

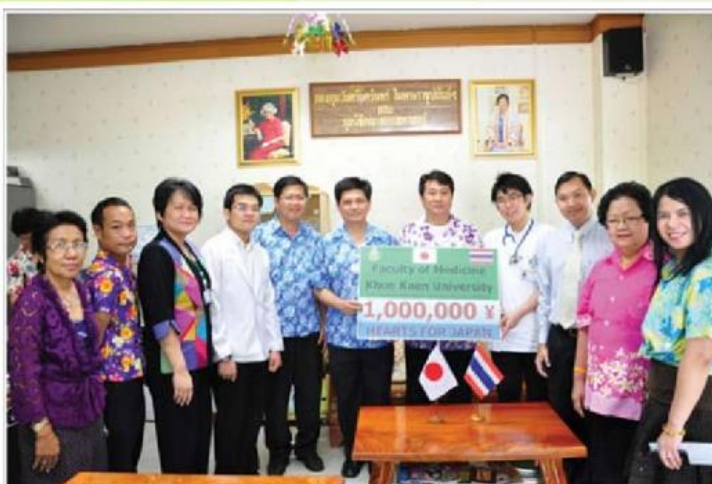


## Donation Sent to Japan

March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011, a Richter 9 earthquake, the strongest ever to hit Japan, caused massive damage and an even more devastating tsunami. The tsunami obliterated seaside cities, carrying away people, homes, cars and businesses. As the waters subsided, fires and landslides ensued, destroying anything that remained. Communications and transportation were knocked out.

The Srinagarind Foundation, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, supports disaster relief efforts around the world and was pleased to be able to offer assistance to those affected by this terrible disaster in Japan.

April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, presided over a ceremony to donate 1,000,000 Yen through Mr. Thongchai Yingthongchai, Manager of the Siam Commercial Bank at Khon Kaen University, 1,000,000 Yen through Mr. Thongchai Yingthongchai, Manager of the Siam Commercial Bank at Khon Kaen University, to Prof. Atsuma Uchida, President of Mie University, and Prof. Katsuhiko Ando (who has received an honorary doctorate from the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University), who will transfer our donation to the Japanese Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Office.



Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon presides over a ceremony to donate 1,000,000 Yen to help the survivors from Tsunami in Japan.

In attendance were Assoc. Prof. Witoon Prasertcharoensuk, Assoc. Prof. Akkarawat Singuakoolkij, Assoc. Prof. Supat Sinawat, Associate and Assistants Dean for International and Special Affairs, Assoc. Prof. Chompilart Jongsomchai and Mrs. Wattana Buddhisawat.



(L-F) Professor Atsuma Uchida and Professor Katsuhiko Ando

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## Faculty of Medicine



### Faculty of Medicine Steps Forward to China

On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011, Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Assoc. Prof. Witoon Prasertcharoensuk, Associate Dean for International Affairs welcomed Prof. Qin Haiguang, Vice President of Liuzhou Medical College, People's Republic of China, Dr. Chuleratana Banchonglikitkul, the Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technology Research, and the delegation to attend the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Signing Ceremony between Linzhou Medical College, PR China; Khon Kaen University, and Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research at

the Iyara Meeting Room, Pullman Raja Orchid, Khon Kaen.

Prof. Suthipun Jitpimolmard, Vice President of Research and Technology Transfer Affairs, Khon Kaen University was the host of the MOU Signing Ceremony. He said that Khon Kaen University has a strategy to promote "Research and Knowledge Innovation" by the development of supporting activities for synthesizing new knowledge and innovations. A case in point is the "The Integrative Complementary Alternative Medicine Research and Development Group of Khon Kaen University", a 3-year, co-research project which has been established to study the potential of Chinese and Thai medicinal plants for mitigating stress and improving muscle performance supported by the Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research and supervised by Prof. Qin Haiguang, Vice President of the Liuzhou

Medical College and Asst. Prof. Jintanaporn Wattanathorn, Head of the Physiology Department, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University.

Delegates from the People's Republic of China were: Prof. Qin Haiguang; Assoc. Prof. Liao Chunling; Assoc. Prof. Feng Lihua; Assoc. Prof. Yue Guihua; Assoc. Prof. Lan Yuying; Assoc. Prof. Qin Lilan; Assoc. Prof. Wei Hongyan; and Assoc. Prof. Wang Wujie.



