

**WACE WORLD CONFERENCE THAILAND CONCURRENT SESSION ABSTRACT
CONCURRENT SESSION B
TUESDAY JUNE 6 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM**

**CHIANGMAI ROOM 1
Session Chair: Patricia Lucas**

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

WORKSHOP

Title: "Accommodating Students with Disabilities within the WIL Framework"

Abstract: From 2011 to 2015, the number of students who registered with our "AccessAbility Services" at the University of Toronto Scarborough increased by 106%. Accommodating the needs of students with disabilities within a WIL framework can be a dynamic and challenging task which presents unique opportunities for practitioners, students and employers. The Co-op practitioners in partnership with the campus AccessAbility Office will draw upon a recent case study to share successes and lessons learned. This session will address methods for inclusion, accommodation planning, strategies and obstacles through various aspects of the WIL cycle from admissions through to evaluation of the work experience. Together we'll look at current trends and share possible solutions.

4:35 pm – 5:00 pm

PAPER PRESENTATION

Title: "Reason for choosing Cooperative Education Program of Humanities and Social Science Undergraduate Students at Chiang Mai University , Thailand"

Abstract: This research aims to study the factors that affect the decision to participate in cooperative education program of humanities and social science undergraduate students at Chiang Mai University (CMU) , Thailand in the 2015 Academic Year. The data were collected from the random sample of 218 third-year students who selected the cooperative education program as a part of their Bachelor's degree completion. This research used questionnaire as a tool and employed logistics regression for the data analysis. The results at the significance level of 0.05 indicate that the university entrance method and the amount of monthly expense of these students play a key role in their decision to undertake cooperative education program. Specifically , female students who were admitted to CMU through the quota system and have a monthly expense of 5,001-4,500 baht supported by their parents whose total income is around 11,167 baht/month are found to be the majority who selected cooperative education program as a valuable work- integrated learning experience in their undergraduate years. Details of factor will be discussed in the presentation and it will propose a model for describing the factors affecting the students' selection of cooperative education program.

CHIANGMAI ROOM 2
Session Chair: Jude Smith

3:30 - 3:55 pm

RESEARCH PAPER (DISCUSSION)

Title: "Career Education at the University of Cincinnati"

Abstract: In the summer of 2015 the Office of the Provost at the University of Cincinnati appointed a task force to plan the implementation of a campus-wide Career Education Program. The Provost's charge was to create a plan to restructure and better integrate the delivery of Career Education at the University.

The task force worked over the academic year returning a report that articulated a shared university wide career education vision. The report mapped out the support structures needed to facilitate a successful transition of students all the way from admissions, through experience-based learning to a chosen post-graduate occupation. The report resulted in the July 1, 2016 merger of the career services and the experience-based learning function of the University forming the Division of Experience-Based Learning and Career Education. Division Administration has over the fall of 2016 pursued listening sessions with individual UC Colleges, with the objective to support them in achieving campus-wide career education requirements. The paper discusses the efficacy of the integration of career services and experience-based learning.

4:00 pm – 4:25 pm

PAPER PRESENTATION

Title: "Enhancement of Student Employability: A Case Study of Mahapajapati Buddhist College, Thailand"

Abstract: The purposes of this research were to provide the strategies for future benefits of applying cooperative education with Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), cooperative education teachers and competitive advantages creation. Of particular interest was Faculty of Education, Mahapajabadhitheree Buddhist College (MBC) in Thailand. The mixed method research made use a five point Likert scale questionnaire for collecting data from 55 participants and intensive conversation with one key informant.

The findings provided five outstanding strategies as follows â (1) Create new products: HEIs can produce new products, strong disposition graduates, who are ready to work to meet the needs of users. (2) Differentiate products: Graduates can be different from various dimensions such as higher abilities to transfer knowledge and human capability into practice effectively, life-long learning, as well as increasing more competencies' needs for 21st century and globalization. (3) Enhance products: It is an improvement of the qualities of graduates in order to compete and match to the needs of the labor markets. (4) Develop sustainable alliances: This is the remarkable strategy. The cooperative education can share benefits and advantages effectively among HEIs, communities, public and private organizations. (5) Distribute products equally to workplaces: Cooperative education teachers were produced as a one effective way to solve the problem of lacking of teachers in backcountry, remote and borderland schools. Therefore, the author believes that those five outstanding strategies will be powerful means to drive and increase the quality of MBC as well as can be applied to other sectors effectively and efficiently.

4:30 pm – 4:55 pm

REFEREED PAPER (RESEARCH)

Title: "Evaluation of the Cooperative Education Students' Learning Outcomes in the 5 dimensions of Thai Qualifications Framework for Higher Education"

Abstract: The purpose of this study was to examine job supervisors and academic advisors' evaluations of the performance of Suranaree University of Technology (SUT) students in the workplace from the 2011 through 2015 Academic Year. The appraisal was done under the 5 dimensions of Thai Qualifications Framework for Higher Education (TQF: HEd). 8,027 and 8,041 SUT cooperative education students were rated by job supervisors and academic advisors, respectively. The secondary data were collected from the database of the Center for Cooperative Education and Career Development. The descriptive statistical was used for data analysis. The results of this study were as follows: 1) Job supervisors' rating: The ranking of TQF dimensions were ethics and moral; interpersonal skills and responsibility; knowledge; numerical analysis, communication and information technology skills; and cognitive skills, respectively. 2) Academic advisors' rating: The ranking of TQF dimensions were ethics and moral; interpersonal skills and responsibility; numerical analysis, communication and information technology skills; knowledge; and cognitive skills, respectively. From the findings, the similarity of rating from job supervisors and academic advisors were three dimensions, namely, ethics and moral; interpersonal skills and responsibility; and cognitive skills. The cognitive skills was ranked last. SUT should boost these skills to the next generation of cooperative education students.

