

SEAMEO RETRAC



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International Conference 2019

Quality Management in Higher Education:
Responding to Change with Global Trends

Ho Chi Minh City, July 4 - 5, 2019



**SOUTHEAST ASIAN MINISTERS OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATION
REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER
(SEAMEO RETRAC)
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Pre-Conference Training Workshop on “Capacity Building in Higher Education Leadership and Management”

In line with the International Conference on “Leadership and Management in Higher Education: Driving Change with Global Trends”, SEAMEO RETRAC has collaborated with British Columbia Council for Higher Education (BCCIE), Capilano University and College of the Rockies, Canada to conduct a Pre-Conference Training Workshop on “Capacity Building in Higher Education Leadership and Management” on July 3, 2019 at the Center’s premises.

Participating in the training workshop were leaders and senior administrators from different universities and colleges in Ho Chi Minh and its nearby provinces. The workshop was fully attended with



35 participants who has been provided with plenty of opportunities to be updated with current and innovative practices in

International Conference on “Leadership and Management in Higher Education: Driving Change with Global Trends”

On July 4-5, 2019, in collaboration with British Columbia Council for Higher Education (BCCIE), Canada and under the sponsorship of Queens College – CUNY in the USA and Capilano University in Canada, SEAMEO RETRAC organized the International Conference on “Leadership and Management in Higher Education: Driving Change with Global Trends”. There was the presence of representatives coming from the Consulate General of Canada, the Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia, and The Royal Thai

Consulate General, as well as leaders of the Japan Foundation for Cultural Exchange in Vietnam and The HEAD Foundation in Singapore.

Moreover, the Conference welcomed the attendance of two keynote speakers who were Ms. Sherri Bell, President and CEO of Camosun College cum Director of Board of Directors of BCCIE, Canada, and Prof. Paul Dangerfield, President, Capilano University, Canada and 18 respectful presenters from different countries. Throughout two days of the Conference, 100 participants coming from Australia, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Netherlands, Singapore, Thailand, the USA and Vietnam were provided with ample opportunities to listen and be involved in dynamic discussions of

insightful presentations.

The two-day Conference focused on exploring and discussing issues related to institutional autonomy in higher education, quality assurance and accreditation, increasing employability of graduates from higher education, industry 4.0 and

higher education-leveraging the fourth industrial revolution for mutual benefit. The Conference once again was a global platform for intellectual exchange among educational leaders, academicians and professionals in related areas of higher education from all over the world.



50th SEAMEO Council Conference in Jakarta, Malaysia

The Ministry of Education, Malaysia in collaboration with SEAMEO Secretariat, hosted the 50th SEAMEO Council Conference on July 22-25, 2019 at the Sunway Hotel Resort and Spa in Malaysia. The three-day conference was attended by more than 160 participants comprising of the Ministers of Education and high officials from 11 SEAMEO Member Countries, representatives from SEAMEO Associate Member Countries, Affiliate Members and 26 SEAMEO Regional Centers, as well as SEAMEO partners such as the UNICEF and UNESCO Bangkok. At the Conference, H.E. Dr. Maszlee Malik, Minister of Education, Malaysia, was unanimously elected the SEAMEO Council President (term 2019 – 2021).



High on the agenda of the 50th SEAMEO Council Conference were ongoing discussions relating to education policy and development across Southeast Asia including:

- The Implementation of Activities under the 7 Priority Areas (2015-2035) of SEAMEO Education Agenda;
- Progress Report on the SEAMEO Strategic Plan (2011-2020) and the development of the Post 2020 SEAMEO Strategic Plan;
- SEAMEO Inter-Centre

Collaboration Programmes and Projects 2018-2020; and

- Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics (SEA-PLM).

Also at the Conference, Ms. Le Thi Hang, a senior staff of SEAMEO RETRAC, was presented the SEAMEO Service Award, a recognition and appreciation to staff members of SEAMEO Secretariat and SEAMEO Units who demonstrates high levels of work performance, innovation, creativity, professionalism and commitment to the organization.

The Graduation Ceremony of the Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics Program Intake 16

On August 14, 2019, Curtin University and SEAMEO RETRAC jointly organized a graduation ceremony for 34 students of the 16th Intake of the Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics Program. The program has so far recruited approximately 700 candidates throughout 18 intakes. The 18th Intake just commenced recently in July 2019. The 19th Intake will continue to recruit students and commence in July 2020. This is a successful training program with 610 graduates, effectively contributing to the development of human resource for English language teaching in Vietnam and the South East Asian region.



