

St. Montfort's Award St. Michael's Award St. Hilaire's Award St. Martin's Award St. Bernard's Award St. Thomas' Award



The First International University in Thailand

Presentation of

Au Awards for Excellence



# The 2000 Au Academic Awards

In recognition of greatness of spirit Shown in service to the university

Ordinary things done in extraordinary ways

Assumption University December 22, 2000

# **AU Academic Awards**

#### **Philosophy and Objectives**

"Those who have sacrificed their lives and time by their creative loyalty and positive contributions to the institution must be recognized, promoted and rewarded." So wrote Rev. Prathip Martin Komolmas in the *Faculty* and Staff Development Policies, July 22, 1993.

The philosophical underpinnings of the AU Academic Awards were simply that good deeds and achievements must be recognized and awarded. The President had often expressed his wish to establish academic awards as incentives for the academic community. Evaluation of job performance for this purpose was undertaken. After a considerable length of time, the administrators decided to introduce the awards. These awards aim to both reward for past performances and encourage future efforts. As a reward, it demonstrates our belief that those selected have met and surpassed the standards of excellence for the award given. The awards are also meant to encourage future efforts of not only the reward recipients but others who may take note that they, too, will be recognized for superior performance. The AU Academic Awards are granted periodically to those who met the selection criteria.

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#### The Six AU Academic Awards

Each award was named after an illustrious person found in Catholic Church history and also in memory of our predecessors who had worked long and hard to carry out their teaching mission. The general policies governing each award were laid down by the AU Academic Awards Committee in 1997. These policies are subject to review, re-interpretation and modification as may be called for. Except for the St. Montfort Award, the awards are given in three classes. The second and third class awards are meant to recognize mid-level and junior AU faculty and staff who have performed well above the norm as compared to their peer group. The awards are as follows:

Philosophy and Objectives

# St. Montfort Award Illustrious Service Award

The St. Montfort Award was named after St. Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort (1673-1716), the founder of the Brothers of St. Gabriel. He is our spiritual master who walked before us toward the Living God. Following in his footprints, we can proceed on a path to union with God. The Brothers of St. Gabriel in Thailand consider him to be a model for a religious life and for their educative mission.

This award is given for faithful, dedicated and outstanding services rendered to the University by senior administrators whose career spans more than 25 years.

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## St. Michael Award Public Service Award (First, Second, and Third Class)

The award was named after St. Michael the Archangel, the protector of the people of God.

This award also honors the name of Brother Michael, one of the 13 French Brothers who moved from Thailand to India during World War II. He was appointed master of novices at Eachinkadu, Yercaud, South India, tasked with the training of a number of senior Brothers of the Province of Thailand. The award comes in three classes and is given to University members who have provided academic and/or other significant services to society, and who have represented the University in academic and supporting activities that are acknowledged by the public. In so doing, they uphold and promote the University's reputation and stature.

## St. Hilaire Award Distinction in Writing Award (First, Second, and Third Class)

This award was named after St. Hilaire who was born at the beginning of the fourth century at Poitiers in France. He was a bishop and Doctor of the Universal Church.

Brother Hilaire was one of the first five pioneering Brothers to arrive in Thailand in 1901. He was a well-known educator at Assumption College, Bangkok. He mastered the Thai language so well that he became an unparalleled Siamese Linguist. He wrote Thai language manuals; the first of which, *Darun Suksa*, was considered by all as the very best source for the learning of the Thai language.

The award comes in three classes and is designated for those who achieved distinction through academic writings in the form of articles and books.

#### St. Martin Award Excellence in Performance Award (First, Second, and Third Class)

St. Martin of Tours, for whom St. Martin Award is named, was a Roman soldier raised in Italy. Finding God, he converted to Christ and became an unwilling soldier. Later he was a disciple of Hilaire of Poitiers and, still later, became the Bishop of Tours.

The award was also named in memory of Brother Martin de Tours, one of the five Brothers who first entered Siam on October 20, 1901.

This award is designated for lecturers and administrators: who discharged their duties and responsibilities conscientiously and superbly: who exhibited high standards of efficiency, excellence and quality in teaching, counseling, and duties such as composition of test materials, framing of examination papers and other academic related factors.

