



# UP VOICE

The Official Newsletter of the University of Puthisastra (UP)

## UP PRESIDENT - PROFESSOR IAN FINDLAY LEAVING UP ON 20TH AUGUST

Professor Ian Findlay will be leaving UP on 20th August 2024 as employment contract was not renewed. UP Board want to develop new directions. Status of new President is currently unknown.

During my 6 years at UP, we have transformed UP from a small university in financial trouble to a modern exciting university with enormous potential that Cambodia, staff and students can be very, very proud of.

Here are just some of UP achievements during the last 6 years:

### AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- UP is No 1 University in Cambodia (Webometrics)
- UP in Top 8 in Asia for Leadership (Times Higher Education (THE)). Beating >76,000 other Asian universities including all other Cambodian universities
- UP is top 6th private university in ASEAN for Employability (Applied HE)
- UP is top 7th private university in ASEAN for Learning and Teaching (Applied HE)
- UP is top 13th private university in ASEAN overall (Applied HE)
- UP is 46th in World for Social Responsibility (WURI)
- UP has become top research university in Cambodia, research papers increased from just 3 papers to 200 papers over 5 years.
- UP is only Cambodian university in the Times Higher Education (THE) of world elite university rankings. The top 1% of the top 1%.
- UP is the only Cambodian university in the elite QS World university rankings
- Excellent Staff (98%) and Student Satisfaction (90%)

### STUDENT OUTCOMES

- Top performing - 100% students passed National Exit exams in 2022, 99% in 2023 and 99% in 2024. Best results in Cambodia.
- UP graduates get best jobs and salaries are on average >100% more than other graduates
- Increased free English (international language of success) tuition by >450%
- Opened UP Health Centre. With Largest pharmacy in Cambodia, largest dental training hospital in Cambodia and Medical Centre
- UP top-quality education is increasingly recognized by best hospitals and industry across Cambodia
- Only organization in Cambodia offering Continued Professional Development across all major disciplines.
- >124 Training courses to ensure that teaching quality is high quality

### INTERNATIONAL

- Partnerships providing UP students with guaranteed access to >22 UK & Australian universities. Only via UP.
- Internationally recognized high quality curricula
- Partnerships providing UP students with guaranteed access to UK Medical schools. Only via UP. Currently 4 UP students are following their medical dream.
- Almost 1000 UP students a year have an international experience

## FINANCIALS

- Doubled revenue (105%)
- Increased profit by >800%
- Tripled Market Capitalization value
- Increased average salaries by >70% over 5 years.

These are incredible results for a small university.  
These are incredible results for a developing country.

UP can truly aspire to be the “Harvard” of Cambodia. Providing high quality education and health training to enrich lives and drive the Cambodian economy.

However, I am most proud of one thing - that despite enormous challenges, UP’s modern, high quality approach has provided real hope and opportunity for both staff to achieve their dreams – not just in Cambodia but on the World stage. We have changed lives.

As the status of new President is currently unknown, I will let you know when we have an update.

On a personal note, I will be having a break for 6-12 months then deciding what next . . . .

I look forward to seeing where UP will go next.



# UP STUDENTS RECEIVING OFFERS FROM UNIVERSITIES ABROAD – ONLY AVAILABLE FROM UP

1. NAME: SENG CHHENG KIM  
MAJOR: MEDICINE

Chheng Kim has received various offers from prestigious medical schools, including:

1. St. George's University, Grenada
2. Medical University of the Americas
3. Sarajevo Medical School, Bosnia & Herzegovina



Chheng Kim: During my 9-month experience in Japan, I discovered a deep passion for psychiatry, recognizing the profound impact I could have on improving both mental and physical health in individuals. This realization has driven my commitment to pursue a career as a psychiatrist, where I aim to make a meaningful difference in people's lives. Inspired by the words of Hari Gotham: "Be like the stem cell, differentiate yourself from others," I am dedicated to carving out a unique and impactful path in the field of psychiatry.

2. NAME: HENG HAING MENG  
MAJOR: PHARMACIST

Haing Meng has received offers to study Pharmacy from both universities such as:

1. De Montfort University, UK
2. The University of Sunderland, UK



Haing Meng: I arrived at this point by failing many times, but giving up was never an option for me. Instead, I chose to define my self-worth through my experiences and the lessons I learned along the way. The UK is much more firmly established in the field of pharmacy, which will immensely help me in achieving my goal. "Self-worth is determined by yourself, not by your score."

3. NAME: SING SEANGHOUY  
MAJOR: MEDICINE

Seanghouy has also received various offers, including from medical universities below:

1. Sarajevo Medical School in Bosnia & Herzegovina
2. The Medical University of the Americas



Seanghouy: I follow in my father's footsteps with confidence, even though it is not an easy path. Observing my father's dedication has shown me that being a doctor is not just about diagnosing diseases and prescribing medicine. It is about having empathy, caring for patients with all your heart, and being there for them in their most vulnerable moments. "I know life is not easy, and neither is the medical path, but I will persevere with confidence and passion," she says.

4. NAME: SAMBATH PUTHIROTH  
MAJOR: DENTISTRY

Puthiroth has been accepted to study Dentistry at:

1. Sarajevo Medical School in Bosnia & Herzegovina
2. He has also applied to the European University of Cyprus



Puthiroth: According to Paul Merton, 'Life is short, smile while you still have teeth.' This quote sums up his approach to life and dentistry. He faces each day with enthusiasm and a commitment to doing his best. Brushing off the stress of dental school like a pro. Balancing the demands of his studies with excitement about future opportunities, Puthiroth is determined and passionate about oral health. With his dedication to learning and a cheerful smile that reflects his positive outlook, he is ready to make a difference in the field of dentistry."

# MEDICAL CROSS-FIELD CONFERENCE AT UP

The Faculty of Medicine will organize, in cooperation with the Cambodia-China Medical Association, a Medical-Cross Field Conference in Hall H of the University of Puthisastra on 15th August 2024 from 2.00pm to 5.00pm.

