

## “Letter from the Dean”

I am very delighted to welcome all of you to the Faculty of Pharmacy, Mahidol University (MUPY)’s first official issue of the English newsletter. One cannot deny that right now, there are many things going on especially, the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been hard for every country to handle this situation in all aspects including economics and the health care system. Thailand is one of the countries that also faces with this condition. We all need to support each other at this time.

Our Faculty of Pharmacy has also played a great role in the contribution of information and services about the COVID-19 to Thai society during this time. Despite the slowdown of economics and everything around the world from the quarantine and social distancing, we, the Faculty of Pharmacy, are trying to keep up with both internal and external events and all of the Faculty’s activities as presented in this newsletter.

I hope everyone enjoys this official English newsletter, the first of our issue. Last but not least, please join me in encouraging our members and the public to be safe and sound under this circumstance.

Sincerely,

Assoc. Prof. Suvatna Chulavatnatol, Ph.D.

Dean

Faculty of Pharmacy, Mahidol University



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# MU PY

## Encountering COVID-19

Due to the rapid spread of COVID-19, for the first half of this year, we have been encountered with a situation that we have never seen before. This leads to a new lifestyle, called 'New Normal.' However, there are people who are afflicted with the effects of social and economics, nowadays. The Faculty is not only concern for our staff and students but also others who endanger with this pandemic together.

Although there are some challenges of COVID-19, we are keen to say that this time it brings new norm to our Faculty. It is a brand-new operation of our Faculty over 50 years. Educational technology is one of the most important tools for our Faculty. We have been doing online teaching via Microsoft Team and Cisco Webex as well as 'work-from-home' practice. Now, we are developing the MUPY Studio to support student learning and provide the better academic conference.

More than that, the Faculty is serving Thai society by providing the right information and assistance throughout this period of time; for example, online articles about SARS-CoV-2 on different aspects by all of our academic staff. Moreover, our Faculty was invited for interviews about the SARS-CoV-2 with the Thai national mass media such as Thai PBS and JS100. Furthermore, we elevate people's life by sending Alcohol Gel, the product of our Faculty, to many public sectors.

Thanks our faculty members who greatly put efforts and make it easier for our students in order to continue with their studies along with assuring Thai society for safety news. Also, thanks our allies from abroad for the great alliance, knowledge, and information sharing online. We are trying our best as we promise *'to be a pharmaceutical academic institution that meets international standard and contributes to the development of sustainable society.'*



# MUPY ON NEWS



**March 3, 2020:** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Duangdaw Chantasart together with Asst. Prof. Dr. Jaturong Pratuangdejkul was filmed and interviewed by the media from Mahidol Channel about 'Hand Sanitizer Alcohol Gel.' This clip was intentionally made to educate people about alcohol gel.



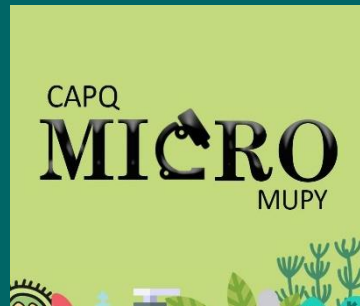
**March 11, 2020:** Asst. Prof. Dr. Jaturong Pratuangdejkul was invited for an interview about 'How to use the face mask to prevent the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19).' This clip was broadcasted via Mahidol Channel.



**April 6, 2020:** Asst. Prof. Pitchaya Dilokpattanamongkol was invited for an interview in the topic of 'Favipiravir: Hope of COVID-19 Patients' in TobJote programme from Thai PBS Channel.



**April 22, 2020:** Dr. Pagakrong Wanapaisan was invited for an interview in the topic of 'Disinfection by using UVC.' This interview was about the differences between UV and UVC, using UV for disinfection and the effectiveness of UVC.



**May 2, 2020:** CAPQ-MICROBIOLOGY has started its services for efficiency testing of alcohol products by using the method of Modified EN1276: 2009.