The award is also for non teaching staff who add to the University learning process.

## St. Bernard Award Special Merit Award (First, Second, and Third Class)

The award was named after St. Bernard (1090-1153), an abbot and later named Doctor of the Church. He was a Cistercian monk. He wrote profusely and movingly concerning the Lord Jesus, spirituality, the Scriptures, and the Blessed Mother.

The award also recognizes Brother Bernard Mary whose idea of adding a degree program to the existing Assumption Commercial College (ACC) program that eventually led to the establishment of ABAC and hence Assumption University.

This award is intended for University members: who exhibited special managerial skills; and who performed their tasks and assignments beyond the normal calls of duty such as initiating, restructuring or reengineering of programs for an office or department, or providing voluntary services for improving, upgrading systems and procedures, and participating in other artistic or scientific activities for the welfare of society.

# St. Thomas Award Research Award (First, Second, and Third Class)

The award was named after St. Thomas Aquinas in respect for his special talents that he devoted in full measure to the search for the Eternal Truth.

St. Thomas Aquinas was a great Dominican teacher (1225-1274). He traveled and wrote extensively. His two *Summas* should not obscure his other biblical, theological and philosophical writings. He dedicated his brilliant talents to the investigation of the sublime truth of God in the light of faith and the human intellect. He is the patron Saint of all Catholic schools.

This award is given to those who contribute through their research to the promotion, enhancement or the reputation and prestige of the University. Their research should result in publications, patents and/or other innovative materials or features.



# **Award Presentation**

and

# Felicitation on the President's Birthday and Christmas Greeting

December 22, 2000

# Programme

#### 08:45 Assemblage

#### 09:00 Arrival of the President

- Song: สดุดีอัสสัมชัญ
- Song: Assumption University Anthem

# Award Presentation Ceremony

- Report to the President
- The Announcement of the Awardees and Reading of Citations

# • St. Montfort's Illustrious Service Award

Dr. Chavalit Meennuch Mr. John F. Simmons Mrs. Wichanee Kuptawathin Mr. Pansiri Chantokul

• St. Hilaire Distinction in Academic Writing Award (3<sup>rd</sup> Class)

Dr. Veerachart Nimanong

• St. Martin's Excellence in Teaching Award (2<sup>nd</sup> Class)

Associate Professor Pornchai Soonthornpan

• St. Martin's Excellence in Teaching Award (3<sup>rd</sup> Class)

Dr. Suchada Chunsanit

• St. Bernard Special Merit Award (3<sup>rd</sup> Class)

Mr. Vivat Lauhabut

• St. Thomas Research Award (3<sup>rd</sup> Class)

Mr. Noppadon Kannika

- Awards Presentation by the President
  - Song: School of My life

## **Celebration of the Christmas Festive**

• Song: We wish You a Merry Christmas

#### **Celebration of the President's Birthday**

- Song: เฉลิมเกียรติอธิการ
- Speeches in English and Thai Poems to felicitate the President
- Presentation of bouquets to the President by Au representatives
  - Song: สุขสันต์วันคล้ายวันเกิด
  - Song: อวยพรวันเกิด

# Speech of Appreciation by the President

- Song: Let There Be Glory And Honor And Praises
- Song: สวัสดี

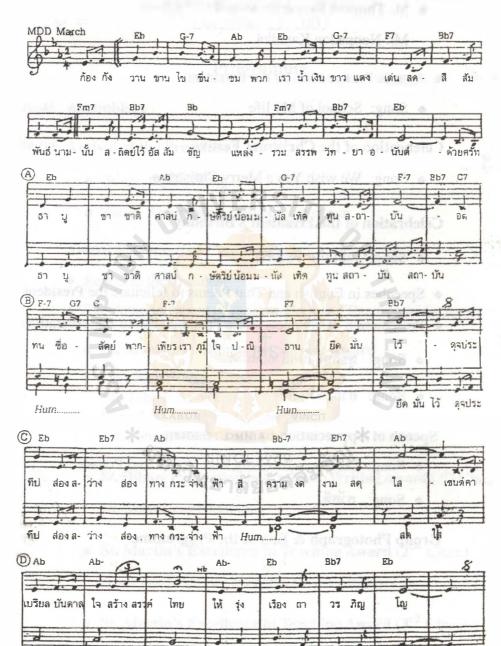
## Group Photograph & End of the Programme