The speakers will be from different hospitals/institutions in Taiwan. Three topics will be discussed:

1. Biology of Severe Asthma in the Era of Precision Medicine:  
Dr. Hsieh Meng-Heng
2. Tuberculosis: Past, Present and Future: Dr. Chang Chiun-Hsin
3. Regenerative Medicine: Latest Trends in Aesthetic Medicine Applications:  
Dr. Yen Ching-Nieng.

Admission will be free.



**MEDICAL CROSS-FIELD CONFERENCES**

Hall-H, University of Puthisastra  
15/Aug/2024  
14:00-17:00

**TOPIC AND DISCUSSION**

DR. YAN'S QUESTION	DR. HSIEH MENG-HENG <i>Professor, National Sun Yat-sen University</i>	DR. CHANG CHIUNG-HSIN <i>Professor, National Taiwan University</i>
Topic 3 Regenerative medicine: The latest trends in medical beauty applications	Topic 1 Biologics in severe asthma in the era of precision medicine	Topic 2 Tuberculosis: past, present and future

## CONGRATULATIONS TO FOUNDATION YEAR FOR PUBLICATION



Big Congratulations to Mr. SORN Virak, a Foundation Year Program Coordinator, and Mr. SAN Techly, a Science Lecturer in the Foundation Year Department, Faculty of Health Sciences and Biotechnology, University of Puthisastra (UP) for publishing two review articles in the Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI Focus).

STI Focus is a national academic publication created and organized by the National Institute of Science, Technology and Innovation (NISTI) and supported by the Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation (MISTI) of the Kingdom of Cambodia. Both articles were published in the form of review articles in the Technology Trend under the title:

1. "Can supplementation of endo-xylanase improve the gut health of broiler chickens?: A prebiotics approach to improve digestibility, gut microbiota, and broiler chicken performance", Page: 38–44
2. "Potential use of laccases in biodegradation and detoxification dyes in textile wastewater: A green approach for wastewater treatment in Cambodia", Page: 45–49

Both articles are published in Vol. 3, No. 1, published in July 2024, which is available online at:  
<https://misti.gov.kh/public/file/202407151721027808.pdf>

# SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTED SECOND BATCH OF "SURGICAL WISDOM TOOTH REMOVAL - HANDS-ON COURSE" FOR INTERNATIONAL DENTISTS



Last week the Department of Dentistry held a 4 days hands-on course for 16 overseas dentists on wisdom tooth removal. It was conducted by the acclaimed surgeon Dr. Anthony Goh from Singapore (course director). He was assisted by UP lecturer and oral surgeons Dr. Sam Sovatdy and Dr. Som Sochenda (course supervisors).

The course involved one-half day of lectures, followed by hands-on practice in the lab where surgical techniques were practiced on animal jaws. Then each dentist performed wisdom tooth surgery on patients in the UP Dental Hospital under the watchful eye of course director and supervisors.

Each patient offered their informed consent and received free treatment and medicine. UP dental students acted as interpreters and support in addition to our excellent full time permanent staff of receptionists and assistants. Everything was coordinated by Dr. Bhavna Nahata, PG Course Manager and Ms. Nget Sopheak, Admin Officer.

The overseas dentists were treated to wonderful hospitality which included a comfortable hotel stay, evening river cruise with welcome dinner, and a farewell dinner at One Eleven. UP also provided lunch, snacks, and refreshments each day. Their feedback on this course was overwhelmingly positive.

We are planning to hold another batch in February next year - so if you need your wisdom teeth removed, please make an appointment to see Dr Choun Lina at the UP Dental Hospital.

## CONDUCT CPD COURSE ON MANAGING MEDICAL EMERGENCIES IN THE DENTAL CLINIC



The Department of Dentistry recently conducted a workshop focused on "Managing Medical Emergencies in the Dental Clinic." The program, held for local dentists, was expertly led by Dr. Prom Vireak, Deputy Dean for Clinical Affairs at the Faculty of Medicine, and Dr. Keo Santepheap, a pediatrician from Khema International Polyclinic.

Attended by 40 dentists and dental students, the workshop provided an in-depth exploration of various medical emergencies that can occur in a dental setting. Participants engaged in practical sessions covering essential skills such as monitoring unconscious patients, performing CPR, managing choking incidents, and administering oxygen and emergency medications.

The feedback from participants was positive, with many noting that the course significantly enhanced their confidence and competence in handling medical emergencies. Each attendee received 4 CPD points from the Dental Council of Cambodia in recognition of their participation.

The Faculty of Dentistry at UP remains dedicated to equipping students, staff, and dental professionals with the critical knowledge and skills needed to ensure safe and effective dental care.

By offering courses on emergency management and other vital topics, the faculty continues to support the preparedness of dentists to handle any challenging situations that may arise in the clinical environment.

# NURSING STUDENTS INTERNSHIP IN HOSPITAL



Bachelor’s Degree and Associate Degree Nursing Students have begun Internships with year 3 and year 4 nursing students commenced their internship at various hospitals in Phnom Penh.

Currently, 10 Associate Degree students are completing their internships at Kantha Bopha Hospital, while 22 others are stationed at the National Pediatric Hospital.

Meanwhile, 6 BSNY4 students are undertaking their practicum at Sunrise Japan Hospital Phnom Penh, 17 are at Techo Santepheap National Hospital, and 6 are at the Children’s Surgical Center.

