

**Dr. Felix Erni**

Inducted Research Fellow

**Citation:**

Having qualified himself with a Doctor of Philosophy in English Literature from Zurich University in 1975 and a Full Professorship from the Swiss Department of Education in 1987, Dr. Felix Ernie arrived at Assumption University looking for new challenges in Higher Education teaching and administration. Noting that quest in Dr. Ernie, the then President of Assumption University, Rev. Bro. Prathip Martin Komolmas, with a vision to moving ABAC towards University status in 1990, assigned Dr. Ernie to plan and prepare the curriculum for six Business Language degree programs—English, French, German, Spanish, Arabic, and Chinese, between 1983 and 1985. Upon the completion of the curriculum and its approval by the then Ministry of University Affairs, Dr. Ernie was appointed as Dean of the newly created Faculty of Arts in 1988 to oversee the implementation of the curricula in Business English and Business French. Such programs had hitherto never existed. They came into reality through the academic expertise and ingenuity of Dr. Ernie. By 2002 there were only seven Business English programs in the world, according to a BBC Radio survey. Today, in Thailand Business English programs are mushrooming, based on the prior model of the Assumption University Business English curriculum. Nowhere else in Thailand is there a full fledged Faculty of Arts in Applied Business Languages in English, French, Japanese and Chinese.

The academic distinction achieved by Dr. Felix Ernie for innovativeness in curriculum design is commendable. Assumption University, with a deep sense of gratitude and pride, is pleased to induct Dr. Felix Ernie as Research Fellow on this auspicious date of December 24, 2009.