สดุดีอัสสัมชัญ

ทำนอง

คำร้อง

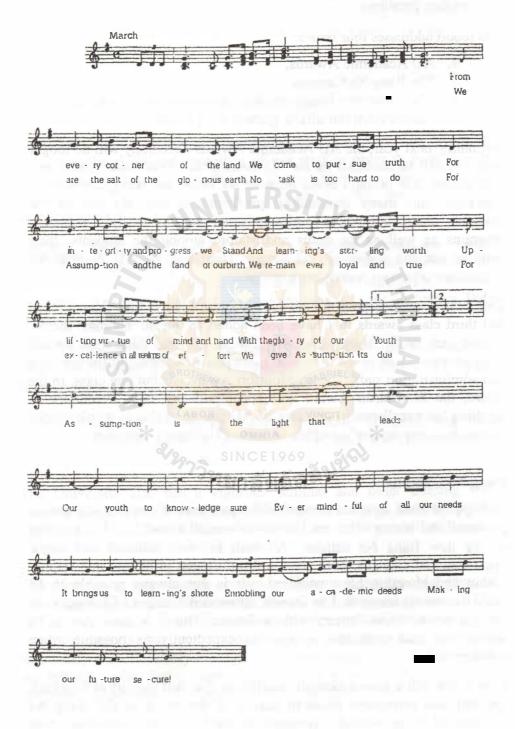
ชิลเดอร์บญเรือน หมั้นทรัพย์ วิลุทธิพร สันดศิริ แม่นรัดบ์ ศรีกรานบท์ เรียบเรียงเสียงประสาน : น.อ. วิระพันธ์ วอกลาง



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Assumption University Anthem

Lyric by	1	Thomas Khng
Music by	:	Lian Sek Lin
Arranged by	:	Capt. Veeraphan Vawklang



# Report

December 22, 2000

Rev. Brother President,

This report addresses four issues:

- 1. AU Academic Awards,
- 2. The Bang Na Campus,
- 3. The University human resource development efforts, and
- 4. International initiatives, growth and process.

Beginning next year, the AU Academic Awards Ceremony will no longer exist. It will be replaced by an AU Awards for Excellence Ceremony. This change was brought about because we know and recognize that the University has many outstanding professionals that are not in the academic chain, but whose duties enhance the University's academic programs as well as its status and stature among the students, their families and the community at large. Therefore, an AU Awards for Excellence ceremony seems more apropos.

This year's awards presentation will include, for the first time, second and third class awards that have been added to the St. Thomas, the St. Hilaire and the St. Martin awards. The second and third class awards were adopted so we could recognize more junior members of the teaching and administration staff. The St. Montfort Award has but one class. In the future, the St. Martin Award will encompass not only excellence in teaching but excellence in any area of AU operation that is worth special notice, be it any supporting office or area of University operation.

# **Bang Na Campus**

Perhaps the most significant event of the past year is one that will have a profound and lasting effect on University operation and life. The opening of the new Bang Na campus. As with all new ventures and major organizational changes, both seen and unforeseen problems that require action and attention have occurred. It is not always possible to be proactive on all issues and to foresee all needed changes. Change, even for the better, always meets with resistance. But it is necessary to be active and take corrective actions as expediently as possible when problems arise.

Due to the rather poor economic conditions that still prevail in Thailand, the full and permanent phase-in period of the move to the Bang Na Campus is being slowed. Because of the high costs associated with moving of laboratories and equipment, our current plans are to keep the engineering and science faculties and facilities at Hua Mak.

The new Bang Na Campus is still in need of additional infrastructure. A temporary sports complex and other amenities are needed in order to keep our students occupied when they are not in class, especially those who live in the residence halls.

## AU Human Resource Development Program

Regardless of the economic downturn, attention must be given to improving the skills and capacities of our staff in order to meet current and future needs and demands. As in past years, we have a strong, continuous and on-going program for human resource development, or people programs.