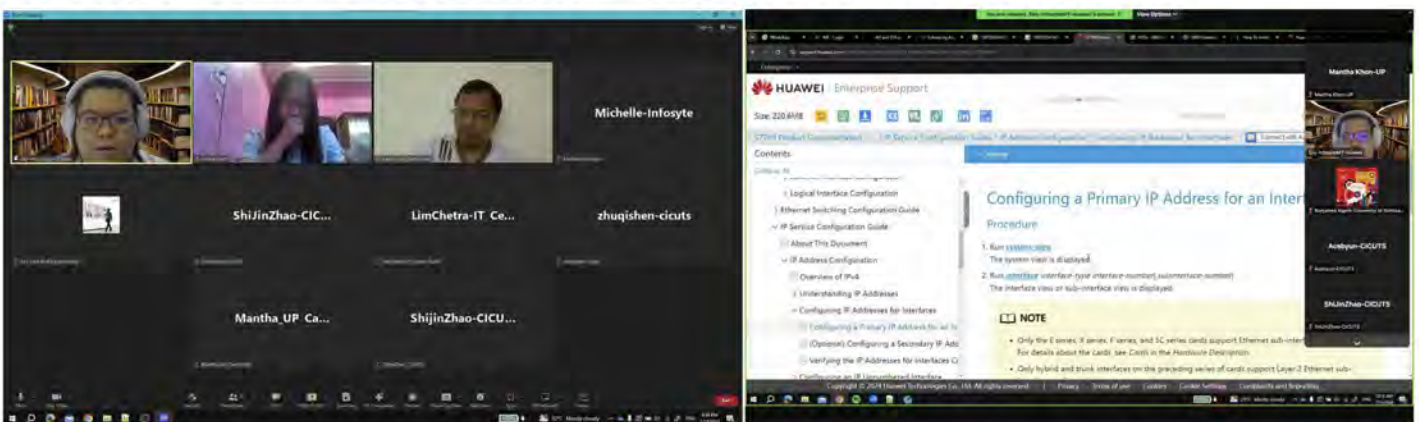
A student internship at a hospital is a pivotal stage in nursing education, offering hands-on experience and the practical application of theoretical knowledge.

During this period, nursing students rotate through various departments, including internal medicine, emergency department , pediatrics, and surgical ward, under the guidance of experienced senior staff.

This immersive experience enables students to develop clinical skills, enhance diagnostic abilities, and understand patient care dynamics.

Internships also provide opportunities for students to interact with patients, participate in nursing procedures, and engage in interdisciplinary teamwork, all of which foster professional growth and prepare students for independent practice.

# IT TRAINING “DATACOM” TRAINING BY HUAWEI



In a significant stride towards enhancing professional capabilities, the staff and lecturers of the Faculty of ICT recently completed an intensive five-day "Datacom" training course. This professional development program was organized by Huawei. The training aimed to equip participants with advanced knowledge and skills in data communication technologies, an area critical to the modern ICT landscape. The program was designed to address both theoretical and practical aspects of Datacom, ensuring a comprehensive learning experience.

The successful completion of the "Datacom" training marks a significant milestone in the professional development of the Faculty of ICT's staff and lecturers. With enhanced skills and knowledge, they are well-prepared to contribute to the advancement of ICT education and to guide the next generation of technology professionals.

## UP FACULTY AWARDED IADR-SEA MENTOR MENTEE GRANT

In the month of July two faculty members from the Faculty of Dentistry- Dr Lao Ryna and Ms Sreyla Phally were among the 9 recipients for the IADR-SEA Division Mentor Mentee grants for the year 2024.

The IADR SEA Mentor Mentee Program was initiated in 2015 to support young dental researchers from the SEA low-income countries by matching them with senior, experienced mentors from the region. IADR SEA Mentor Mentee Program was initiated in 2015 to support young dental researchers from the SEA low-income countries by matching them with senior, experienced mentors from the region.



In 2024 the IADR-SEA Division called for applications for mentees from each of the beneficiary countries, including Cambodia. Each mentee is expected to present a short research proposal for funding (capped at US\$2000). Thereafter, IADR will select an appropriate mentor in the respective field of dental research who will help develop the mentee's proposal. Subsequently, the mentee will conduct the research project under the supervision of regional and international senior dental researchers. Both Dr Ryna and Ms Sreyla will be supervised by their local mentor Professor Anand Marya who is also one of the elected council members for the IADR-SEA Division. In addition to this Dr Ryna will have international supervision from Dr. Hoang Trong Hung from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy at Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam while Ms. Sreyla Phally will be supervised internationally by Prof. Wei-Jen Chang from Taipei Medical University, Taiwan.

In addition to regional mentors, IADR will also introduce international experts to the mentees in their respective fields of study. The program will enable them to obtain a great research experience to further their careers in Dentistry.

Under the guidelines of the program both Dr. Ryna and Ms. Sreyla will have to present an abstract at the IADR-APR Meeting in India in September 2025. For which they shall both receive \$500 US for travel support to attend the meeting.