**June 18, 2020:** MUPY's executives led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suvatna Chulavatnatol, MUPY's Dean, as a representative received face masks called 'MahidolPharmacyCareForU' from Mr. Tawatchai Likitabhorn, Chair of MUPY Alumni Association who produced the face masks for our Faculty, students, and MUPY alumni in order to prevent the COVID-19. Furthermore, this activity showed a favorable image of the Faculty as well as strengthened a relationship among the association's members.

## COVID-19 WEBINAR FOR PHARMACISTS

**June 29, 2020:** MUPY organized the online webinar entitled 'Update in Pharmacotherapy and Vaccine for COVID-19' via Cisco Webex. There were 4 speakers including Assoc. Prof. Preecha Montakantikul, Asst. Prof. Pitchaya Dilokpattanamongkol, Asst. Prof. Supat Chumnumwat and Lect. Jennis Meanwatthana.

This webinar aimed to disseminate knowledge and good practice concerning Pharmacotherapy and Vaccine for COVID-19 to all pharmacists. There were 643 registered audiences who interested in this webinar. In addition, this was the first time using MUPY studio for the online conference.



# MUPY IN ASPECT OF EDUCATION



**STRENGTHENING  
AS ONE OF THE  
LEADING  
PHARMACY  
SCHOOLS**



**February 4-5, 2020:** Two of MUPY graduate programs, Master of Science in Pharmacy Program in Clinical Pharmacy and Master of Science Program in Social, Economic and Administrative Pharmacy, were internationally assessed by the AUN-QA assessment for the assurance of academic standards. The assessment visit took place for two days at MUPY from February 4-5, 2020, in which a team of three assessors from the ASEAN region looked at the aforementioned MUPY's graduate programs and validated the claims in the Self-Assessment Reports vis-a-vis observed practices and facilities, existing relevant documents, and interviews with the program committees, faculty members, supporting staff, alumni, and stakeholders.

**February 6, 2020:** MUPY's executives led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suvatna Chulavattatol, MUPY's Dean, and Asst. Prof. Dr. Wichit Nosoongnoen, Deputy Dean for Education, attended the result session of the '174th AUN-QA Programme Assessment at Mahidol University'. Mahidol University's executives led by Prof. Banchong Mahaisavariya, Acting President of Mahidol University, the deans of the involved faculties, and faculty members also attended this session to receive the assessment result from Prof. Dr. Suzeini Binti Abd Halim, AUN-QA Council member, and the assessment team.

The AUN-QA assessment will certainly enhance the Faculty's reputation as well as strengthen its position among pharmacy schools in the ASEAN region. Furthermore, the AUN-QA quality stamp is a quality assurance symbol easily recognized and understood by other HEIs and prospective students in the region. The AUN-QA certification will facilitate the opening of more doors of opportunities for MUPY in terms of internationalization, networking, academic and research collaboration, faculty and student exchange, student internship, and many others. It also heightens our participation in the educational aspect of the ASEAN.



## MUPY IN ASPECT OF EDUCATION

### SPECIAL LECTURES FROM PARTNERS



**January 29, 2020:** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Usa Chaikledkaew, Director of Graduate Program in Health Technology Assessment (MU-HTA), along with faculty members hosted a reception for Dr. Jasmine Pwu, the Director of National Hepatitis C Program, Taiwan. She had been invited to visit MU-HTA Office located at MUPY to deliver special lectures to faculty members and graduate students. In the morning session, she gave the lecture entitled 'Economic Evaluation, HTA, and Policy Making - Some Reflections'. Then, she talked about 'Real World Evidence in Taiwan National Hepatitis C Program' in the afternoon session. The lectures were organized at the Meeting Room 401 located on the 4th floor, Pradit Hutangura Research Bldg., Faculty of Pharmacy, Mahidol University.

