

# Appendix 1: Trip Report 1

Duration: November 22-25, 2005

Place: Laos PDR,  
Souphanouvong University, LP-PAFO, NAFcC, and LP-AFS.

Members: Archan Phrek Gymmatasiri  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Benchaphum Egasingh  
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Attachai Jintrawet

Objectives: 1. Assess the need for establishing a network of educators and researchers to conduct interdisciplinary research related to upland agriculture.  
2. Identify interested individual and organization for further collaboration.

## November 22, 2005

Time	Activity
11:30	Depart MCC, CMU by a pick-up truck with Mr. Lek (driver) for CNX airport Check-in at Laos Aviation counter.
14:05	Arrived at LPQ airport, Luang Phabang city, Laos PDR. Checked in at the Santi Villa Hotel.

## November 23, 2005.

Time	Activity
09:00	Left the Santi Villa Resort by the Minibus for Souphanouvong University (SU).



SU Main gate





Short visit to the President's Office

Dr. Khamphay Sisavanh  
(White shirt with a dark-colored necktie)

Dr. Vixay Chansavang, Vice-President for Academics (Suite and Tide facing the camera), and

Mr. Som-ock Phanthavong, Vice-President for Administration, Far-right

### **Current information about SU**

11/2003 Officially opened as the second regional University, the first one is Chumpasak University in the Southern Laos. The SU is mandated to serve eight northern provinces of Laos PDR. Current teaching staff is 80. SU currently located some 2 kilometer on the eastern side of the City on an area of about one ha. The new campus is under-construction, with loan from the Korean Government (12 Million US) and in-kind support from the Laos Government (5 Million US). The new campus is about 126 ha, located on highway 13 to Vietiene and due to open in 2007. The foundation stone will be laid on Saturday November 26, 2006.

Student 2003 = 550 admitted  
2004 = 700 admitted  
2005 = 825 admitted, with equal number of student for regular (0900-1600) and evening classes (1600-2100).

Semester First semester: October – February  
Second semester: February – August  
School break in September

Academic System Five years for Bachelor, 2+3 year. During the first two years, students complete similar basic core courses. The third and the fourth years complete the core course of each Faculty and than the last year is devoted to specific field of interest and field work.

Admission Three methods

1. Quota for the first 1-20 students from 8 provinces in the Northern Laos. The students do not pay tuition fees and receive a stipend of 70,000 Kip per month. There are about 100 students per year admitted to SU thru quota method.
2. Entrance examination for regular students from all over the country. Some 300 students are admitted, with 75,000 kip tuition fee per year.
3. Evening class students, some 400 per year admitted. Student pays 700,000 kip per year for tuition fee.

Faculty Currently, SU offers three academic faculties; namely, Agriculture, Economics, and Education.  
Agriculture offers two majors, crop production and animal husbandry at B.Sc. level  
Education offers three majors, Lao language, English language, Mathematics.  
Economics offers two majors, Economy and Business Production (การคุ้มครองธุรกิจ)

09:30 Met and discussed with staff 9 out of 11 staff of the Faculty of Agriculture Preparation Project



Mr. Bounlam Singpa  
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Mobile: (856-020) 781-1232  
Head of Faculty of Agriculture Preparation Project  
Graduated from มล. นาบง, Animal Science in 2003



Ms. Sangkham Phoncawen  
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Mobile: (856-020) 578-2300  
Graduated from มล. ดงโคก Forestry in 2004  
Teaches environment



Mr. Xoxiong Briatia  
รองหัวหน้าโครงการกะเทียมแผนการศึกษาระดับปริญญาโท  
Graduated from มล. นาบง Crop production in 2004  
Tel: (856-071) 212-127  
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Email: [S\\_Briatia@hotmail.com](mailto:S_Briatia@hotmail.com)  
Teach Genetics. Used to work with Dr. Prasit Jaisil at Khon Kaen University on sesame research.



Mr. Kisong Chasengsong  
Graduated from มล. นาบง ด้าน in 2003  
Teach Plant Physiology



Mr. Khamko Thammavong  
[khamko2006@yahoo.com](mailto:khamko2006@yahoo.com)  
Graduated from มล. นาบง Crop production in 2004  
Teach Statistics



Mr. Bounxian Phetlumphon  
[singphone@yahoo.com](mailto:singphone@yahoo.com)  
Graduated from มล. ดงโดก Forestry in 2004  
Teaches environment and ecology



Mr. Daovang Chanthakalor  
Graduated from มล. นาบง ด้าน... ปี 2004  
Teach Soil Science



Mr. ChanhThaVong LorChamYeux  
Graduated from มล. นาบง Agriculture in 2004  
Teach General Agriculture



