ‘business as usual’ approaches to research to focus on innovative solutions and build research environments where people with diverse skills will look at problems in a different way; and a lack of research that focuses on ‘research for young people, by young people’.

The project aims to build sustainable and scalable research capacity in young women to perform high quality and impactful research by:

- Improving the capacity through training courses, establish a robust supervision and mentorship structure and promote effective leadership.
- Building a consortium at multi-university level to strengthen and expand research infrastructure and build quality interdisciplinary research pathways for young women with Kirirom Institute of Technology, Phnom Penh International University and Paragon University.
- Create a think tank platform for young women researchers to work with young people to research and collect a broad range of high-quality, relevant evidence for policymakers, and share research findings via infotainment.
- Create networking and collaborating opportunities through research presentations, networking, with policy think tanks such as Future Forum and the Asian Vision Institute, sharing project findings via social media and an end of project conference.

The research team will be recruiting for interested participants for this project (mentors, emerging young women researchers, and young people) in September.

## INNOVATION IN TEACHING

Capturing students’ attention and putting ideas across in such a way that it stays with them long even after the end of class are challenges each and every educator encounters. Thus, the ways we deliver teaching should be redefined and innovative ideas which make teaching and learning methods more effective should be implemented.

Innovation in education is defined with various meanings, while we can refer it as exploring any means which can reach the students, keep them engaged in learning and make them feel excited to obtain new knowledge. This even includes willingness and flexibility to transform the ways of teaching from traditional to advance. And we teachers ought to make students feel confident in doing any sorts of activities without the fear of making mistakes.



Innovation significantly plays a role in modern education as both teachers and students are encouraged to explore, research and use all the tools to uncover new things regarding teaching and learning through innovation in education which involves a different way of looking at problems and addressing them. The thinking process that goes into it will enable students to develop their creativity as well as problem solving skills. It even compels students to use a higher level of thinking to solve problems in learning.

So far the Department of Quality, Learning and Teaching, and Students (QLTS) has delivered a wide range of topics within the Online Capacity Development Workshop Series for either full-time or part-time teaching staff at the University of Puthisastra. Among all of which, Innovation in Teaching is a topic we have also included in the training programme.

To learn more about this topic and even others, please willingly register yourselves for our virtual workshop series since the QLTS Department still offers the trainings to the lecturers till the end of September and even within the first two weeks of October.

## UP SIGNS AN MOU WITH ANOTHER PROMINENT INDIAN UNIVERSITY



On the 19th of August an MOU was signed between UP and the Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences (Deemed to be University) (KIMSDU), located in Karad, Maharashtra, India. The KIMSDU group of institutions are well known in India and have a sprawling main campus spread over 57 acres. KIMSDU includes 300 such campuses, including schools and universities. The University is accredited by NAAC 'A' grade and has been conferred with ISO 9001:2015 certification and also ISO 14001:2015 certification. The constituent faculties of the University include Medical, Dental, Physiotherapy, Nursing, Pharmacy and Biotechnology offering undergraduate and postgraduate courses in respective faculties. It also runs Ph.D. programs and Post Doctoral Fellowships in various subjects.

The Faculty of Medicine is about 35 years old and is recognized by the Medical Council of India, Medical Council of Malaysia and is listed in the WHO's World Directory of Medical Schools. MBBS and postgraduate degree/diploma courses in clinical and basic sciences in 17 disciplines are recognized by Medical Council of India. It also admits the international students from all over the globe for undergraduate courses. The teaching hospital KH&MRC (Krishna Hospital and Medical Research Centre) is recognised by National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (NABH).

It has state-of-the-art museums with large collection of specimens and models. The KIMS diagnostic laboratory has been accredited by National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL). The Lead Referral Laboratory is the first of its kind in Maharashtra state, which was ranked the first amongst 40 such centres in India. The well equipped Molecular & Human Genetics Laboratory is a feather in the cap. The teaching hospital is a 1125 bed multispecialty tertiary care hospital with facilities for Critical Care, Endoscopic Surgeries, Dialysis, Cardiology, Cardio-vascular-thoracic-surgery, Oncology, Urology, Neurosurgery, Plastic surgery, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and a recognized Renal Transplant Unit. It has fully equipped major operation theaters, minor theaters, labour rooms, blood bank accredited by NABH, radiodiagnosis and radiotherapy, computerized medical records, counseling services etc.