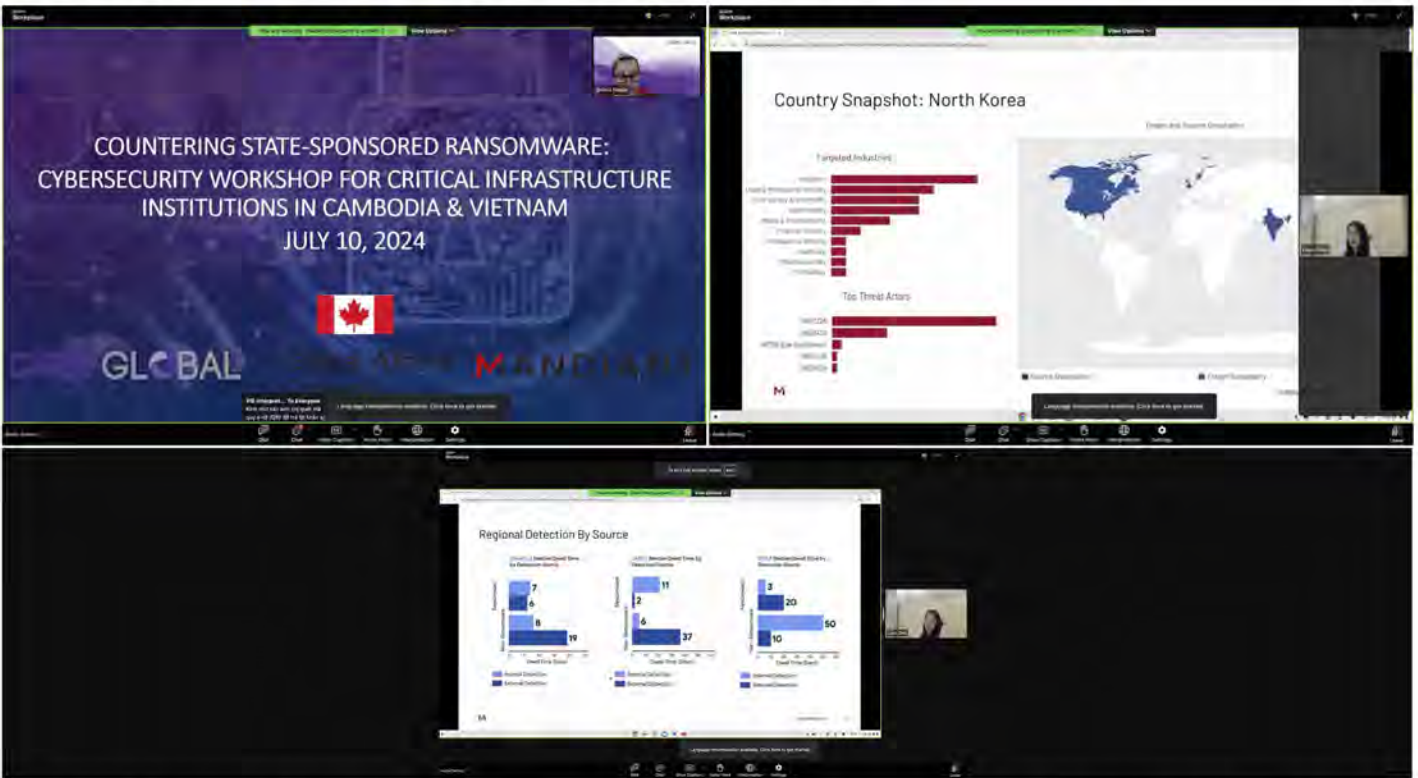
## IT STAFF ATTEND AWS ACADEMY WEBINAR ON THE TOPIC OF GENAI FOUNDATION BOOTCAMP



Staff members from the Faculty of ICT participated in an enriching AWS Academy Webinar, focusing on the GenAI Foundation Bootcamp. The event was organized by Amazon Web Services (AWS), aiming to provide comprehensive insights into Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) and its foundational aspects. The webinar was attended by a diverse group of ICT professionals energetic to deepen their understanding of GenAI technologies. This event forms part of AWS Academy's ongoing efforts to offer educational resources and training to foster innovation and technical skill development within the ICT community.

The participation of the Faculty of ICT staff in the AWS Academy Webinar on GenAI Foundation Bootcamp marks a significant step towards embracing advanced AI technologies. As the ICT landscape continues to evolve, such initiatives are crucial in equipping educators and professionals with the skills needed to navigate and contribute to the rapidly changing technological environment.

# CYBER SECURITY WORKSHOP



In an effort to support the cybersecurity defenses of critical infrastructure institutions in Southeast Asia, staff from the Faculty of ICT attended a high-level workshop on countering state-sponsored ransomware.

The event was organized by CRDF Global. The workshop, titled "Countering State-Sponsored Ransomware: Cybersecurity Workshop for Critical Infrastructure Institutions," gathered experts and representatives from key sectors in Cambodia and Vietnam.

The participation of UP's Faculty of ICT in this workshop underscores the institution's commitment to advancing cybersecurity education and research.

By integrating the knowledge and skills gained from this event into their academic programs and research initiatives, the Faculty of ICT aims to contribute to the development of a strong cybersecurity workforce in Cambodia. As cyber threats continue to evolve, initiatives like this workshop are crucial in building strong defense components.

## ICT'S STUDENTS BATCH 10 & 11 SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE STATE EXAM

The air was filled with excitement and a sense of accomplishment as the students from Batch 10 and 11 of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) program celebrated the successful completion of their state exams.

This significant milestone marks the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and perseverance in their academic journey. The state exams, known for their rigorous standards and comprehensive coverage of the ICT curriculum, are a critical step for students pursuing careers in the rapidly evolving field of information technology.

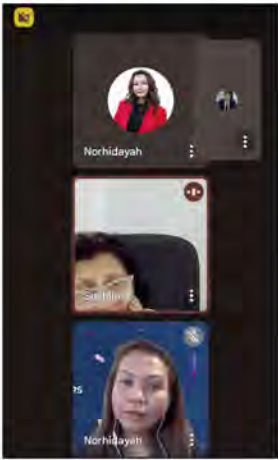
The successful completion of these exams not only demonstrates the students' proficiency and expertise in their chosen field but also opens up new opportunities for their future professional endeavors.

The completion of the state exams is a reflection of the ICT program's commitment to providing high-quality education and fostering a conducive learning environment.

As these students step into the professional world, they carry with them the skills, knowledge, and confidence to make meaningful contributions to the ICT industry and beyond.



# POTENTIAL COLLABORATION UNIVERSITY POLY-TECH MALAYSIA



In a significant move towards enhancing educational collaboration and fostering international partnerships, the UP team, Faculty of ICT and University Poly-Tech Malaysia engaged in a comprehensive discussion about potential collaboration opportunities.

The discussion concluded on a positive note commitment to furthering the collaboration. The potential collaboration marks a significant step towards building a stronger educational network ultimately benefiting students, faculty, and the broader academic community.

As the universities move forward with plans, the academic community eagerly awaits the positive impact of this collaboration, clearing the way for innovative education and research opportunities in the ICT field.

# ASEAN EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM MENTORING SESSION



In a significant step towards fostering leadership and professional growth, academic staff from UP's Faculty of ICT attended 3 months ASEAN Emerging Leaders mentoring session .

The event, which is part of a larger initiative aimed at nurturing future leaders within the ASEAN region, saw participation from various educational institutions and industry experts. It has provided with the tools, knowledge, and connections necessary to drive innovation and leadership within their institution and beyond.

The positive outcomes of this engagement highlight the importance of such programs in shaping the future of education and professional development in the ASEAN region.