Mr. Vilakone Noukhai Yong Kong Ji  
[y\\_kongji@yahoo.com](mailto:y_kongji@yahoo.com)  
Graduated from East China Normal University, Chemistry  
in 2000  
Teach Biochemistry  
Used to work with NGO



Dr. Vixay Chansavang  
ดร. วิไชย  
Vice President for Academic Affairs



ดร. ยี่หล่อ  
Head of Administration and Academic office  
M.S. and Ph.D. from CMU, Physics

Curriculum Agriculture:  
Third year: First semester 10 subjects, Second Semester 11 subjects in Agriculture  
Fourth year: First semester 11 subjects, Second Semester 11 subjects in  
Agriculture  
Fifth year: First semester students majoring in crop production and animal  
husbandry study 7 and 6 subjects, respectively. Second semester is designed for  
students to gain experiences from field work in either Government or private  
organizations

- On-the-job training by teaching staff from the National University of Laos from VTN provide special tutorial sessions for teaching staff during August
- No transportation for students to gain experiences.
- Staff need additional training in the following fields;
  - Fish breeding for small household in northern Laos.

- Diseases of small animals.
  - Crop variety improvement, both field crops and horticultural crops, esp. rice, maize, cucumber, and vegetables.
  - Fruit crops, i.e., tangerine, ที่ลาวมีส้มหน้ามาก and coffee.
  - Integrated pest management.
  - Archan Phrek suggested that the teaching staff should try to include contents of local agricultural systems and gradually expand to cover eight provinces in Northern Laos. The logical strategy is to assign each student to carry out survey of their hometown agricultural systems.
  - In conclusion: MCC will
    - Support 1-2 staff to participate in March 2006 planning workshop in Chiang Mai.
    - Support 11 staff to participate in study tour at MCC, CMU in September 2006 for 2 weeks. The group will take a slow-boat trip along Mekong River from Luang Phabang, Bo Kaew, Chiang Kon, and then on the road to CMU.
- 13:30 Visited the Computer Lab and Library. Some 40 computer facilities are donated by CMU to the lab, with LAN connection. A room is equipped with computer facilities and MODEM to dial-up internet service to LaoTelecom. The library is small and stored a few books in English, Laos, and Thai languages. During the afternoon tour, we noticed campus clean-up and flower-bed planting by students.
- 18:00 Dinner with Mr. Houmchitsavath SODARAK at a restaurant along Mekong River close to his home
- 21:00 Back to Resort with Mr. Houchitsawan's truck
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## Plan of Study (Faculty of Agriculture)

Year 1	Semester 1		Semester 2	
	Lao Language	3	Lao Study 1	2
	Foreign Language	2	Foreign Language 1	2
	Study Skills	1	Philosophy	2
	Environments	1	Computer 1	2
	Mathematics 1	3	Mathematics 2	3
	Physic 1	3	Physic 2	3
	Biology	4	Chemistry 1	3
	Total	17	Total	17

Year 2	Semester 1		Semester 2	
	Lao Study 2	2	Introduction to Economic	2
	Foreign Language	2	Foreign Language 1	2
	Introduction to Mgt	2	PY	2
	Botany	3	AC	2
	Chemistry 2	4	Chemistry 3	4
	Biology 2	3	Biology 3	4
	Statistics	2		
	Total	18		16

Year 3	Semester 1	Credit (Hour)	Semester 2	
	Computer 2	2 (48)	Computer 3	1
	Foreign Language 5	3 (64)	Foreign Language 6	3
	Rural Economic	2 (48)	Social Rural	2
	Soil Science 1	3(64)	Soil Science 2	3
	Climatology and Hydrology	2 (48)	Plant Disease	3
	Biometry	2 (48)	Ecology	3
	Biochemistry	3 (64)	Agro-General	2
	Physiology Animal & Plant	2 (48)	Applied stat. exp. Design	3
	Applied Genetics	2 (48)	Farm work	1
	Farm Work	1 (32)		
	Total	22 (512)		21

Year 4	Semester 1		Semester 2	
	Computer 4	1 (32)	Computer 5	1
	Foreign Language 7	3 (64)	Foreign Language 8	3
	Agribusiness	2 (48)	Plant protection	2
	Cropping Systems	2 (48)	Land use & Soil mgt	2
	Plant breeding & selection	2 (48)	Farming systems	2
	Animal raising systems	2 (48)	Agrarian systems	3
	Rural development & Ext.	3 (64)	Agro Irrigation	2
	Agricultural policies	2 (48)	Animal disease	2
	Agricultural machinery	2 (48)	Seminar & Report writing	1
	Farm work	1 (16)	Animal nutrition	2
	Total	22 (512)	Proj. Planning & Mgt	2
			Farm work	1
			Total	22

