

## **Background of the Colloquium**

By

**Associate Professor Dr. Pachongchit Intasuwan**

Steering Committee Chairperson

August 15, 2005

Assistant Rector, Department of Research, Professor Dr. Somkiat Wattanasirichaigoon, BSRI Director, Dr. Wiladlak Chuawanlee, Psychology Department Head, Dr. Hariyati Shahrina Abdul Majid, Professors and Students.

As the Steering Committee Chairperson of the second Colloquium for international graduate students, may I give a brief history of the Colloquium.

The BSRI has been permitted to recruit applicants to its research Doctoral Degree Program since 2002. The Institute has also been financially supported by the Ministry of Education, formerly Ministry of University Affairs, to develop an international doctoral degree program in Applied Behavioral Science Research. To achieve this mission, we have organized several meetings, invited international experts to share ideas, and worked toward the degree program.

The degree program committee has considered that one way to create an international atmosphere in the University is to organize international meetings. Therefore the first Colloquium for Graduate Students was held last year, September 5-10, 2004, at the International Islamic University (IIU), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. We thank IIU professors and students for their warm welcome and hospitality, especially Professor Dato Dr. Wan Rafaei Abdul Rahman.

At the first meeting, both sides decided that this cooperation activity should be continued, and that each side would be the organizer every other year.

The main purposes of the Colloquia are:

1. To provide students with an opportunity to present their research to an international meeting in the same area of research, and to discuss their research ideas with international academics.
2. To provide a chance for students to learn from and exchange their views with professors in a different country.
3. To promote a research network in behavioral science among participants that will be useful to them in the future.

The Committee for the Second Colloquium for International Graduate Students: Malaysia-Thailand Behavioral Science Research Sharing, held during August 15-17, 2005, has also invited students from other universities to attend and present papers for possible collaboration in the future.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Head, Dr. Hanisya, Assistant Professor, Department of Research, Professor Dr. Somchai Wattanasitthachon, BSRJ Director, Dr. Wisitlak Chuanwatt, Psychology Department

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