Currently, there are 8 faculty members studying abroad for master degrees, and another 20 for their doctorates. In Thailand, there are an additional 51 pursuing master degrees, and 19 others enrolled in doctoral programs. Another 18 are studying in joint programs for doctorates, both in and outside Thailand.

Two staff members are now pursuing their bachelor degrees, and 10 others their master degrees in Thailand. Two are studying for master degrees abroad.

In sum, there are 116 faculty members working on advancing their professional qualifications. In addition, 14 staff members are enrolled in degree programs both in Thailand and abroad.

The University also has a vigorous seminar and other training with industry programs. This year, we have sponsored 190 Faculty and 64 staff, or a total of 254 for these types of programs. These programs were conducted both in Thailand and abroad.

The University has recently begun a Human Resource Management Training program for department chairs and their assistants. This program is needed since most of our chairs and assistant chairs are technical experts, but lack managerial skills and know-how needed to efficiently and effectively manage their departments. This program will, we believe, also foster esprit de corps and a more cooperative spirit amongst and between our diverse faculties and departments.

#### International initiatives, growth and process

As we move ahead into the new century and millennium, our international programs and initiatives continue to grow in size, dimension, stature and importance. It will not be possible to report on all the activities and programs that are forging ahead, but I shall address a few.

As an international University, our non-Thai student population continues to rise with more than 1,100 degree-seeking students enrolled. The student exchange program continues to expand. This year we saw the largest group of Loyola students on campus -- 35 in all. We also reached a new high with 17 European students now studying on campus. In this environment, the teaching of and in English is imperative. Thus, the challenge to improve our English language programs becomes more intense and critical.

Visitors from all parts of the world continue to flock to AU. Many have made these stopovers because they have heard of our University, its beauty and its extensive academic programs. The internet is also becoming more active with inquiries concerning entry arriving from many parts of the world.

Our ties to China deserve special mention as they are growing in size and importance. This year, we awarded one of our rare honorary doctorates to Her Excellency Madame Chen Zhili. It was an impressive ceremony and, hopefully, will foster our Chinese-Thai cultural relationships.

## Conferences

Recently, AU held its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Thai TESOL SIG-LIT international conference with guest speakers arriving from the U.K., France, Hong Kong and Malaysia. This is an annual AU event that brings world class experts to AU where they not only deliver speeches, but also conduct work shops. These well-received work shops bring practical teaching techniques and methodologies to the attention of the participants.

The University also held Thailand's first International Conference on *In TECH* (Intelligence Technologies). This conference was held at the Bang Na Campus and featured world class researchers from NASA and a number of prestigious universities. Students were admitted free.

This past year, we forged a link with Nottingham University, one of the premier universities in the U.K. This program has great potential for enhancing AU's reputation and may well lead to joint MA/Ph.D. programs. Currently, three faculty members are studying for their Nottingham Ph.D.s in a rigorous, quality, low-cost program.

An agreement was also reached with the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, Texas. The University of the Incarnate Word has just opened a two-year associate degree program in China that is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) in the U.S. This agreement has the potential to bring to AU many of their Chinese graduates for their last two years of baccalaureate studies.

#### **Announcement of the Awardees**

#### 1. St. Montfort Award for Illustrious Service

Given to those who have more than 25 years of dedicated and distinguished service to the University

#### 1.1. Dr. Chavalit Meennuch

#### Citation:

Dr. Chavalit Meennuch has grown with the University from a university student assistant Registrar to university Ph.D. and Vice President for Administration. In addition, he is Secretary to the University Council. In recognition of his expertise, he was appointed to the Committee of Private Higher Education Institutions by the Cabinet. Over these many years of service, he has excelled at whatever he has been tasked to do.

He is more than a preeminent administrator, he is a role model well worth emulating. He is an educator and eclectic author of numerous published articles. Dr. Chavalit's dedication and loyalty to Assumption University can best be described by mentioning the fact that he has refused positions with other organizations that offered significantly more compensation and other benefits than does AU. Dr. Chavalit is indefatigable, witness his onerous work schedule and the myriad of activities he is engaged in, both within and without the University. He lectures and guest lectures at some of the most prestigious public universities in Thailand and represents Assumption University at numerous high level forums. For example, Dr. Chavalit was a special guest speaker on the topic of *Evaluation of Human Resource Development* at Mahidol University. He was also a special guest speaker to the Human Resource Development Center on the topic of *Creation and Operation of Organizational Culture*.