(L-F) Dr.Chuleratana Banchonglikitkul, Prof. Suthipun Jitpimolmard and Prof. Qin Haiguang



## Faculty of Medicine



### The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Physiological Society of Thailand

**O**n Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University joined with the Physiological Society of Thailand; the National Research Council of Thailand, and the Nursing Division, Srinagarind Hospital to arrange an international conference entitled "The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Physiological Society of Thailand : Integrative Physiology, Medicine, Food and Technology : Building a Healthy Future" at Pullman Raja Orchid, Khon Kaen between May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

Assist. Dr. Jintarnporn Wattanathon, Head of the Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University said that this conference aimed to provide participants (a) fascinating insights (b) the most up-to-date multidisciplinary scientific knowledge and (c) practical knowhow on a wide range of topics including : cardiovascular biomechanics, complementary and alternative medicine, metabolic diseases, cardiovascular and pulmonary diseases, functional foods and natural products for health promotion, neuropsychological disorders, applications for reproductive sciences to medical practices and the impact of exercise on the disease prevention.

Assoc. Prof. Supatra Lohsiriwat, the President of the Physiological Society of Thailand said that the Physiological Society of Thailand was established in 1971, and has organized a meeting every year since. Through such meetings, the members of the society, together with scientists, clinicians and health personnel in related fields, have an opportunity to share their research and to open their perspectives through various symposia and lectures. Much valuable research has been initiated through such opportunities. The conference achieves

its objective when we achieve paradigm integration between these various disciplines and stimulate collaborations amongst the sciences and medicine. This integration, hopefully, will not only produce more synthesized knowledge but also begin to shed light on possible new modalities with clinical applications.

Prof. Soottiporn Chittmitrtrapap, Secretary General, the Office of the National Research Council of Thailand, congratulated the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, and the Physiological Society of Thailand for successfully organizing this conference and was certain that the conference achieved an integration among the various science and medical disciplines, which would ultimately benefit our scientific community and the world at large.

On the third day of the conference, the scientific programs had workshops in (1) Aromatherapy (2) Thai Massage (3) Mind-body exercise (4) Yoga (5) Chi Kung (6) Music Therapy (7) Transcranial magnetic stimulation and (8) Tools to enhance research and teaching. In addition, a commercial exhibition was been organized alongside the conference and featured the latest innovations and technology in the related fields.



### Congress 96 years of Opisthorchiasis: Research on the Liver Fluke and Cholangiocarcinoma

**T**he Faculty of Medicine's Liver Fluke and Cholangiocarcinoma Research Center, Khon Kaen University, in conjunction with the Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health, the Faculty of Medicine, Maha Sarakham University, the Society of Parasitology and Tropical Medicine, and other agencies jointly organized and hosted an international congress entitled, "96 Years of Opisthorchiasis: International Congress of Liver Flukes" March 7-8, 2011, at the Pullman Raja Orchid Khon Kaen. This was the first congress to be held on opisthorchiasis.

The causative liver fluke was first reported in patients in Thailand in 1915. The objective of the conference



was (a) to bring together ~300 researchers studying liver fluke disease from around the world and (b) to exchange knowledge and new innovations on diagnosis, pathogenesis, treatment and prevention and epidemiology.

The conference was well attended and a great success. The countries represented

included: Russia, China, Taiwan, South Korea, Australia, Switzerland, the USA, the UK, Brazil, Cambodia, Denmark, Lao PDR, India, Japan, Italy, Vietnam, Canada and Thailand. The congress was highly participatory and afforded a great opportunity for our researchers, students and staff to mingle and present oral and/or poster presentations.



**A**ssoc. Prof. Banchob Sripa, Professor of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University has announced that he has received an official invitation from the Director of Food Safety and Animal Diseases under

### Medical professor invited to be food disease committee member by the World Health Organization (WHO)

the approval of the Director of the World Health Organization (WHO) to become a member of the central committee assessing food borne diseases.

Dr. Banchob Sripa is working in a team investigation food diseases caused by parasites. He was nominated by the WHO Advisory Board composed of academicians and experts in food borne diseases. We are very pleased that Dr. Banchob Sripa will work on this committee until November, 2011 when his term on the committee will expire.

Dr. Banchob Sripa, today sits on the WHO committee dealing with food borne helminthic diseases. The Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, are proud to have Dr. Banchob recognized by the WHO Board of Directors as a leader in helminthic research and appointed to establish WHO policy in this field. This is also an exciting opportunity to increase international awareness of such tropical health problems as liver flukes.