# IDEAS PROJECTS CAMBODIA: ENHANCE DIGITAL ECONOMY PARTICIPATING FOR ASEAN WOMEN MSMEs "IDEAS PROJECT"



In a significant stride towards empowering women-led Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the ASEAN region, UPs Faculty of ICT proudly participated in the Ideas Project Cambodia. The initiative, titled "Enhance Digital Economy: Participating for ASEAN Women MSMEs," aims to support the digital capabilities of women entrepreneurs, facilitating their active participation in the burgeoning digital economy. The Ideas Project Cambodia serves as a testament to the power of education and collaboration in driving digital transformation and economic empowerment. As ASEAN moves towards a more integrated and digitized economy, initiatives like these are crucial in ensuring that women entrepreneurs are not left behind but are at the forefront of this transformation.

## UP VISITS RUPP



In the afternoon of Wednesday, July 17th, 2024, the Science Research students of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Biotechnology of the University of Puthisastra (UP) had a Scientific Lab Tour of the Graduate School of Science (GSS) of the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP) under the warm welcome of Asso. Prof. Dr. Sriv Tharith, GSS.

The purpose of the study tour is to provide students with the opportunity to learn more about scientific research, modern analytical machines, and the research work of three laboratories:

1. Optoelectronics and Advanced Materials Lab, managed by Asso. Prof. Dr. Sriv Tharith
2. Applied Natural Product Biotechnology Lab, managed by Asst. Prof. Dr. Long Solida
3. Materials and Fabrication Lab, managed by Asst. Prof. Dr. Som Veasna

The Science Research Department would like to thank the Graduate School of Science of the Royal University of Phnom Penh for their hospitality and valuable time in presenting and introducing the Science Research students of the University of Puthisastra.

# THE CLERKSHIP OF MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS IN SEMESTER 2, ACADEMIC YEAR 2023 - 2024



On Monday, 12th July 2024, Medical Laboratory Technology students' year 2 batch 12 of UPs Department of Laboratory Science, the Faculty of Health Sciences and Biotechnology, University of Puthisastra start their clerkship for semester 2, academic year 2023-2024. The clerkship was led by faculty members to the Medical Laboratory of partner public and private hospitals such as Cho Ray Phnom Penh Hospital, Prah Ketomealea Hospital, Khmer Soviet Friendship Hospital, and National Maternal and Child Health Center. It should be noted that students will be doing the clerkship for one month which starts from July 22, 2024, to August 23, 2024.

## SEMINAR ON “HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY AND WORK ETHIC”

**Special SEMINAR**  
**Human Physiology and Working Ethic**  
 Objective:  
 - To provide the basic and fundamental knowledge on Human Physiology systems in Normal healthy Conditions.  
 - To utilize human samples for analytical diagnostic purposes and working ethic

**Guest speaker**  
**Dr. Abdull Manan Mat Jais**  
 PhD in Neurophysiology from University of Southampton England.

**DATE** 22 July, 2024  
**TIME** 09:00 AM - 10:00 AM  
**LOCATION** Room : LT12

**REGISTER NOW**



On Monday, 22nd 2024, the Faculty of Health Sciences and Biotechnology of the University of Puthisastra (UP) organized a seminar on “Human Physiology and Work Ethic”.

The seminar was held at UP with the participation of Prof. Sushila Krishnaswamy, Director of Health Sciences and Biotechnology, and the honor speaker Dr. Abdull Manan Mat Jais, PhD in Neurophysiology from the University of Southampton, England.

This seminar was organized to provide the basis and fundamental knowledge on Human Physiology systems in normal healthy conditions and to utilize human samples for analytical diagnosis purposes and working ethic.

After the seminar ended, all participants learned and gained a lot of knowledge and experience from our invited speaker as well as other participants.

# ENTICING WEBINAR: 'CAPTIVE' SUBJECTS? HIGHLY EDUCATED CAMBODIANS AND HIGHER EDUCATION POLICYMAKING IN 'POSTCOLONIAL' CAMBODIA

The English Faculty again participated in an enticing webinar with valuable insights on the perspective of Cambodians who obtained a degree abroad. The webinar hosted by the Center of Khmer Studies, moderated by Jessica Garber, provided an interesting insight into Dr Vichet Sen's research, 'Captive' subjects. Highly educated Cambodians and higher education policymaking in 'postcolonial' Cambodia.

The research explores how highly educated Cambodians see their role in their contribution to higher education reforms in Cambodia. Four themes were apparent to the researcher: "This is a possible panacea for all this", "Perhaps I'll make more impactful decisions elsewhere", "I'll do my best for now", and "We'll have to complete this task by that year".

It was a valuable insight into how the residue of colonialism and neoliberalism shape the perspectives of those individuals and how that affects their decision-making in their positions in various institutions in Cambodia. This also contributes to the Faculty of English's efforts to be aware of the implications of Eurocentric decision-making in their course development.

Link to the recorded webinar: <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/Z5SG4rDYrTftiBH/?mibextid=oFDknk>

## THE POWER OF COLLABORATION IN ENGLISH



The Faculty of English thrives on a foundation of dedicated educators, and at the heart of this is the Technical Curriculum Committee (TCC), which consists of a passionate group of lecturers.

The TCC meets weekly, fostering a dynamic space for discussions and evaluations. Their agenda includes the overall structure – ensuring a cohesive and well-rounded curriculum – to internal policy discussions, the TCC works to streamline processes and enhance the learning experience for students for English classes as well as the newly launched Bachelor in English, Business and Entrepreneurship.



However, the committee's most important role lies in the quality control of courses. Through rigorous evaluation, the TCC ensures that each course offered by the Faculty of English meets the highest standards. This collaborative effort guarantees students are exposed to a curriculum that is not only academically sound but also engaging and relevant.

The benefits of the TCC go far. The weekly meetings provide a platform for knowledge sharing among lecturers. Different levels of experience and skill set ensure well-rounded decision-making.

The Technical Curriculum Committee underpins the power of collaboration in education. Through their dedication, the TCC ensures the Faculty of English Excellence and Employability remains at the forefront of academic excellence, offering students a well-structured, high-quality education that prepares them for success.