Dr. Anand Marya, the Head of Orthodontics at UP and Dr Mansingh Pawar, the Director of International relations at KIMSDU, took the initiative to organize talks between both the institutions, which eventually led to the signing of the MOU. The online MOU signing ceremony was attended by UP representatives: Professor Ian Findlay (President and Vice Chancellor), Professor Callum Durward (Dean of Dentistry), Professor Sandro Vento (Dean of Medicine), Ms Touch SreyPov (Head of Nursing), and Asst. Professor Anand Marya (Head of Orthodontics); and from KIMSDU, Dr Suresh Bhosle (Honorable Chancellor), Dr P Shingare (Honorable Pro chancellor), Dr Atul Bhosle (Trustee and Chairman), Dr Ghorpade (Competent Authority and Registrar), Dr Agarwal (Director Research), Ms Archana (Registrar Academics) and Dr Mansingh Pawar (Director International Relations). We are looking forward to student and faculty exchange programs and collaborations for research purposes across all disciplines. We also have in plan various courses and fellowship programs that would involve faculties from both institutions.

## DR. CHEA SIN WAS APPOINTED AS WORLD PHARMACISTS DAY 2021 CHAMPION



World Pharmacist Day 2021 is a worldwide campaign arranged by the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) to build trust in the pharmacy profession. Pharmacists have consistently been named among the top five most trusted professionals. Three elements are necessary for trust: positive relationships, competency/expertise, and consistency.

Dr. Chea Sin was appointed as World Pharmacist Day 2021 Champion from Cambodia to promote pharmacists as trusted healthcare providers. He has many years of experiences in different sectors in the pharmaceutical field such as industry, laboratory, community pharmacy, hospital pharmacy,

research, education etc. Currently, he serves a role as the dean of pharmacy at University of Puthisastra. It is really proud of his appointment as one of the champions representing Cambodia.

This appointment will enable him to inspire the younger generations to contribute more to make positive change for pharmacy profession and gain trust from the public.

## UP DENTAL STUDENTS SHINE AT IDCMR 2021 CONFERENCE



The International Dental Collaboration of the Mekong River Region (IDCMR) conference was held in Indonesia recently, and many UP staff and students joined. The IDCMR is made up of dental schools from many countries in the region including Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar, Malaysia, China, India, Cambodia and Indonesia. Its purpose is to promote cooperation in dental education in the region. In addition to the main IDCMR conference, there was a Student Chapter, which had three days of activities for students.

There were lectures on many interesting clinical topics and a student quiz competition. Two teams of dental students from UP joined but unfortunately did not make it to the finals. Team 1 was Choun Lina, Nam Vireak and Srean Bunsrong. Team 2 was Soun Somaly, Chhim Chamroeun and Na Chinah. The third day of the Student Chapter meeting was a forum, where representatives from each dental school made short presentations about student activities, followed by discussion, much of which centered on how dental schools and students were dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic. UP was represented by students Borann Voleak Jemmy and Mak Sangdor, and by staff A/Prof Soeun Sopharith and Dr Kong Kalyan.

Some very good ideas were shared during the meeting. The main conference featured a gala evening with cultural performances by each country. A group of UP dental students and supporters had been preparing for weeks for this event, and had recorded the song "CAMBODIA FLAG" accompanied by beautiful images of Cambodia. The production team led by Mak Sangdor, Houn Maradin and Kou Dariya, included 15 students, of whom 3 were singers – Ra David, Keum Enarita and Hout Techhong.

The performance was outstanding, and UP won second prize in the competition.

The 2 day main conference had keynote speakers along with oral and poster presentations by staff and students. One of the keynote speakers was Dr Anand Marya, Head of Orthodontics at UP. He spoke about the management of class III malocclusions in the growing child. Six groups of UP dental students and new graduates entered the research competition – with 5 oral presentations and 1 poster presentation – all pre-recorded. During the prize-giving ceremony we learned that UP had won two prizes.

Na Chihan and Chim Chamroeun won 3rd place in the Junior Poster Presentation competition with a poster entitled "Dental students perceptions toward online learning during the pandemic period". This was supervised by Dr Anand Marya. Dy Sovannara (with co-researchers Bun Hy and Dok Sovanpheara) won 2nd place in Junior Oral Presentation category with their research entitled "TV advertising of sugary foods and drinks to Cambodian children in Phnom Penh". This research was supervised by Prof Callum Durward. Overall the conference was a great success, and we look forward to next years meeting in India.



## THE ARRIVAL OF HIGH PERFORMANCE LIQUID CHROMATOGRAPHY (HPLC) TO FACULTY OF PHARMACY, UP



Faculty of Pharmacy (FoP), UP had successfully invested for almost \$70,000 US Dollars for a new High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) LC-2050C 3D Brand Shimadzu and UPS 6 KVA Brand DELTA.

The advanced and intelligent technique of HPLC (High performance liquid chromatography), or HPLC, is a commonly known analysis technique employed extensively in the world of chemistry and biochemistry. It is a very modern tool used to separate compounds based on their polarity and works much quicker than its predecessors. HPLC equipment is much more advanced than other forms of column chromatography to identify and separate compounds.