## Internationalizing Our Education

**January 29, 2020:** MUPY's Department of Physiology and NU's Biomedical Research Unit in Cardiovascular Sciences jointly organized the public lectures delivered by French speakers, namely Dr. Stephanie Barrere-Lemair and Prof. Dr. Joel Nargeot, from Universite de Montpellier, France. On this occasion, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wisuda Suvitayavat, MUPY's Deputy Dean for Finance, provided a warm welcome and gave an opening remark of the lectures which consisted of two topics. The first topic was 'A Novel Therapeutic Peptide Targeting Myocardial Reperfusion Injury' delivered by Dr. Stephanie Barrere-Lemaire. Then, Prof. Dr. Joel Nargeot talked about 'Two Different L-type Calcium Channels to Control Contractility and Heart Rate'. Also joined the lectures included MUPY faculty members and graduate students.



# MUPY RESEARCH PROJECTS

## PARTNER UP WITH LEADING COMPANIES



**May 15, 2019:** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suvatna Chulavatnatol, MUPY's Dean, along with Mr. Moh Mang Ng, BASF (Thailand) Limited's Managing Director, Prof. Dr. Varaporn Junyaprasert, MUPY's Director of Dermocosmetic Testing Center, and Mr. Jirawat Thongbai, Director of Care Chemical ASEAN, attended the MOU signing ceremony to sign the mutual agreement aiming to academically collaborate on education and research and development focusing on cosmetic sciences. Having been held at MUPY's Room 606, this MOU also aimed to strengthen the cosmetic curriculums of pharmacy students both in undergraduate and graduate levels. In addition, the research network between the government organization and private sectors will be promoted through this collaboration to be beneficial to Thai consumers and research in cosmetic sciences.



**July 25, 2019:** Mahidol University's Faculty of Pharmacy organized MOU signing ceremony with Betagro Public Company Limited. The MOU aimed to promote a research collaboration on development of new innovative product. Regarding this, MUPY's executives led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suvatna Chulavatnatol, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mullika Chomnawang, Deputy Dean for Research & International Relations, and Asst. Prof. Dr. Veerawat Teeranachaideekul, Assistant Dean for Innovation and Technology Transfer, joined the ceremony and signed the MOU with Betagro's executives. Also, the event was officially witnessed by MUPY faculty members and Betagro's personnels.



**August 7, 2019:** Mahidol University's Faculty of Pharmacy, led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suvatna Chulavatnatol, MUPY's Dean, officially signed MOU with CPF Food Research and Development Center Co., Ltd., represented by Mr. Sommai Techasirinukul, Deputy Senior Manager. The MOU mainly aims to promote a research collaboration on food innovation for health. The event was also witnessed by MUPY faculty members and CPF Food Research and Development Center's personnels. Regarding this, Dr. Pagakrong Wanapaisan delivered a special talk focusing on 'Trends of World Food Innovation'. Furthermore, faculty members from Department of Food Chemistry led by Dr. Pattamapan Lomarat joined the exhibition under the theme 'Food Innovation for Health'.

In addition, for our Faculty's research and development, we have started collaboration and MOU signing with many companies such as FIREX PHARMA (signed on February 13, 2020) and TOP GROWTH Company (signed on March 31, 2020). We are trying to do the research on 'Cannabis' in order to extract them for medical purposes.

## Sharing Experiences with the World

**June 12, 2020:** Assoc. Prof. Surakit Nathisuwan, Deputy Dean for Planning and Quality Development, officially joined an international webinar on “Pharmacy Education Response to Covid-19: Know What to Do and Be Prepared” as an invited speaker. The webinar was hosted by Gadjah Mada University’s Faculty of Pharmacy and was globally broadcasted via Zoom system to its international participants.



## Establishing New & Strong Connection

**January 28, 2020:** Prof. Dr. Agung Endro Nugroho from Gadjah Mada University (UGM), Indonesia officially visited MUPY to sign the MOU aiming to promote mutual exchange of faculty, staff and student, engage in joint research projects, foster the exchange of academic publication and information and promote other academic activities. Furthermore, there was a talk about the future collaboration in areas of Health Technology Assessment (HTA) and Social, Economic and Administrative Pharmacy (SEAP).