# UP CONTRIBUTES TO CAMBODIAN CHILDREN'S SMILES



University of Puthisastra (UP), our dedicated-UP Community has started on a heartwarming journey to bring smiles to children in Cambodia. This semester, our team of fourth-year dental students has partnered with CCF NGO in Strung Menchey to offer crucial dental care and education. Over a full month, working three days a week, we focused on providing Level 1 dental treatments, our team completed 1094 children that is making a significant impact on the students' oral health.

Starting in early July, our UP dental community expanded its efforts to offer Level 2 dental treatments at Hun Neang Toul Tom Pong 2. In addition to treating children, we also provided essential oral health education to primary school students, empowering them with knowledge to maintain healthy smiles.

Under the guidance of our dedicated supervisors—Dr. Hour Lim Heng, Dr. Im Puthisa, and along with the support of the CIPO team—our dental students had the invaluable opportunity to serve the community. This experience not only allowed them to give back but also enriched their skills in treating young patients. Through these initiatives, we continue to brighten the futures of our new generation,

## NATURAL PRODUCT CONTEST 2024: SHOWCASING INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY IN PHARMACY



Phnom Penh, July 15, 2024 - The Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Puthisastra, in collaboration with Khmer Enterprise from the Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology, and Innovation, proudly organized the Natural Products Contest 2024. This prestigious event, held in Hall B of the University of Puthisastra, brought together approximately 100 candidates and was chaired by Professor Chea Sin, Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy.

In his opening remarks, Professor Chea Sin highlighted that this was the second time the Faculty of Pharmacy has hosted this competition. With the support of Khmer Enterprise, this year's contest is grander and more remarkable than ever before in the college's history.

He emphasized that the event serves as a platform to inspire students to be creative and innovative with natural products within the pharmacy profession.

Additionally, the event featured a report on the natural product contest from the past two years presented by Mr. So Visessakseth, Head of Pharmacognosy. In addition to, Ms. Kric Srey Neang, Entrepreneur Development Specialist at Khmer Enterprise, also delivered a heartfelt welcome speech, marking the special occasion.

Last but not least, the Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy wished all the contestants to win the competition of natural products and to meet the four blessings of the Buddha, age, class, happiness, strength.

# FIVE TEAMS FROM THE FACULTY OF PHARMACY, UNIVERSITY OF PUTHISAstra (UP) WON THE NATURAL PRODUCTS CONTEST 2024 OUT OF 16 TEAMS FROM 4 DIFFERENT UNIVERSITIES IN CAMBODIA.



Phnom Penh: On July 15, 2024, in the Natural Products Contest 2024, three teams were found to be winners, and the 1st place winners, 2nd place winners, and 3rd place winners were students from the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Puthisastra (UP).

In addition, in this contest, 2 winners of the 1st and 2nd places in the popular vote were found, with students from the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Puthisastra, and the 3rd place winner in the popular vote being students from International University (IU).

Winners of the Natural Products Competition:

1. The 1st place winners went to group 8, which processed and produced the produced "JEK SCRUB"
2. The 2nd place winner went to group 12 that processed and produced the "Hydra Toner Pad."
3. The 3rd place winner went to group 14 that processed and produced the "Holy Basil Cream."

Popular Vote Winner in the Natural Products Competition:

1. The 1st place winners in the popular vote went to group 5, which processed and produced the "Beetroot Lip Balm."
2. The 2nd place winner in the popular vote went to group 7, which processed and produced the "MUNTINGIA CREAM"
3. The 3rd place winner in the popular vote went to the group 10 that processed and produced the "Daily Sunscreen"

The Natural Product Contest 2024 received significant positive feedback from the external evaluation committee.

Ms. Chuon Naren, Assistant Pharmacist Manager at UCare Pharmacy, said the program was rated very good. She noted there was a wider variety of natural products compared to the previous year, the packaging and booth decorations were interesting, the exhibition venue felt very natural, and there was an increased number of participating student groups compared to the previous year. Additionally, the student presentations were detailed, they spoke with confidence and clarity about their research, product introductions, and innovative approaches to piquing the committee's interest in their products at the booths. The evaluation process was also thorough, with discussions and deliberations among the committee members before deciding the results and casting their votes.

Mr. Kim Sitha, Pharmacy Owner of Unicare Pharmacy, also provided very positive feedback about the NPC 2024 event. He said the program was well-organized, including the hospitality, venue, and lighting system. He noted that the entire team worked closely together to deliver the best possible project

Finally, the Faculty of Pharmacy would like to express their gratitude to all the committee members and staff who contributed to the successful execution of this event. They are committed to building upon this year's success and elevating the Natural Product Contest to an even higher level next year.

# CAMBODIA SMILE PROGRAM



The Cambodia Smile program is a comprehensive National Action Plan for Oral Health managed by public health officials stationed at health centers, including dental nurses, nurses, and midwives. Its primary objective is to enhance oral health education and administer fluoride varnish treatments every 3 months to young children during their vaccination appointments. The initiative is currently active in three provinces: Siem Reap (with 11 health centers), Kampong Chhnang (with 6 health centers), and Kampong Speu (with 18 health centers). This endeavor is supported by the Collaborating Centre for Innovation in Population Oral Health (CIPO) of Puthisastra. In June, the program successfully applied fluoride varnish to 1,125 children. We appreciate the dedication of the primary healthcare providers at the Health Centers for their diligent efforts in executing these activities.

# ROTARY HAND ON



On July 18, 2024, the University of Puthisastra hosted an exciting "Rotary Hand On" workshop for Year 6 dental students, aimed at enhancing their practical skills in rotary instruments essential for endodontic procedures. Led by esteemed faculty members Dr. Kimsreang Peung, Dr. Leng Ravuth, and Dr. Chum Chenda, the workshop began with a comprehensive presentation by Dr. Peung on rotary endodontic systems, emphasizing technique and precision for successful patient outcomes.

The workshop featured hands-on practice, where students used rotary instruments under the close supervision of the faculty. This allowed them to gain confidence and refine their skills while receiving personalized feedback. Dr. Chenda highlighted the importance of understanding the root canal anatomy during the procedures.