This brand of HPLC delivers rugged and reliable results with less frequent interaction by the analyst. The new, integrated i-Series LC system allow analyses to be performed remotely, thereby reducing the time spent in the laboratory. Additionally, software integration ensures both data reliability and improved work smoothly, and intuitive operation ensures an efficient workflow.

Since, HPLC works through the use of a pump that produces high pressures, the compounds are well separated and easy to read leading to high resolution. This method of chromatography has been used for (1) clinical diagnosis of diseases and disorders, (2) in scientific research for discovery, (3) in pharmaceutical labs for analysis, (4) in the food industry for quality control, and (5) for separation of similar molecules.

### Pharmacy using HPLC in Academic and Laboratory Practice.

HPLC will improve the capacity of pharmacy academic, laboratory practice, pharmacy careers of students, and the quality of laboratory and research work. HPLC analysis can also be used to determine the stability and shelf life of products during students' practical work. The advantages of using HPLC for analysis are that it requires a small sample size, testing can be modified depending on the level of quantification needed, and it produces reliable results which would be the benefits for fundamental knowledge to students during their academic life and pharmacy careers.

## Pharmacy using HPLC in Research and Development

UP'S pharmacy dept has strong ambitions to improve both qualitative and quantitative research in finding novel compounds. Samples collected from medical patients, industry products, and the environment are usually mixtures of many compounds which need to be efficiently separated to do research on specific compounds.

HPLC system is a very useful tool in most of the labs involved in scientific research. The fields of study include medical, biological, chemical, biochemical and phytochemicals (plant chemical research). This was a very useful application to analyze and quantify separate molecules especially when components have similar chemical properties. HPLC allows similar molecules to become separated allowing detection, identification and quantification becomes much easier.

UP's Head of Pharmacognosy Laboratory, UP, Mr. Visessakseth SO, said that "Plant constituents, have many molecules with similar chemical properties like phenolic compounds, isoflavones, glycosides, saponins, etc. but have very different activity or nutritional value. Other methods can't precisely determine these compounds. Therefore, use HPLC analysis to separate into individual components and thereby allow identification. This HPLC will significantly increase research capability for our pharmacy department at UP".

Furthermore, in the pharmaceutical industry, both qualitative and quantitative methods are employed as well as quality control, and research and development.

The qualitative type of HPLC analysis is widely used for the drug formulations like injections, solutions, and a dissolved form of solid dosage forms are injected into the HPLC injector to record the peaks of the individual constituents.

Also any new molecules under development or in preclinical trials can be analyzed to see blood concentration allowing evaluation the metabolic profile, plasma concentration, bioavailability, etc., of the formulation or chemical moieties under development. Most formulations are estimated by HPLC to see the peaks of active ingredients (drug molecules).

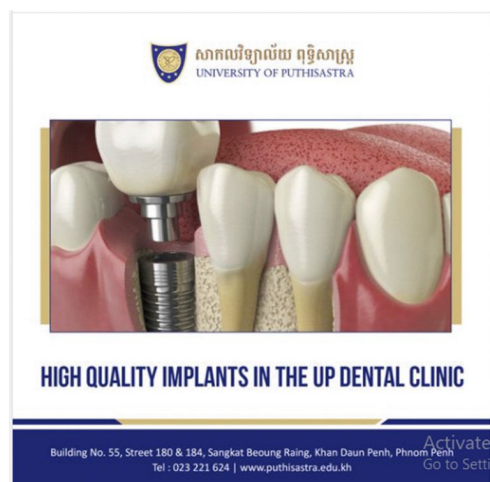
## Pharmacy using HPLC in sustainable development

UP'S Dean of Pharmacy Dr. Chea Sin is very proud of UPs substantial investment in many laboratories' reagents and material, advanced equipment and up-to-date applications to improve the capacity and potency of UP pharmacy's staff, lecturers, researchers and students. The improvement of academic, laboratory practice and research will be a great sustainable development and positive image for UP as a whole and lead to better pharmacy careers for UP pharmacy graduates.

"UPs pharmacy never stops improving and developing!". UP continues to invest in our nations future by continuing to invests in more up-to-date software and applications in practical work.

"Together, we make a better pharmacy profession in Cambodia!"

## MORE THAN 50% DISCOUNT FOR HIGHT QUALITY IMPLANTS IN THE UP DENTAL CLINIC



សាកលវិទ្យាល័យ ពុទ្ធិសាស្ត្រ  
UNIVERSITY OF PUTHISASTRA

**HIGH QUALITY IMPLANTS IN THE UP DENTAL CLINIC**

Activate  
Go to Setting

Building No. 55, Street 180 & 184, Sangkat Beoung Raing, Khan Daun Penh, Phnom Penh  
Tel : 023 221 624 | www.puthisastra.edu.kh

UP is conducting a postgraduate Diploma in Dental Implantology for some of Cambodia's top dentists, and is looking for patients who need implants. We are offering a more than 50% discount off our normal price of \$650. We can provide a high quality implant (including crown) for only \$250.

