

## **Mr. William Jackson Denmark III**

St. Martin de Tours Award for Excellence in Performance (Third Class)

### **Citation:**

Mr. William Denmark obtained his BA degree in French from Greenville College and his MA. in French and English from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, USA in 1990. He first worked as a Teaching Assistant at Southern Illinois during 1983-1986, was then employed as an English teacher at University of United Arab Emirates during 1990-1991 and joined Assumption University on June 1, 1994 and has continued to work here up to now.

From time to time as we review the text materials used in the classrooms the teachers get different emotions and impressions and there are times when some one has strong feelings that a textbook is too arid or insipid and he is driven to strike out on his own and produce something that will make good sense and encourage and motivate learners. A situation like this probably compelled Mr. William to embark on the Turnabout Series, novels based on Thai culture and context and their use as texts in IBLE English II & III classes. To persuade students to write at some length, correct and revise the compositions and hammer them into the shape of a respectable book is indeed a tremendous effort. It is understood that several teachers from universities in Thailand and abroad have praised the idea of making students write short stories and novels as a unique and innovative approach to the learning of English as a second language. Currently two world renowned publishing companies have expressed an interest in pushing some of the novels for global distribution and this is bound to bring not only further recognition to Assumption University but result in spin-offs in the form of greater awareness of Thai arts and culture.

For the devoted services rendered and contributions made by him, the administrators are pleased to confer on Mr. William Jackson Denmark III the St. Martin de Tours Award for Excellence in Performance (Third Class) on this auspicious date of December 24, 2004.