## Faculty of Medicine

### Designation of Clinical Epidemiology Unit as a WHO Collaborating Center for Research Synthesis in Reproductive Health

**T**he World Health Organization, after consultation with Thai Government, has designated the Clinical Epidemiology Unit, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University as a WHO Collaborating Center for Research Synthesis in Reproductive Health, for a period of four years starting immediately.

Our Dean, Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon, has received the appointment as Head of the Center from WHO-headquarters.

The clinical epidemiology unit (CEU) has been established in the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University since 1982 to be a center of excellence in promoting, facilitating, and conducting health research and research training in Southeast Asia.

CEU also aims to ensure the integration of evidence-based health practice in Northeast Thailand; dissemination of research results; and impact local and national health policy by

promoting, facilitating, and conducting multidisciplinary and collaborative health research, and by providing health research training to KKU faculty and students and external health service providers at the local, national and international level.



### American Diabetes Association website (ADA) recommends research by one of our own! Diabetic patients should swing their arms to lower blood sugar

**I**n 2010, the number of diabetic patients was expected to reach ~215 million people worldwide. In Thailand, the prevalence of diabetes was between 2.5 and 7% among middle aged adults and between 13 and 15.3% among the elderly. Type 2 diabetes is found in ~90% of Thai diabetic patients: it is characterized by insulin resistance and glucose accumulation in the liver. Significant problems are caused by high blood sugar levels including vascular complications (in the eyes, kidney, nervous system and heart) and loss of organ function.

Asst. Prof. Naruemon Leelayuwat, Professor of Physiology in Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, found that by getting type II diabetics to do the ancient Chinese (Tai Chi) arm swing exercises (ASE) for about 30 minutes three days a week for 8 weeks significantly reduced blood sugar levels. This then could be an alternative method of reducing the occurrence of heart disease and stroke.

Both arms are swung front to back at the same time. Since the trunk and legs remain still, there is no impact so no joint deterioration. The activity does not require much skill nor any equipment.

It can be done anytime, anywhere and alone. It is appropriate for people who are overweight or elderly or who have lesions on the leg, and even for those who do not have time to exercise outdoors.





## Faculty of Medicine

### Melioidosis Research Center Director appointed to Council of FIMSA

**A**ssoc. Prof. Surasakdi Wongratanecheewin, Melioidosis Research Center Director was appointed to be a councilor of the Federation of the Immunology Society of Asia-Oceania (FIMSA). He was a representative of Thailand at the FIMSA Administrative Committee Annual Conference at Kobe, Japan, which was tasked to choose the FIMSA Congress host country for 2012.

FIMSA is a non-profit organization founded in 1992 to advance the science of immunology in the Asia-Pacific region. All immunological societies and associations within the Asia-Pacific region who are members of the International Union of Immunological Societies (IUIS) are eligible to become members. Current members include Australia & New Zealand, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Japan, Korea, Papua NewGuinea and Thailand.

Societies and associations not eligible for membership may apply to the Federation to become observers. Observers are eligible to participate in activities of the Federation. Current observer societies within FIMSA include Bangladesh, CIS, Russia, Singapore and Sri Lanka.



### Dr. Charoonsak Somboonporn was elected to the AOTA

**A**ssoc. Prof. Dr. Charoonsak Somboonporn, at the Nuclear Medicine Section of the Department of Radiology, Faculty of Medicine at Khon Kaen University, was elected to the Council of the Asia & Oceania Thyroid Association (AOTA) by the members of the AOTA at their

14<sup>th</sup> International Thyroid Congress held in Paris, France, September 2011. In the past, there were two Thai physicians on Council, including Prof. Dr. Sunthorn Tandhanan from the Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital and Prof. Dr. Ratchata Ratchatanavin from the Faculty of Medicine Ramathibodi Hospital.

Council members are primarily responsible for promoting the advancement of knowledge, research, holding academic conferences on thyroid disease and conducting activities to build knowledge about thyroid disease, including the provision of cooperation and knowledge exchange among those interested in thyroid in the regions of Asia and Oceania.

AOTA was established in 1975 and comprises persons from Asia and Oceania interested in the thyroid research and the diagnosis and treatment of thyroid diseases, including physicians and surgeons (specializing in Endocrinology and Nuclear Medicine) and scientists from other fields. AOTA members hail from Asia and Oceania, including 3 members from Japan, 3 from Korea, 2 from Chinese, and one each from Australia, Iran, Taipei, India, Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand. The term on council is 5 years (from September 2010 to September 2015).