Year 5	Semester 1 (Animal)		Semester 2	
	Computer 6	1	Final Report	6
	Foreign Language 9	3		
	Clinical Veterinary	2		
	Animal Products inspection	2		
	Ruminants	2		
	Swine Production	2		
	Poultry	2		
	Aquaculture	3		
	Pharmacology	2		
	Animal Production Processing	2		
	Option. Frog culture	2		
	Farm work	1		
	Total	24		177

Year 5	Semester 1 (Agronomy)		Semester 2	
	Computer 6	1	Final Report	6
	Foreign Language 9	3		
	Seed Technology	2		
	Post. Harvest Technology	2		
	Horticulture	2		
	Cereal Crops	3		
	Economic Crops	2		
	Agro CE Processing	2		
	Plant CE Inspection	2		
	Farm work	1		
	Total	20		173

## November 24, 2005

Time	Activity
10:00	PAFO pick-up was sent from Mr. Bounthanh's office to take three of us from the Resort to PAFO's HQ, located between the Resort and LPQ downtown.



อ.เบญจพรพรณ Mr. Boonthanh Keoboulapha, อ.พฤษ  
ถ่ายภาพหน้าห้องการ PAFO (Provincial Agricultural &  
Forestry Office)

Mr. Boonthanh Keoboulapha  
Graduated from CMU, AGS  
program in 1999. Thesis work  
with Dr. Attachai on upland  
rice and intercropping.

Mr. Boonthanh Keoboulapha  
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10:30	<p>Mr. Bounthanh provided an overview of the Luang Phabang PAFO's, Provincial Agricultural and Forestry Office, organizational structure and responsibility. The LP-PAFO is a provincial level administrative arm of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), reporting to the Governor of Luang Phabang and MAF. LP-PAFO office consists of seven sub-units; namely, Crop, Livestock, Forestry, Irrigation, Extension, Meteorology, and Administration, with some 132 staff. Heads of Forestry and Extension are M.S. degree holders, the rest are B.Sc. holder. LP-PAFO is responsible for information dissemination to local farmers and producers in Luang Phabang province, covers an area of 1.2 Million ha in 11 towns; namely, Nambak, Neoi, Parrow, Pak Keih, Ving Kham, Chom pet, LPB, Phon Xay, Xie, Phou Khoun, and Nan. At the township level, LP-PAFO has its office calls DAFEO (District Agriculture and Forestry Extension Office), responsible for extension of information for specific district, with a total of 300 staff in Luang Phabang province.</p>
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Mr. Bounthanh expressed his interests in upland agriculture education and training for his staff in LP-PAFO and other provinces in Laos PDR. Although the Government, under supports from various agencies, is encouraging local upland people to reduce areas under slash-and-burn<sup>1</sup> practices, the people live in the upland areas and rely on agriculture need array of knowledge to deal with new challenges. However, most of these activities are still isolated initiatives, without common strategies, practices, or philosophies. The activities undertaken under CMU, with the Rockefeller's support, was planned to provide a forum for reviewing progress, sharing existing programs and experiences, and planning and coordinating future directions in upland agriculture education and training. It's a timely project.

<sup>1</sup> NOTE: Slash-and-burn, a symbol of backwardness and an absolute environmental evil, is denounced notwithstanding most empirical evidence as the principle cause of deforestation. Left unmentioned is the monopoly over timber exploitation, countrywide, divided into three holdings controlled by the Lao military.



10:45 Mr. Houmchitsavath joined the discussion and gave overview of NAFReC.



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Director, NAFReC (Northern Agriculture  
and Forestry Research Centre)  
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NAFReC is the research arm of Department of Agriculture, MAF in the northern Laos PDR. NAFReC covers eight Northern provinces of Laos PDR. It carries out research in all aspects of crop, livestock, fisheries, irrigation, and forestry, suitable for local conditions and people in the areas.

Mr. Houmchitsavath also expressed similar interests and concerns as Mr. Bounthan regarding upland agriculture education and training.

14:00 With the pick-up provided by LP-PAFO's, the group visited the Luang Phabang Agriculture and Forestry school at Ban Nam Xian (ນ້ຳເຂີ້ຍິງ), some 20 kilometer north of Luang Phabang city on the highway to Udomxay city. Mr. Thongsamot is a former student of AGS program at CMU and currently is the Deputy Director of the School. He's out-of-office.

## November 25, 2005

Time	Activity
08:00	Depart for Chiang Mai, Thailand.

### End of Trip Report 1 .....