For a free consultation and appointment, please call Dr. Pisal Khom via 089 245 456/016 956 289

For more information about UP Dental Clinic, please visit: <https://www.puthisastra.edu.kh/dental-clinic/>



# UP LECTURER PRESENTS CUTTING EDGE RESEARCH AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Recently UP lecturer in Oral Pathology, Dr Seang Sonntana (DDS PhD) presented his cutting edge research at the 4th Young Researchers International Association of Dental Research (IADR) Forum. Dr Sonntana is presently a post-doctoral fellow at Chulalongkorn University but continues to teach UP dental students online. We are proud of Dr Sonntana's achievements which are getting worldwide recognition.



**Dent Chula Faculty Members Join in the 4<sup>th</sup> IADR Asia Pacific Region Young Researchers Forum**

The 4<sup>th</sup> IADR Asia Pacific Region Young Researchers Forum was organized under the topic "Craniofacial Development and Associated Diseases" on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021. This online research forum had 5 speakers and 10 expert panelists from 5 divisions, Japanese Division, Korean Division, SEA division, ANZ division, and Chinese division. There were more than 40 participants attended this forum.



Dr. Seang Sonntana, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Physiology presented the research work as representative of IADR SEA division under the title "The Use of Prostacyclin as Root Surface Treatment in Tooth Replantation In Vivo". Dr. Sonntana works under supervision of Assoc Prof Chalida Limjeerajarus



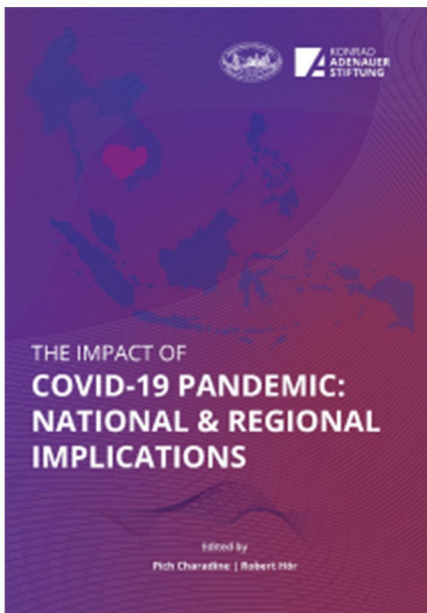
**Discussion**

- Ilprost prevents alveolar bone resorption and maintains retention of the replanted tooth.
- The present study, we did not see any evidence of ankylosis in the treatment group.
- New acellular cementum was observed along the root surfaces in the ilprost group, indicating PDL re-attachment on the replanted teeth.

Assistant Professor Joao Nuno Ferreira, Office of Research Affairs and Exocrine Gland Biology and Regeneration Research Group also attended in the Expert Panelists in the forum.

งานบริการวิจัยและพัฒนา ข้อมูลวันที่ 16 สิงหาคม 2564

# UP RESEARCHERS CONTRIBUTE TO A NEW BOOK THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC: NATIONAL AND REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS



Mr Hoer Sethul and Dr Tineke Water from the Department of Research recently contributed a chapter in 'The Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic: National and Regional Implications'. The book, published by the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Institute Cambodia focuses on the impact of the pandemic in Cambodia and across the region in detail through the diplomatic, economic, and social contexts.

The chapter 'The Impact of Covid-19 on Employee's Psychological Well-Being and Workplace Culture' written by Mr Hoer Sethul and Dr Tineke Water explores the impact of Covid-19 on the psychological well-being of employees and the implications both nationally and globally. The authors argue that there have been negative impacts in the workplace, but also positive influences such as changing work culture which considers human capital alongside economic stability. The global pandemic has also reinforced a division of labour, with wealthier nations who have higher use of technology, being able to outsource work to 'home', thereby decreasing the risks of job insecurity or unemployment. However, working from 'home', with the blurring of work-life and family-life, has added another set of psychological stressors alongside the continuing existential threat that the pandemic poses.