In all these many and varied activities, Dr. Chavalit Meennuch has brought great honor to himself and to the University to which he has dedicated his life and is most deserving to receive the St. Montfort Award for Illustrious Service.

#### 1.2. Mr. John F. Simmons

Citation:

Mr. John F. Simmons is the consummate professional, a true man for all seasons.

In his many years at AU, he has led the way in teaching, writing, administrating, researching and managing. Among some of his many firsts are: He was

The first Department Chair of Management in the MBA

The first Dean of the Faculty of Insurance

The first to write a lead article for the ABAC Journal

The first to develop the curriculum and to teach the Business Society and Government class to foreign students

The first to create, develop and teach the Foundation in Business course in the MBA

The first Director for International Affairs

Over the years, Mr. Simmons' diverse talents and University needs led him to teach at least 22 different undergraduate and graduate courses in the areas of general studies, finance, marketing and management.

He has contributed numerous articles in a variety of subject areas to the *ABAC Journal* and other publications. In addition, he has edited or ghost written for others, including Thai Ministers, Ambassadors to Thailand.

He is a sought-after speaker and has addressed the Young Speakers Club, the Toastmasters' Club, the Rotary Club, plus many other groups and organizations. He has been the major guest speaker at various seminars, concerning general management and comparative management.

Mr. Simmons has also conducted a number of pragmatic research studies aimed at improving the AU educational system. His recommendations and suggestions cover almost every phase of AU operations, teaching and administration. These researches and the insights gained have often led to changes that resulted in major cost savings and revenue enhancement.

In all these roles, Mr. Simmons has contributed in great measure to the development of the University and is awarded the St. Montfort Award for Illustrious Service.

#### 1.3. Mrs. Wichanee Kuptawathin

#### Citation:

Mrs. Wichanee Kuptawathin has over the years distinguished herself through teaching, writing, public service and administrating.

Mrs. Wichanee's teaching is well recognized not only in the University but beyond, witness her many appearances as guest speaker, and invitations to serve on various committees, both within and without the University. Her guest speaking appearances include those made at Mahidol University, the Thai Chamber of Commerce University, the Thai Ministry of Public Health and others.

Her writings include articles on Public Speaking for the *Home life Magazine*, a booklet supplement to Communication in Thai, and one for the Business Society and Government course. She also wrote a stage play, *Fate*; the proceeds derived from the play were given to His Majesty the King.

These and other accomplishments that span the decades have brought honor to Mrs. Wichanee Kuptawathin and to the University and thus she is awarded the St. Montfort Award for Illustrious Service.

#### 1.4. Mr. Pansiri Chantokul

#### Citation:

Mr. Pansiri Chantokul has a long distinguished and productive career in service to the University, to its students and to the community at large.

He has served as a physical education instructor and sports consultant. He holds the prestigious International Tennis Federation's Level 2 certification that attests to his ability and integrity. Those qualities allow him to officiate internationally sponsored tennis matches.

He held the Chair Umpire position for the Davis Cup Asian Oceania Zone, and took part as Chair Umpire for the 1994 and 1998 Federation Cup Tournament. He has also officiated other prestigious tournaments. Mr. Pansiri has served as the Director of Tournament for the AU Open Royal Crown Princess Cup Tennis Championships from 1997 to the present.

Mr. Pansiri was the AU swimming team manager of the 1996 University Games in which AU collected four gold, one silver and one bronze medal. He taught Tennis Officiating for the Thai Lawn Tennis Association and for the Thai Military Sports Department.

Through Mr. Pansiri Chantokul's teaching and coaching efforts, he has played a role in our student's development of a sound mind in a sound body *–Mens sana in corpore sano--* thus bringing great credit not only to himself but to the University to which he has served for more than twenty six years.

He is a welcomed addition to those who have been honored with the St. Montfort Award for Illustrious Service.

#### 2. St. Michael Award for Public Service

No one was awarded the St. Michael Award for the year 2000.