## Faculty of Medicine

### Distinguished Guest

#### Dr. William Dunn from University of Nottingham, UK

**D**r. William Dunn, Associate Dean (Graduate School), School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom visited the Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine as an overseas visiting professor between April 27<sup>th</sup> and May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011 to strengthen ties between the School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Nottingham and the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen and to develop more academic and cardiovascular research cooperation between experts at the two institutions. He taught on the control of small arteries including the endothelium, smooth muscle and the role of nerves, and the new approaches and tools in cardiovascular diseases. He observed and commented on the teaching system and new technologies in the Department of Physiology, especially on the postgraduate pedagogical approach.



During his visit, Dr. Dunn also attended and presented his work at the International symposium "the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Physiological Society of Thailand and International Conference themed, "Integrative Physiology, Medicine, Food and Technology: Building a Healthy Future" on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at Pullman Raja Orchid Khon Kaen Hotel.

#### Delegates from Nursing College of Guangxi Medical University, PR China

**O**n May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Prof. Xue'an Mo, President of the Nursing College of Guangxi Medical University, People's Republic of China visited Srinagarind Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University.

Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon, Dean, Faculty of Medicine told Prof. Xue'an Mo that the Nursing Service Department of Srinagarind Hospital, which is a university hospital, offers short training courses in clinical nursing clerkships for nurses and nursing students from around the world such as Belgium Malaysia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Vietnam, Japan and China.



Thus, Srinagarind Hospital's nursing team has developed outstanding experience in organizing, conducting and supervising international level exchange activities.

Delegates from Guangxi Medical University, PR China were: Prof. Xue'an Mo, President of Nursing College of Guangxi Medical University; Assoc. Prof. Zhili

Zeng, Vice President; Assoc. Prof. Haiyan Liu, Chief of Science and Education Department; Ms. Bin Huang, Chief of Administration Office; Assoc. Prof. Jieliang Mo, Director of the Department of the Basic Nursing Science; Assoc. Prof. Guiying Liu, Vice Dean of Nursing College; Ms. Dongmei Lu, Lecturer; and, Ms. Mei Yuan, Lecturer.



## Faculty of Medicine

### Delegates from Ministry of Health and National Medical University, Lao PDR

On April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Prof. Pisake Lumbiganon, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and his administrators welcomed Mrs. Chanpheng Viravong, Director of Inspection Department and the delegation from the Cabinet of the Ministry of Health and National Medical University, Lao PDR. Mrs. Chanpheng Viravong said that the objective of a visit to the Faculty of Medicine was to discuss and exchange the ideas on the monitoring and evaluation system of Human Resources including recruitment and retention plans and human resource development guideline. From this visit, the Faculty of Medicine and the Cabinet of the Ministry of Health and National Medical University, Lao PDR learned from each other to boost the human resource development of their institutions.



Delegates from the Cabinet of the Ministry of Health and National Medical University, Lao PDR were Mrs. Changpheng Viravong, Director of Inspection Department, Ministry of Health; Mrs. Somchit Boupha, Vice-Rector, National of Medical Sciences University; Mr. Keovongxay Phetdavanf, Chief of Public Inspection Division; Mr. Sisana Thilasack, Deputy-Chief of Administration Division; Mr. Sengaloun Sourignanon, Deputy-Chief of Finance Division; and Dr. Bouphary phayouphorn, Senior Officer, Foreign Relations Division.

### Elective students from Fujita Health University, Japan presented their experiences in Khon Kaen



On May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011, Assoc. Prof. Witoon Prasertcharoensuk, Associate Dean for International and Special Affairs and Assoc. Prof. Supat Sinawat presided over a medical and cultural experiences presentation given by Mr. Yoshimasa Ito and Miss Shoko Oura, elective students from Fujita Health University. They were here studying under the elective student exchange program in the Department of Community Medicine, Department of Medicine, Department of Surgery and Department of



Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University from April 4<sup>th</sup> - May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Associate Professor Witoon Prasertcharoensuk praised the students and gave them a certificate in honor of their study. He said that the exchange program encourages cooperation between overseas institutes.

Advisory Board: Associate Dean for International and Special Affairs, Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University (Assoc. Prof. Witoon Prasertcharoensuk, MD), Karen Welker and Bryan Hamman

Editorial Board: Duangsamorn Chankwang, Pawinee Khamlar, Pitiya Sutheeraphan, Kanokphorn Hinthao, Duangkamol Srisawasdi, Buhnga Tunprasart, Nattapol Kaewmard, and Ratchadaphorn Mueangnam