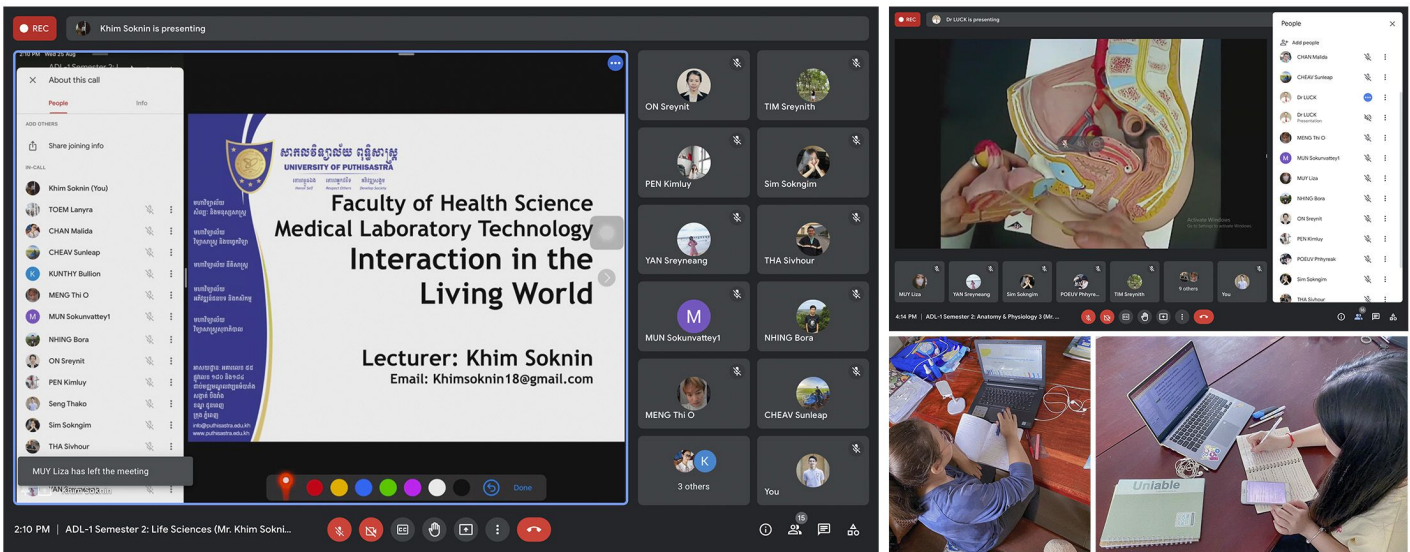
For less wealthy nations, with limited options to work from home, threats of unemployment and poverty means the focus is on economic survival rather than a professional or social identity that is associated with employment in many wealthier nations. With job insecurity and unemployment associated with the highest rates of psychological stress, the burden of mental illness is most likely to be borne by those who are already vulnerable to adverse situations. The authors argue looking ahead, it is important that governments and organizations consider both economic development and human capital by creating supportive environments that could contribute toward resilience and the psychological well-being of people.

The book can be downloaded from:

[w.kas.de/en/web/kambodscha/single-title/-/content/the-impact-of-covid-19-pandemic-national-and-regional-implications?fbclid=IwAR1Oa0\\_FxM1XQZ6JiYsySz\\_SzKtqrTQKURXnHEacYL98iYS7qN5qo7LOHc](http://w.kas.de/en/web/kambodscha/single-title/-/content/the-impact-of-covid-19-pandemic-national-and-regional-implications?fbclid=IwAR1Oa0_FxM1XQZ6JiYsySz_SzKtqrTQKURXnHEacYL98iYS7qN5qo7LOHc)



# THE VOICE OF LAB TECH STUDENTS!



Lets hear from first year students in UP's Medical Laboratory Technology students.

“UP is one of the well-known health science universities in Cambodia – students can find out about the many activities through social media as well as through the many events held by UP.

After our first semester, we students had a better understanding of the role of the medical laboratory in the health sector. Our studies were overwhelmingly positive but there was one minor flaw. Although online learning platform is an easy and convenient method to study, sometimes home internet connection is an impediment during class.

Despite this problem, the Department of Laboratory Sciences treated our class very well, and they did a good job of troubleshooting as well as encouraging us to study during this difficult time (Covid-19). We are very happy that UP has the best online learning system in Cambodia.

Last but not least, we are delighted to be at the University of Puthisastra. Although the online class can be a struggle at times but we have to do it until we are safe enough to enter the campus of UP - we prefer in physical class because we can meet all our classmates and teachers as well as everything about UP", reported from the class president and members.

## FACULTY OF PHARMACY COLLABORATED WITH VENNUE FOUNDATION TO CONDUCT PHARMACEUTICAL CARE TRAINING IN DURING SUMMER VACATION

Pharmaceutical care is the responsible provision of drug therapy for the purpose of achieving definite outcomes that improve a patient's quality of life. These outcomes are

- cure of a disease;
- elimination or reduction of a patient's symptomatology;
- arresting or slowing of a disease process; or
- preventing a disease or symptomatology.

Pharmaceutical care involves the process through which a pharmacist cooperates with a patient and other professional in designing, implementing, and monitoring a therapeutic plan that will produce specific therapeutic outcomes for the patient. This in turn involves three major functions: identifying potential and actual drug-related problems; resolving actual drug-related problems; and preventing drug-related problems.

The mission of Vennue® (“Vennue”) is to improve patient care and health outcomes in developing countries by training local healthcare professionals in patient-centered care and best pharmacy practices. The University of Puthisastra (UP) known for the excellence of its teaching, its focus on student outcomes and importantly its service to its communities through its many outreaches.