## Partner up with USP funded by USAID

**February 24-26, 2020:** As official delegation representing MUPY, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Satit Putipipatkachorn and Prof. Dr. Leena Suntornsuk actively took part in the launch event and technical workshops of the “Promoting the Quality of Medicines Plus (PQM+)”, a 5-year, \$160 million USD cooperative agreement led by the United States Pharmacopeia (USP) and funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The event was held at the United States Pharmacopeia’s headquarter in Rockville, Maryland, USA during February 24-26, 2020.

The roles of Mahidol University are to provide technical assistance on Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP), regulatory science of medicinal products, quality control and quality assurance, antimicrobial resistance surveillance and management. The expected targets of our coverage are LMIC countries in Asia. This project will help increase Mahidol University’s international visibility especially in the area that threaten the issue of global health like quality of medicinal products and antimicrobial resistance. In addition, another key benefit is to increase the capacity of the university to be able and eligible to secure USAID funding directly in the future after the completion of the PQM+ program.



## Congratulations to our exchange students!



**January 29, 2020:** Asst. Prof. Supatat Chumnumwat attended the exit presentation and evaluation conducted by two exchange students from Meiji Pharmaceutical University, Japan. The exchange students visited MUPY to conduct their clinical internship program commencing from December 9, 2019, and ending on January 29, 2020, at MUPY and affiliated hospitals. In addition, the objectives of the internship program were to provide the students an opportunity to experience a clinical pharmacy practice and healthcare system in Thailand as well as to foster students' capacities, social skills, and global citizenship.

**March 13, 2020:** Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mullika Chomnawang, MUPY's Deputy Dean for Research & International Relations, presented a Certificate of Attendance to three Pharm. D. students from College of Pharmacy, the University of Illinois at Chicago, USA. This event also marked the completion of their clinical rotation in Thailand. The students visited MUPY to undertake their clerkship at the affiliated hospitals during February 17 - March 13, 2020.



**February 27, 2020:** Asst. Prof. Dr. Piyatip Khuntayaporn and Dr. Krisada Sakchaisri attended the exit presentation delivered by three Laotian pharmacists who had participated in the 2020 training program in Technology of Medicine and Public Health for Health Personnel from Lao People's Democratic Republic initiated by HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn. They gave the presentation focusing on what they learned and practiced at MUPY as well as external apprentice sites. Also, they gave MUPY some feedbacks for further program improvement. After that, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suvatna Chulavatnatol, MUPY's Dean, delivered a certificate to them and gave a farewell speech to mark their completion of the training at MUPY.

The training program was initiated by HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn and has continuously been provided on an annual basis under a collaboration of the Royal Office, MOFA's Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA), and Mahidol University's faculties. In 2020, the pharmacy training program was officially carried out during January 29 - February 28, 2020. The objectives are 1) to increase the knowledge and skills in health promotion and prevention, 2) to strengthen and develop the public health, and 3) to exchange knowledge and experiences in the development of medical technology and public health.

## Congratulations to our trainees!





### HAVING STRATEGIC PLAN WITH THE COUNCIL



**January 16, 2020:** MUPY's executives and faculty members welcomed His Excellency Clinical Professor Emeritus Piyasakol Sakolsatayadorn and his team for the Council Visit in 2020

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suvatna Chulavatnatol, Dean of Faculty of Pharmacy, presented what projects and activities have been successfully performed from 2016 until present. Furthermore, they discussed the Faculty's strategic plan in education, research and academic service activities. His Excellency Clinical Professor Emeritus Piyasakol Sakolsatayadorn also delivered the suggestion for the progress of the faculty in the future.