CHIANGMAI ROOM 3
Session Chair: Karima Ramji

3:30 pm – 3:55 pm

PAPER PRESENTATION

Title: "Career prospect for communications students in the fast changing digital world"

Abstract: Communications is a fairly young industry in Vietnam with more than 20 years old when the country "open policy" started and foreign investment pouring in. In the first 10 years, the industry was just building up and was trying to catch up with international standard. The second half is even tougher. Not only it has been continuing to catch up with international standard, it also has to change to adapt with digital boom around the globe.

Millennials generation students in communications get confused in what career prospect will be best for them and will it be out of date when they graduated in this fast changing digital world?

My book "The Account story", based on my 20 year-experience in communications industry with international agencies in Vietnam, offers a helping hand. In the book I explain to them the role and future career prospect of a client service person. I reassure them the principles in client management are the same since the last 20 years and will still be same in the next decades. The only change they have to watch out is media platform. YouTube is king now in Vietnam instead of TV. What will be next to replace YouTube in the future? They need to anticipate the change. I use the book as a guide in class, together with the update from the industry network to arm students with new tools and technology so that they have work-ready knowledge and confidence.

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

PANEL

Title: "Partnerships in International Work Integrated Learning: The Western Digital Experience"

Abstract: Several WACE member institutions have partnered with Western Digital, a WACE member organization, to develop an exchange program that enables students from Canada, Australia and South Africa to embark on work integrated learning opportunities at Western Digital and HGST (a Western Digital Company) in Thailand. In exchange, partner universities place students from Thai universities in WIL terms in their respective countries. Institutions involved in this program include University of Victoria, Canada, RMIT Australia and Durban University of Technology, South Africa.

Come and learn about this unique program that enables students to engage in international WIL opportunities that help them develop into global ready graduates. This presentation will engage the audience in success stories and challenges relating to this program, from the perspective of post-secondary institutions and the employer, Western Digital and WACE-ISO. We will also discuss the benefits that employers perceive in hiring students from campuses around the world, thereby internationalizing their organizations.

CHIANGMAI ROOM 4
Session Chair: Roelien Brink

3:30 pm – 3:55 pm

REFEREED PAPER (RESEARCH)

Title: "Labour Market Needs and Graduate Competence: An Examination of the Gap between Employer Expectations and New Engineering Graduate Performance in Thailand"

Abstract: Nowadays, the private sector and globalization trend have been playing the dominant role in the world economy system. The Private sector expects graduates to possess a wide range of skills, competencies, and the ability to apply skills and knowledge in the workplace. However, there are many studies that show that the education and training systems do not produce graduates who meet the labor market needs. This study was conducted with the objectives of exploring and assessing the levels of employers' expectation and perception toward competencies of new engineering graduates in Thailand. To measure the levels of expectation and graduate performance, 639 employers rated the competencies of each new graduate using five-point Likert scales.

The results indicated that there were significant differences in the mean scores for expectation and performance. The mean values of the levels of expectation are higher than those of the engineering graduate performance in all aspects. That is, there is a substantial skills gap or mismatch within the labor force. To increase the employability through the graduate competencies, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) need to enhance learning experiences of students, shift graduate competencies, both hard and soft skills, with focused expertise in their field, as well as connect the real world of business. Cooperative Work-Integrated Education (CWIE) approach has been proven to

be one of the most effective choices to achieve this. This is important because the development of desired outcomes, generic and core competencies of graduates have been the target of HEIs in every country.

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

WORKSHOP

Title: “Preparing students for learning in professional settings through mobile technology”

Abstract: Developments in mobile technology offer many opportunities to enhance learning in professional settings. The affordances and affordability of portable and personal digital devices, such as smartphones, tablets and laptops, allow learners to synchronise and connect information and communicate across educational, professional and social spaces “ anywhere” and “anytime” . This has the potential to address some of the challenges students face during workplace learning (WPL), such as isolation or lack of quick and easy access to information, expert advice or peer feedback. However, navigating the cultural and technical pitfalls to seize these opportunities requires adequate preparation.

During this workshop, delegates will explore the use of mobile technology as a mediating tool for learning as well as the object of learning in WPL. Concrete examples of learning activities and resources designed to prepare students and workplace educators (WPEs) for WPL will be used to illustrate this discussion. In particular, the session will focus on the Mobile Technology Capacity Building Framework, a series of resources designed for academic teachers, WPEs and students to help students make better use of their personal mobile devices for learning across university and workplace spaces. This workshop will help delegates gain a deeper understanding of the cultural, professional and technical issues of the use of mobile technology and how to address them, as well as the roles and expectations of students and WPEs in and with mobile and digital technology.

CHIANGMAI ROOM 5
Session Chair: Jenny Fleming

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

WORKSHOP

Title: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY WORKSHOP

Abstract: This workshop is being offered to assist in helping the participants understand the fundamentals connected to research. The desired outcome for the participants will be a more solid basis to look at your research interests, practical pieces of advice of how to organize your research, identifying the mistakes that researchers often make that impact their research and results, and preparing the results so that they are both understand and accepted within the research community. Led by two veteran international researchers, this interactive workshop will provide ample opportunity for participants to ask questions. This workshop is intended for all levels of researchers including those developing an interest in starting to do research.