University of Puthisastra (UP) was involved in many project by Vennue Foundation such as Roundtable of 2021 and in this year there was renowned nomination across Cambodia and Southeast Asia, for Dr. Sin who has held leadership positions at the UP for the past 5 years, currently as Dean of Faculty of Pharmacy, Chair of Curriculum Advisory Committee. .

Faculty of Pharmacy University of Puthisastra collaborated with Vennue Foundation to conduct online pharmaceutical care training for 283 UP pharmacy students from year 3 to year 5 on vacation that held in 13th September to 22nd October 2021 and divided into 3 level:

Level 1: Fundamentals of Quality Pharmacy Care

1. Introduction to Patient-Centered Care
2. Basic Pharmacology
3. Good Dispensing Practice
4. Medication Adherence
5. Patient Counseling
6. Standard Operating Procedures in Pharmacy Practice

Level 2: Safe + Effective Healthcare Practice

1. Pharmacovigilance
2. Medication Safety in Pregnancy and Lactation
3. Patient and Healthcare Worker Safety
4. Safe Management of Healthcare Waste
5. Professionalism for Healthcare

Level 3: Current Topics in Patient Centered Care Workers

1. Antibiotic Stewardship
2. Chronic Disease Management: Diabetes
3. Chronic Disease Management: Hypertension
4. Public Health Promotion
5. Emergency Pharmacy and Disaster Management

This if the first project of collaboration between University of Puthisastra and Vennue Foundation.

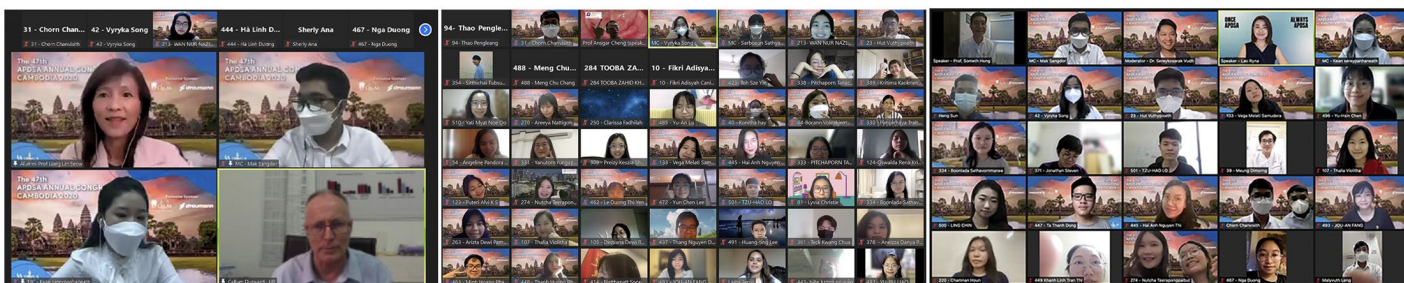
The objective of this collaboration is for UP/FoP students to complete training and achieve certification in Patient-Centered Pharmacy Practice. Vennue’s pharmacy workforce education program has been developed by global public health experts, including pharmacists and clinicians jointly collaborating in the Cambodia, US, Bangladesh and Nepal. Vennue’s advisory team includes members of the International Pharmaceutical Federation, American College of Physicians, and the US HealthTech Council. Vennue’s proprietary curriculum is built on internationally recognized best practices with adaptability and relevance for local implementation in Cambodia.

These training will boost pharmacy graduate competencies to reach international standard.



VENNUE®

## UP SUPPORTS 47TH ASIA PACIFIC DENTAL STUDENTS ASSOCIATION (APDSA) CONGRESS



The APDSA Annual Congress is usually held every year in a different Asia Pacific country. However in 2020 it was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Rather than delay the event for another year, Cambodia offered to organize the Congress online on 28 and 29 August. The LOC spent many months planning the event. The committee was made up of a group of dedicated students from Cambodia's dental schools, and UP was invited to be the host university. 450 students and young graduates (100 of them from Cambodia) registered for the event.

The goals of the 47th APDSA Annual Congress included:

- To unite and endorse a strong friendship between dental students in the region as well as the alumni
- To generate a charitable event which all dental students can participate in.
- To promote and inspire and spirit of helping the community
- To provide valuable lectures to the participants about trending dental knowledge, soft skill, leadership and various competitions related to dentistry
- To promote dentistry by strengthening the cooperation between dental personnel

The meeting had a full and interesting program, including lectures, a dental quiz, inter-university debates, an Alumni event, "Dentalk" and online cultural performances.