### HELPING ENHANCE THE SMEs COMPETITIVENESS

**February 28, 2020:** Faculty of Pharmacy, Mahidol University and Thailand Center of Excellence for Life Science (TCELS) organized a conference of 'Elevation of Cosmetics Standard to Improve the Quality, Safety, and Efficiency of Cosmetics.' Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wisuda Suvitayavat, Deputy Dean for Finance, delivered the opening speech. This project aimed to enhance the competitiveness of the entrepreneurs to have the right knowledge as well as to heighten up the products' standard. This will definitely bring the opportunity to our SMEs both in ASEAN and international markets.



### WELCOMING MISS THAILAND AND MISS INTERNATIONAL



**January 15, 2020:** Faculty of Pharmacy had welcomed Miss Sireethorn Leearamwat, Pharm. D., who has crowned Miss Thailand 2019 and Miss International 2019-2020. She was an alumni of MUPY (Rx44). Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suvatna Chulavatnatol, Dean of the Faculty, presented the flower to our Miss Thailand and Miss International for the warm welcome. During the visit, she delivered a speech about 'Inspiration to Success' for the undergraduate students.



# International Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE) <sup>MUPY</sup>

@ Mahidol University's faculty of Pharmacy

## MODULE 1: STUDENT MOBILITY PROGRAM

- An opportunity to explore Thailand's pharmacy education and healthcare system
- Up-to-four-week exchange program with integrated activities including lectures, labs, site visits, and social events
- Foster students' professional knowledge, cross-cultural skill, and other essential competencies
- Registration fee: 100 USD

## MODULE 2: RESEARCH TRAINING IN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCE

- A lab-based practice/internship with preferred research interest/topic/MUPY's research cluster
- At-least-three-month internship or training program under an intensive supervision of MUPY's advisors
- Mainly nurture students' research skill, critical thinking, and communication skill
- Registration fee: 200 USD

## MODULE 3: PROFESSIONAL ROTATION IN CLINICAL PHARMACY

- A clinical-focused practice/internship at affiliated hospitals and apprenticeship sites
- At-least-three-month rotation under an intensive supervision of sites' preceptors
- Fully strengthen students' clinical pharmacy perspectives
- Registration fee: 200 USD

- Note:
1. Registration fee is waived for partner institutions under MoU/MoA
  2. Living cost, accommodation, airfare, travel insurance, and additional expenses are fully covered by each student
  3. Home institutions are responsible for selecting qualified students

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## ACADEMICS & ADMISSION

### GRADUATE PROGRAM

The Faculty is expanding its graduate programs to produce qualified pharmacists and pharmaceutical researchers with up-to-date knowledge and skills to work ethically in various pharmaceutical areas. These graduate programs and research activities are strengthened by collaboration with many international academic institutions and agencies worldwide. The shared expertise enables the Faculty to continue its role as one of the leading educational research institutions in Southeast Asia.

Since its first Master program in 1975, our graduate study programs have grown considerably and have now become known as the best graduate programs among the Faculties of Pharmacy in Thailand. Currently, the Faculty offers all international graduate programs in various fields ranging from pharmacy practice, and pharmaceutical sciences to related biomedical sciences.

### MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM

- Master of Science in Pharmacy Programs**
- Clinical Pharmacy
  - Pharmaceutics
  - Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Phytochemistry
  - Pharmacology and Biomolecular Science

- Master of Science Programs**
- Biopharmaceutical Sciences
  - Health Technology Assessment
  - Nutraceuticals and Functional Foods
  - Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Phytochemistry
  - Phytopharmaceutical Sciences
  - Regulatory Science for Pharmaceutical and Health Products
  - Social, Economic and Administrative Pharmacy

### DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAM

- Programs**
- Biopharmaceutical Sciences
  - Clinical Pharmacy
  - Health Technology Assessment
  - Pharmaceutics
  - Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Phytochemistry
  - Phytopharmaceutical Sciences
  - Social, Economic and Administrative Pharmacy

For more information, please contact  
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