Overall, the workshop not only focused on skill development but also helped students apply their theoretical knowledge in practical settings. The nurturing atmosphere fostered by collaborative learning and faculty support motivated students to aspire to excellence in their future dental careers. Ultimately, the event exemplified the university's commitment to quality education, preparing students for the challenges of modern dentistry.

## INFECTION CONTROL WORKSHOP FOR SENIOR DENTAL STUDENTS



UP & UNIDENT Company hosted a successful workshop on "Practice Hygiene-Environmental Infection Control in a Dental Office" for dental students in Cambodia on 16th July 2024. The event featured an insightful presentation by the esteemed Dr. Swati Sehgal from India.

Dr. Sehgal shared her extensive knowledge on the topic with a remarkable turnout of over 40 attendees. Participants gained valuable insights into practice hygiene and infection control, and enjoyed hands-on experiences that were both engaging and educational.

Many dental students expressed their enthusiasm for the hands-on activities and expressed a desire for similar workshops in the future.

Our department is committed to organizing workshops that enhance clinical knowledge and provide valuable experiences for our dental students.

If you are interested in planning future workshops with the Department of Dentistry, please contact Dr. Bhavna Nahata at 010 507 456 or Ms. Nget Sopheak at 096 55 96 917.

## UNIDENT COMPANY DONATION DURR SYSTEM HYGIENE



On July 16th, UNIDENT generously donated Durr System Hygiene products for use in our clinics.

Durr System Hygiene, akin to a high-quality soap, is essential for thoroughly cleaning dental equipment. This cleaning system consists of four different solutions that must be mixed according to the provided guidelines.

Detailed instructions are included in the box, and for convenience, you can also scan the QR code on each solution bottle to access the guidelines.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to UNIDENT for their thoughtful donation of these crucial dental clinic materials. Your support is immensely valued.



# CONGRATULATIONS TO MS. PEN KEOPANHA,



**THE THIRD PLACE AWARD  
BEST ORAL PRESENTATION**



**BIG CONGRATULATIONS  
TO MS. PEN KEOPANHA**



Congratulations to Ms. Pen Keopanha, year 5 student of Faculty of Pharmacy, for achieving 3rd place in the Best Oral Presentation at the 14th International Conference on Public Health in the Mekong Subregion in Luang Prabang, Lao People's Democratic Republic in June 29, 2024. The 14th International Conference was attended by about 400 participants from 16 public health training institutions from China, Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam. It should be noted that this is the second participation of staff as well as college students in the international conference among the Mekong sub-countries.

## MODERN HYGIENIST EPISODE FOR DENTAL STUDENTS



UP & Dental Crown Company hosted a successful workshop on " Modern Hygienist Episode " for dental students in Cambodia on 22nd July 2024. The event featured an insightful presentation by the esteemed Dr. Elizabeth Noll.

Dr. Elizabeth Noll shared her extensive knowledge on the topic with a remarkable turnout of 50 attendees. Students who attend this workshop got experiences and improved their ability on Systemic health and perio, motivation for perio, choosing the right instruments, hand instrumentation, Instrument maintenance and sharpening easy. Moreover, all the students received a flat plastic (yellow/gray), Dental Probe (blue), and other equipments for free from Dr Elizabeth. We really appreciate her kindness.

Our department is committed to organizing workshops that enhance clinical knowledge and provide valuable experiences for our dental students.

If you are interested in planning future workshops with the Department of Dentistry, please contact Dr. Bhavna Nahata at 010 507 456 or Ms. Nget Sopheak at 096 55 96 917.

# SDA VISITS UP



In the month of July officials from the Singapore Dental Association and Tzu-chi a global humanitarian organization visited UP. The three main officials- Dr Eugene Tang the President of the Singapore Dental Association, Dr Tan Tien Wang- the General Secretary of the Singapore Dental Association and Dr. Koh Tieh Long representing Tzu-Chi and TIMA) visited the Faculty of Dentistry and had an extensive meeting with the faculty members headed by Asst. Prof Soeun Sopharith the Acting Dean of Dentistry. Also present in the meeting were Prof. Anand Marya, Dr Bhavna Nahata and Ms. Sreyla Phally to represent the views and thoughts of the Faculty of Dentistry in the meeting.

The Singapore Dental Association (SDA) visiting the University of Puthisastra signifies a collaborative effort between two prominent institutions in the field of dental education and practice. Such visits typically aim to foster knowledge exchange, explore joint research opportunities, and discuss advancements in dental technology and patient care. This collaboration can lead to enhanced educational programs, improved clinical practices, and a stronger professional network for dental professionals in both regions. During the meeting several topics were discussed such as collaborative courses and training and even joint humanitarian missions the first of which would be in the first week of November this year.

We hope to have further meetings to discuss and plan courses that would be most beneficial for dentists in Cambodia and around the globe.

# UP PHARMACY WELCOMES JUNIORS 2024 - WEEK 4



Date: July 12, 2024

The program was attended by professors, lecturers, and full-time staff from the Faculty of Pharmacy.

We are excited to announce our speaker for this session, Ms. Chem Winosa, a Year 4 student at the Faculty of Pharmacy with extensive experience in time management, a skill she has honed through her rigorous academic and practical engagements. Ms. Chem Winosa will be presenting on the topic:  
"The Importance of Early Preparation"

In her presentation, Ms. Chem Winosa will cover the following key points:

- Setting Academic and Career Goals from the Start:

Ms. Winosa emphasized the importance of establishing clear academic and career objectives early in one's educational journey. She provided insights on how to align personal interests with professional aspirations to create a focused and motivated approach to learning.

- Strategies for Effective Time Management and Study Habits:

Drawing from her own experiences, Ms. Winosa shared practical strategies for managing time efficiently. She highlighted techniques such as prioritizing tasks, creating study schedules, and maintaining a balanced lifestyle to enhance productivity and academic performance.

- Utilizing Available Resources:

Ms. Winosa underscored the significance of making the most of the resources available to students. She discussed how to effectively use libraries, laboratories, and online platforms to supplement classroom learning and gain practical skills.