The lecture session included 5 speakers:

1. Assoc. Prof. Atiphan Pimkhaokham, Thailand  
"Surgical Implant Complications - Nice to know before starting"
2. Prof. Hong Someth, Cambodia.  
"Flapless vs Flap for Implant Surgery"
3. Dr. Ansgar Cheng, Singapore.  
"The New Paradigm of Prosthodontic Technology: what are the rules?"
4. Dr. Try Ky, Cambodia  
"An introduction to stem cells and their application to a modern dentistry"
5. Dr. Alex W.K. Chan, Hong Kong.  
"Do Better Endo"

The Alumni session was led by Prof. Loh Hong Sai (Singapore), Prof. Hong Someth (Cambodia) and Dr. Lao Ryna (International President of APDSA – and batch 3 UP graduate).

The quiz and debate session was designed to engage the participants in a fun activity, while testing their knowledge. The quiz comprised questions about the previous day's lectures.

The top teams from the quiz were then selected to debate some controversial dental topics. There were 4 rounds of competition with more than 50 teams from different APDSA member universities across the region. The winning team was from AIMST University in Malaysia, followed by Mahidol University in Thailand.



The Dentalk session focused on whether graduates should undertake postgraduate study. The two speakers were Prof Seow Liang Lin, Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, IMU, Malaysia, and Prof Callum Durward, Dean, Faculty of Dentistry at UP. Each of them spoke about their own journey in dentistry, from when they were undergraduates, their postgraduate studies, and their subsequent careers. Their presentations were followed by a question and answer session which focused on the pros and cons of postgraduate study, and how to prepare and succeed.

The final event of the meeting which is traditionally the highlight of each Congress, was the Cultural Night Performances. Since the event could not be in person, each country submitted a video featuring the local foods of each country. It was indeed a mouthwatering conclusion to the Congress! Overall the Congress was a huge success thanks to the tireless efforts of the LOC. And special thanks to UP for agreeing to be the Host University for the meeting. Next year the Congress will be held in Taiwan, and we hope many students from Cambodia will be able to attend.

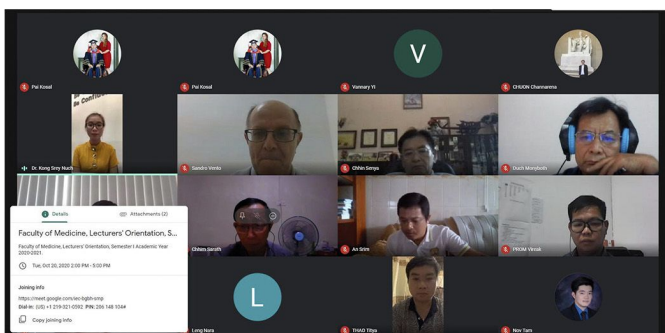
## EVIDENCE INFORMED POLICY - USING RESEARCH FINDINGS TO INFLUENCE POLICY



The Research Department at UP and Mr Ou Virak from Future Forum recently delivered a workshop on using research findings to influence policy decision makers to UP staff and students. The workshop was attended by 18 participants and introduced them to 'big picture' of policy formation, and how this informs economic, social and health environments, and the importance of research in influencing policy to ensure better outcomes for individuals and communities. Mr Virak talked about the importance for researchers to not only document 'what is' but also 'what could be'.

Mr Ou Virak is the founder and president of Future Forum, an independent policy think tank that focuses on research, analysis, and public policy. Rather than simply identifying problems, Future Forum adopts a solution-orientated approach, using research to equip key decision makers with constructive policy solutions for Cambodian issues. Associate Professor Tineke Water works with Future Forum as a Senior Academic Advisor which includes mentoring young researchers, participating in expert panels and running policy workshops.

## FACULTY OF MEDICINE ONLINE LECTURERS' ORIENTATION SESSIONS FOR THE UPCOMING SEMESTER I OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-22



The Faculty of Medicine organized online Lecturers' orientation sessions for the Semester I of the Academic Year 2021-22 from 12th to 14th July 2021. 53 Lecturers attended the sessions.

Faculty members presented the changes in assessment policy and course content, outlines and learning outcomes, and stressed the importance of a modern approach to teaching. The proposed changes in curriculum content and in various courses were examined in detail. The sessions allowed a constructive and fruitful interaction between Faculty members and part-time lecturers.

# NURSING STUDENTS' INTERNSHIP AT CHO RAY PHNOM PENH HOSPITAL



On 9th August 2021, UP's Faculty of Nursing took 8 associate nursing students to Cho Ray Phnom Penh Hospital for their final year internship. It is a crucial time for student's clinical training in order to gain experience and apply their knowledge and skills before they become graduate nurses in the near future.

Students have finished their theory and practice hours at the university, and they have met all their requirements before qualifying to enter clinical internship. Nursing students are divided into four groups to place in different wards such as surgical, emergency, IPD, and ICU wards.

The Clinical Instructor within the Faculty of Nursing will follow up with students at Cho Ray Phnom Penh Hospital to guide and support them.