# 3. St. Hilaire Award for Distinction in Academic Writing (3<sup>rd</sup> Class)

#### Dr. Veerachart Nimanong

Citation:

Dr. Veerachart Nimanong has distinguished himself through his publications that are written in both the English and Thai languages. His writings have been published in a number of refereed journals. He has also contributed articles to the *ABAC Journal of Philosophy and Religions* now called *PrajNa Vihara: The Journal of Philosophy and Religion.* Moreover, Dr. Veerachart has undertaken a number of translations, including the book *The Path of Deliverance.* 

Some of Dr. Veerachart's works in English are:

 The Belief in Kamma and Rebirth in Thai Buddhism Test-Tube-Baby and Human Cloning: A Buddhist Approach

- Indian Buddhist Realism on the Concept of Human Being and Karma

Human Condition and the Need for Liberation

These publications have brought honor to Dr. Veerachart Nimanong and to Assumption University and the St. Hilaire Award for Distinction in Academic Writing (3<sup>rd</sup> Class) is given in recognition thereof.

# 4. St. Martin Award for Excellence in Teaching Award (2<sup>nd</sup> Class)

# 4.1. Associate Professor Pornchai Soonthornpan

Citation:

Associate Professor Pornchai Soonthornpan has distinguished himself by being a versatile flexible educator of law and related subjects. One mark of his teaching acumen is simply that his classes are very well attended, if not overflowing. He has carried an onerous work schedule and has taught a number of different Law courses, thus demonstrating his comprehensive knowledge of the field and his highly developed work ethic.

Associate Professor Pornchai's teaching roles extend beyond the University's classrooms. He has been very active in bringing to the public an awareness of Thai common law and practices, especially in the upcountry regions where too little attention to their needs is paid. An interesting and useful innovation of Associate Professor Pornchai is that he has prepared and presented special lectures to the parents of his faculty's students. This effort will, hopefully, spark the interest of both the parents and the students in the role of Law in a Democratic society. This will, undoubtedly, enhance and promote the reputation of the University and its Law Faculty within the Thai community. In addition to his University work schedule, Associate Professor Pornchai has also organized, prepared and delivered seminars on various legal topics for the public at large.

In recognition of Associate Professor Pornchai's professional, caring and innovative approach to the teaching of law, he is awarded the St. Martin Excellence in Teaching Award. (2<sup>nd</sup> Class).

# 4.2. St. Martin Award for Excellence in Teaching Award (3<sup>rd</sup> Class)

# Dr. Suchada Chunsanit

#### Citation:

Dr. Suchada Chunsanit is an expert in her field. She is one of the few that have consistently demonstrated those qualities and traits only found in ideal teachers. She is recognized by her students, her peers and her supervisors as a teacher par excellence. Her efforts to prepare, develop and bring into the classroom meaningful, up-to-date, comprehensive and comprehensible materials is truly exemplary.

Her preparation is reflected in her teaching style that is marked by professionalism, enlivening exploration of subject materials, and a capacity to motivate students to learn -- even those not predisposed to doing so.

One of the keys to Dr. Suchada's success is the empathy she has for students. Her care and concern is always on display both inside and outside the classroom. She is always available to meet with students and gives freely of her time to insure that those students seeking subject or personal advice receive it, regardless of the time.

In sum, Dr. Suchada Chunsanit is truly deserving of University recognition and is hereby awarded the St. Martin Award for Excellence in Teaching (3<sup>rd</sup> Class).

# 5. St. Bernard Award for Special Merit (3<sup>rd</sup> Class)

#### Mr. Vivat Lauhabut

Citation:

Mr. Vivat Lauhabut has distinguished himself through his many and varied activities that have led to improvement of operations under his control, and to enhancing the reputation of the University through his public service efforts that have bore fruit. Among a few of his accomplishments of note are:

- The initiation of a project: Application of Webbased Technology to English Teaching in Secondary Schools
  - University representative to initiate a telecommunications joint venture with IT Bangla Company and the setting up of an Internet Academy in Bangladesh
- Team leader for developing the University's Automated Library System
  - Took a lead position in developing Web-based information projects on behalf of the Royal Library, the National Cancer Institute and the Regional Police Departments.