## UP PHARMACY INTRODUCED THE LOCAL PRODUCT BRAND KAKSEKAR TO THE PUBLIC



On August 15, 2024, UP Pharmacy co-hosted a booth activation with Srun Chhlat Cambo Agribusiness Enterprise in front of the UP Health Center. The purpose of this activation was to promote the local product brand KAKSEKAR, which is made from lemongrass grown in Cambodia. According to the laboratory report from the Faculty of Pharmacy, lemongrass oil has demonstrated numerous therapeutic activities, including anti-inflammatory properties that are excellent for pain relief. The KAKSEKAR product range includes pain killer oil, pain relief spray, pure oil, balm, and mosquito repellent spray, all of which are available at UP Pharmacy. We are delighted to see our local products performing well in the market and receiving praise from the public. By displaying KAKSEKAR products at UP Pharmacy, we hope they will gain more recognition in the future. We look forward to seeing many more local brands available on the market both domestically and internationally, and we will be pleased to partner with and support them.

## YEAR 5 PHARMACY STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN A HEALTH CHECK-UP WITH THE SUNRISE CHARITY FOUNDATION FOR THE PEOPLE IN THE PROVINCE



Kampong Speu Province: Year 5 pharmacy students from the University of Puthisastra participated in a charity health check-up program and distributed medicine to the people of Kampong Speu province organized by the Sunrise Charity Foundation.

It should be noted that in 2024, this is the fifth time that the students of the Faculty of Pharmacy have participated in the charity program with Sunrise, and in this charity program, all the fifth pharmacy students have played an important role in guiding and providing medication to more than 250 patients.

In addition to our pharmacist's significant contribution to this charity to guide patients with the 5 R's of medication,

1. The right patient
2. The right drug
3. The right dose
4. The right route of administration
5. The right time

# COMMUNITY AND DISPENSING MEDICINES OF PHARMACY STUDENTS OF THE FACULTY OF PHARMACY



Phnom Penh: Sunday, July 21 2014

Twenty-two staff and students of the Faculty of Pharmacy, who are members of the Doctor Alliance of the Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia (UYFC) Branch of the University of Puthisastra, attended the examination, treatment and distribution of free medicine to the people and students in the campus of Slap Leng High School in Svay Rumpear commune, Bor Seth district, Kampong Speu province, with the participation of local authorities at all levels.

The pharmacy students who attend the examination, treatment and distribution of medicine to the people will gain a lot of new knowledge and experience at the association will help them fulfill their responsibilities as health care practitioners.

## UP FACULTY OF PHARMACY BECOMES FIP-UNESCO UNITWIN CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE

Phnom Penh, July 27, 2024 – Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Puthisastra (UP) is delighted to announce the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) to establish a FIP-UNESCO UNITWIN Centre for Excellence (CfE) in the Western Pacific region. This collaboration enhances our commitment to advancing pharmacy education, research, and practice.

### Benefits for Students:

- **Innovative Learning:** Access to cutting-edge research and training programs.
- **Global Networking:** Educational exchanges with top international institutions.
- **Patient Safety Leadership:** Training to prioritize patient safety in practice.

### Benefits for Staff:

- **Professional Development:** Participation in regional and international workshops.
- **Collaborative Research:** Opportunities to engage in groundbreaking studies.
- **Interregional Cooperation:** Engagement with global peers to address educational advancements.
- **Transforming Pharmacy Practice**

Prof. Chea Sin, Dean of UP Faculty of Pharmacy, stated, "This partnership with FIP and UNESCO is a milestone for our institution, enhancing education and research quality while transforming pharmacy practice in our region."

The CfE will implement the FIP regional roadmap for pharmaceutical education, focusing on patient safety, academic capacity, and specialist development, leading to tangible outcomes such as faculty exchange programs and increased regional collaboration.

### Join Us

UP Faculty of Pharmacy invites students, faculty, and stakeholders to join us in this journey toward excellence in pharmacy education and practice.

Contact: Asst. Prof. Chhea Sophearom, Email: [csophearom@puthisastra.edu.kh](mailto:csophearom@puthisastra.edu.kh)  
For more information, visit <https://www.puthisastra.edu.kh/faculty-of-pharmacy/>



# UP PUBLISHES IN THE ASIAN SOCIETY OF PHARMACOGNOSY

UP's Dept of pharmacy published "Cambodian medicinal plants: an overview" in The Asian Society of Pharmacognosy. This comprehensive and meticulously researched review highlights the diverse therapeutic activities and properties of Cambodian medicinal plants, showcasing their potential to treat various conditions and illnesses.

Their dedication to analyzing and interpreting laboratory experiments, alongside collecting valuable local knowledge, demonstrates a profound commitment to advancing our understanding of ethnobotanical resources.

The significant contribution of their work not only enhances the field of ethnopharmacology but also underscores the importance of exploring bioactive compounds with therapeutic properties.

Their efforts in detailing plant names, habitats, descriptions, medicinal uses, treatment methods, and dosages provide a valuable resource for both scientific and medical communities.

This publication is a testament to their hard work, passion, and expertise in ethnobotany. Congratulations on this outstanding achievement, and we look forward to seeing the future impact of your research on both traditional and modern medicine.

# ANNOUNCEMENT ON WORKSHOP ON “PREPAREDNESS FOR UNIVERSITY AND WORK SUCCESS AFTER GRADUATION”

**សិក្ខាសាលា**  
ស្តីពី

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ទូរស័ព្ទលេខ ០២៣ ២២១ ៦២៤ | www.puthisastra.edu.kh | : University of Puthisastra (UP)

The Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia (UYFC) at the University of Puthisastra (UP) will organize a workshop on "Preparedness for University and work Success After Graduation " .

Speaker: Professor Chea Sin, Member of Steering Committee of Volunteer Youth Movement of the UYFC at Private Higher Education Institutions.

Date: August 2, 2024

Hours: 12:30 to 14:00

Venue: H Hall

Number of participants: 100 (Members of UP UYFC or students)  
Please register via QR Code.