# UP STUDENT SENATE ESTABLISHES NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES



*Student Senate Executive Board & Representatives  
Academic Year 2021*



**NUT So Pheap**  
*Secretary/Treasurer*



**CHUONG Chanboromey**  
*President*



**HUON Maradin**  
*Vice-President*

*Foundation Year*



**NOP Saknessa**



**HOUR Lenghuy**

*Faculty of Medicine*



**ATH Christina**



**YEN Chheanghong**

*Faculty of Dentistry*



**KUO Dariya**



**YORM Sileng**

*Faculty of ICT*



**UN Nalis**



**LIM Yonghay**

*Faculty of Pharmacy*



**KHAI Pechpisey**



**PHALLY Panha**

*Faculty of Midwifery*



**UN Kimheak**

*Faculty of Nursing*

**KEAT Sophy**



**LON Sophearath**

*Faculty of Laboratory*

**VON Danika**

**LY Mongdiya**

Congratulations to our new Student Senate Board members and representatives. To get your voices heard and your problems solved, we are here to help our UP-ers to reach the destination.

# TESTIMONIAL FROM ICT Y3 STUDENTS

Hello! My name is YORN Ngornsreng. I'm from Kampong Thom province and I am a year 3 student in Information Technology at the University of Puthisastra. I currently work at BNKC MFI as an IT Assistant.



I started my IT studies at UP with very basic knowledge, I could barely use a computer at that time. As a consequence, starting this IT Bachelor program was difficult for me, I even thought about giving up at the very beginning of my semester. However, my lecturers and classmates gave me support and motivation to try harder. I also believe in this quote "there is no easy learning", overcoming the challenges are always part of the learning.



Just after finishing year 2, I was able to get a 3-months internship at TOTAL CAMBODGE with the support of the ICT department. At the workplace, I put into practice what I have studied and also learned a lot about the work environment and methodologies, it was a very great experience. After finishing my internship, I got a job as an IT officer at BNKC MFI while I was starting my Year 3.

It's very beneficial to work and study at the same time, but very challenging due to the workload of both workplace and University. However, it was the right choice for me since I'm learning a lot and it let me build the ability to learn, organise my time, to be patient, resilient and brave while enjoying everything I do.

I want to thank the teacher and my classmates. Especially Professor REN Phary, He always supports, advises, shares his experience, and is looking for internships for me to gain experience and knowledge.

Finally, I want to leave a message to my Juniors: Don't give up! Keep learning and practicing until you understand and enjoy it! Everything you learn will always be useful in some ways.

Hello everyone! My name is Trikea SOY, I'm a year 3 IT student at University of Puthisastra. Also, I was working full time as an IT Network officer at University of Puthisastra.

At the beginning of my studies, I focused a lot on programming and I think I want to be a web developer. But after my internship for 6 months I feel like it does not belong to me. What is great is that I could choose my major after my internship, between Programming and Networking. So I decided to study the Networking program from Year 3, I also work in this field now and I really enjoy it.

From Year 3, most of the students are studying and working at the same time, and it's getting a bit crazy. At first, I was wondering why I chose this way, the workload is hard to follow. But I told myself "Our hardships will help us grow", and I experience it every day, I have learned so much in this short period of time. I did not even finish my year 3 and already got almost 1 year working experience.

I also wanted to thank all of my teachers that have been teaching me and my classmates. They don't just teach, they share their experiences, what they have been going through in their life and advise me on my career options.

I want to tell everyone who reads to me: "Our hardships will help us grow". If it does not come for free, you need to earn it and get it.

# UP WELCOME NEW FULL-TIME PHARMACY LECTURER – SREY PICH

Ms. Srey Pich was born in Udor Meanchey province, Cambodia. She finished bachelor degree of Pharmacy in 2020 from faculty of Pharmacy, University of Puthisastra.

During her studies, she participated in many school activities such as voluntary work, research and many school events. In 2018, she published her research articles about medicinal plants and published other research in the International Research Conference proceeding. On the other hand, she has had many opportunities to do international internships and did her research presentations in Thailand and Korea as well.

During the preparation for the internal exam, she started working as a pharmacy assistant at the Faculty of pharmacy at the University of Puthisastra. For almost a year, after gaining experiences as a pharmacy assistant and various tasks in the faculty, she passed an interview to become a full-time lecturer for practical work.

She is so excited to be a part of the educational field and to develop curriculum to meet national and international standards, as well as to develop laboratories and to strengthen research activities.



Her personal goal is to contribute to the development of education and research in pharmacy to reach international quality and provide students with modern education to be able to compete on the international stage. She believes that “Being open-minded to learn and starting small, we’ll earn a great achievement one day.”

Her presence will be a part of taking the buildout of the Faculty of Pharmacy and moving upward together to success in pharmacy education and research for the University of Puthisastra.