In these and other efforts, Mr. Vivat Lauhabut has fully demonstrated that he is deserving and thus he has earned the St. Bernard Award for Special Merit (3<sup>rd</sup> Class)

# 6. St. Thomas Award for Research (3<sup>rd</sup> Class)

#### Mr. Noppadon Kannika

Citation:

Mr. Noppadon Kannika has distinguished himself as both the Director and Lead Researcher of ABAC-KSC Internet Poll Research Center. He also lends expertise and credibility to the Marketing Research Methodology course he teaches.

As Director of the ABAC-KSC Internet Poll Research Center, he has played an important role in its gaining of stature and status among the Thai media and decision makers who require information supplied by the ABAC-KSC polling data.

Among some of the research projects conducted by Mr. Kannika are:

A study of customer satisfaction regarding the services at Bangkok International Airport

A foreign tourist consumer study regarding their satisfaction with various Thai tourist attractions

A nation-wide health insurance study

A nation-wide hospital emergency room and trauma system study

An attitude study of foreign business persons in regard to the investment climate in Southeast Asia

Through these and other research efforts, Mr. Noppadon has brought great recognition to himself and to the University which he serves and is awarded the St. Thomas Award for Research (3<sup>rd</sup> Class).

# School of My Life

Words and Music Siripong Santivothin G D/G D7 G G D Em Cu G You teach me. You give me va - lue. You show me the G D Bm A7 D Am D Eni of hu - man with all of your faith. ways liv - ing B<sup>7</sup> C D<sup>7</sup> G G - dom and wis vir tue. D/G С Bm G Em Am - D With -out Dm/F A'/C Cm Gm Ebmaj7 D7 you how I can stand life on this earth of cha -05. on this Ebmaj<sup>7</sup> D<sup>7</sup> Dm/F G Gm

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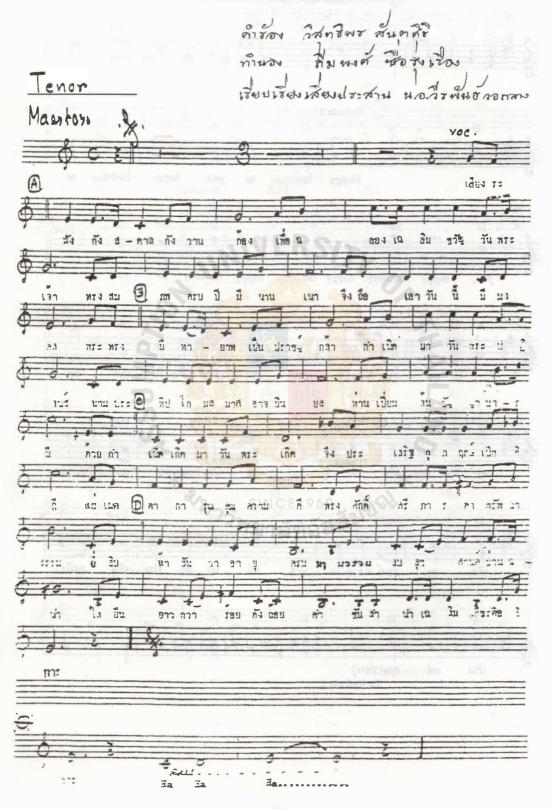
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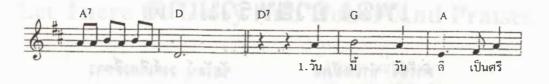


เลลิมเกียรคิงริกร



# สุขสันต์คล้ายวันเกิด

















To Refrain II

เพลง อวยพรวันเกิด

คำร้อง - ทำนองโดย

ชัยรัตน์ วงศ์เกียรดิขจร



# Let There Be Glory And Honor And Praises

Words and Music James and Elizabeth Greenelsh

Let there be glory and Honor and praises Glory and honor to Jesus Glory and honor Glory and honor to Him Glory and honor to Him

> Come into His presence With thanksgiving In your heart And give Him praise And give Him praise Come into His presence With thanksgiving In your heart Your voices raise Your voices raise Give glory and honor And power unto Him Jesus, the name Above all names (rep\*2 times) Give glory and honor And power unto Him

> > Jesus, the name Above all names Jesus

