

**CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT LINKAGES PROJECT**

QUARTERLY REPORT

Year 1, Quarter 2: January 1, 1994-March 31, 1994

Date: April 30, 1994

Cooperative Agreement No. PCE-5063-A-00-3036-00

The highlight of the quarter was the visit to Khon Kaen University, February 19 to March 4, 1994 by a delegation headed by DR. Richard Zdanis, the Provost of Case Western Reserve University, which was reported in detail in the trip report submitted earlier to USAID. Delegation members were Dr. Vira Chankong of Systems Engineering at CWRU, the PI/PD; Mr. Hakon Torjesen of the CWRU Center for International Health, the Co-PI; Dr. Methi Wecharatana of Civil and Environmental Engineering at NJIT, the Co-PI; Dr. J. Lawrence Katz of Biomedical Engineering at CWRU; Dr. Janet Gottschalk, of Nursing at CWRU; and Dr. Richard Magee of the Hazardous Substance Management Research Center at NJIT.

The principal hosts were Dr. Vanchai Vatanasapt, the President of KKU; and members of the KKU UDLP Steering Committee: Dr. Suwit Laohasiriwong, VP for Foreign and Public Relations at KKU, Co-PI; Dr. Prinya Chindaprasert, VP for Planning and Development; Dr. Prakob Wirojanakud, Dean of Engineering; Dr. Somporn Phothinam, Dean of Medicine; Dr. Darunee Rujikiatkamchorn, Dean of Nursing, Dr. Sastri Saowakontha, Dean of Associated Medical Sciences; and Dr. Mongkol Danthanin, Director of the Research and Development Institute.

Accomplishments:

The intense week of meetings and activities accomplished:

1. the first joint meeting of the US and Thai Steering Committees;
2. development of detailed action plans for each component of the UDLP;
3. a formal inauguration ceremony of the UDLP, with extensive Thai media coverage;
4. substantial new commitments or expressions of strong interest among several funding agencies interested in the UDLP;
5. a pervasive enthusiasm among all concerned and a sense that the project was progressing on target for each objective, as summarized below.

Objective 1:

A BS curriculum for Biomedical Engineering was developed, along with a detailed plan for developing associated staff and lab facilities. The Biomedical

Engineering program will admit students beginning June 1994, with specialized courses beginning in June 1995. The initial teaching load will be staffed mainly by visiting CWRU faculty and partly by KKU faculty who will have received short-term training. Dr. Katz will give a two-week intensive course in Biomechanics and Biomaterials for KKU faculty in December 1994.

Objective 2:

The community health objective was organized into four separate clusters: a) a community health practicum for CWRU Nursing faculty; b) a KKU-CWRU community health training and research collaboration; c) a pediatric community health training and research collaboration; and d) a Medical Anthropology practicum and research collaboration. Each cluster involved separate faculty members from CWRU and KKU, with year one action plans for each cluster having been worked out. Numerous additional evolving visits in each direction were scheduled for the third and fourth quarters, funded either by the UDLP or by others.

Objective 3:

A five-year implementation plan was developed for faculty training in Environmental Engineering at NJIT and faculty exchanges between KKU and NJIT. The plan calls for training of 2 Ph.D. candidates, 3 MS candidates, and 4 scholars on short-term assignments. An NJIT faculty member will visit KKU annually to assist in running short courses and workshops. In addition, a long-term goal was adopted to develop a Center for Environmental Waste Management in Northeast Thailand.

Objective 4:

Core members of the KKU Creative Problem Solving group (CPS) were identified, including the President of University, and the first workshop on CPS and systems approach to problem solving was planned for July 1994. Four key groups at KKU doing solid work in the systems approach to problem solving were identified: the Clinical Epidemiology Unit of the Faculty of Medicine, the Farming Systems Research group of the Faculty of Agriculture, the Water Resources and Environmental Institute of the Faculty of Engineering, and the Management Science Program of the Faculty of Management Science.

Problems Encountered:

We were having some routine start-up problems with our internal administrative structure, during the second quarter, which we believe have now been resolved.

The issues of UDLP budget cut at USAID in general and of how the closing of the USAID mission in Thailand will affect our UDLP in particular have been a major concern, and have diverted a significant part of our focus and attention. We have

been spending considerable efforts in trying to ensure that this highly productive linkage would not need to be compromised.

Signature Vira Chue
Date: April 30, 1994

Name/Title: Vira Chankong, PI/PD