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Editor Maneepin Phromsuthirak

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International Journal is published in January and June by Silpakorn University. The journal features articles and research notes/articles in the fields of Art and Design, Science and Technology, and the Social Sciences and Humanities. Its aim is to encourage and disseminate scholarly contributions by the University's faculty members and researchers. Well researched, innovative works by other scholars are welcome. A review committee consisting of academic experts in the relevant fields will screen all manuscripts, and the editorial board reserves the right to recommend revision/alteration, if necessary, before their final acceptance for publication.

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Editor's Column

The second issue of Silpakorn University International Journal (SUIJ) is a collection of articles and research reports from all disciplines of the University. The articles, from this volume on, are arranged into three categories: Arts; Humanities and Social Sciences; and Sciences.

In the Arts Column of this issue, the first article traces the development of Thai contemporary art in depth from the reign of King Rama IV, while the second is from the University- awarded research report on Thai-Mon Vernacular Houses, in which it is denoted that the relationship between socio-cultural factors and architectural significance makes the vernacular Thai-Mon houses interesting.

Five articles appear in the Humanities and Social Sciences category. The first investigates conflicts and intrigues of the Ayutthaya court through the study of Dutch and French documents. It is followed by an account of French missionaries in the second half of the 17th century, who tried their best, partly by composing and translating Siamese works, to fulfil their evangelizing role. The other two articles are on art history and archaeology. The first, only an abstract, is from the nationally awarded research on the Ayutthaya Chedi, the second presents new data from a recent archaeological excavation in the central part of Thailand. The experiences of German universities in building contacts with industry are related in this column for the contribution to higher education reform in Thailand.

In the Science category, the first paper shows how a biologist can help in the transport of commercial fish, while the second describes the effect of chitin and ethylcellulose on the release of propranolol hydrochloride from press-coated tablets.

The editorial board hopes that the journal will be regularly issued and with the combination and diversity of themes, SUIJ would contain much interest to all members of our readership.

SUIJ accepts any comments and contributions from scholars and researchers in all related fields. We hope that this international journal, though a non-specialized publication but with a peer review, will entice our academic colleagues to join us.

We acknowledge gratefully all contributors to this issue, and all the people who have assisted in the publication of the volume. Thanks to them all.

Maneepin Phromsuthirak