On this occasion, a seminar titled "Engaged and Active Learners – Is This Possible in Foreign Language Classrooms?" was also conducted by Professor Rhonda Oliver - Head of the School of Education at Curtin University with the attendance of 40 alumni of the program. Following the above events, the Alumni Reception was organized at Continental Hotel Saigon in the evening. Participating in the

reception were 60 graduates from Ho Chi Minh City and other provinces. The purpose of this event was to maintain the connection between the University and the graduates as well as to strengthen the community network. The reception was a great occasion for the alumni and graduates to share their stories, experiences and constructive feedback on the training programs.

10th Annual International Conference on TESOL: Diversification and Engagement in English Language Teaching

On August 15-16, 2019, in cooperation with Curtin University, Australia, the 10th Annual International Conference on Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) "Diversification and Engagement in English Language Teaching" was held at SEAMEO Regional Training Center's premises.

The international conference on TESOL this year attracted 200 participants from different countries with 40 presentations and workshops presented by eminent researchers, lecturers and scholars. The areas of focus included Language Skills and Language Systems, Content



and Language-Integrated Approaches, Digital Technologies in ELT, Language Assessment, and Teacher Professional Development.

This international conference served as a platform for professionals in the field of English language education to share and discuss research findings, experiences, and practical and theoretical issues related to

teaching English to learners of different backgrounds, levels, interests and motives. This was a valuable opportunity for English teachers to take part in their continuing professional development, networking and cooperation activities with their colleagues coming from different part of the world.

Seminar on "Excellence in English Language Teaching"

SEAMEO RETRAC, in partnership with Regional English Language Office (RELO), U.S. Embassy Hanoi and Public Affairs Section, U.S. Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City, hosted a training workshop on "Excellence in English Language Teaching" for English teachers on August 13-14, 2019. The seminar aimed to provide participants with updated knowledge and skills required in teaching. The contents covered at the seminar included: Task-based language teaching, Problem-based learning, Increasing student motivation, and Free English resources and how to use them. The workshop was facilitated by RELO English specialist Stephanie Hanson from University of Minnesota, United



States. At the workshop, teachers shared their teaching experiences and problems related to the theme and discussed how to promote active learning in the classroom.

SEAMEO RETRAC 22nd Governing Board Meeting

On September 26-27, 2019, SEAMEO RETRAC hosted its 22nd Governing Board Meeting in Phu Quoc Island, Vietnam. This year,

attending the meeting were a representative of SEAMEO Secretariat, governing board members and representatives from 08 countries in Southeast Asia. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Center's activities in the past fiscal year as

well as gather recommendations from our governing board members for the year ahead. Furthermore, held back-to-back with the meeting was an Educational Forum on "Leading Innovation in Education: Best Practices in Southeast Asia" which

served as a platform for the exchange and discussion of ideas and experiences. At the Forum, 07 countries' best practices and experiences were shared by the Governing Board members and representatives.



Summer Fun 2019 at SEAMEO RETRAC

SEAMEO RETRAC organized the annual summer program for students of Kiddy Programs from June 10, 2019 to July 19, 2019. At Summer Fun 2019, students were provided opportunities to enlarge their knowledge of Science, Sports, Technology and other related Life skills entirely in English. Thanks to the dedication and high levels of expertise of teachers from Queens College who were also participated in an internship program and SEAMEO RETRAC, the students' language competency was developed to the fullest in all aspects of learning. Aiming at encouraging



students to use English effectively during the learning process, SEAMEO RETRAC has integrated the traditional classroom model with

outdoor excursion, team work, and group work activities.

High-Level Policy Forum on Planning Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education Policies and Fostering AI-Ready Policy Makers in Southeast Asia

As the invitation from SEAMEO Secretariat and UNESCO Headquarter, Dr. Ho Thanh My Phuong, Center Director, attended the High-Level Policy Forum on Planning Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education Policies and Fostering AI-Ready Policy Makers in Southeast Asia on September 18-19, 2019 in Jakarta, Indonesia. Participants of the forum were High Officials and representatives from 07 SEAMEO Member Countries, SEAMEO Secretariat, UNESCO HQ, Weidong Cloud Education, as well

as 04 SEAMEO Centers. This High-Level Policy Forum aimed to enhance knowledge and implementation of the different successful policy research and practices in promoting AI for quality learning outcomes in Southeast Asia as well as to strengthen potential collaboration in harnessing the potential of AI in education in the region.

Also on this occasion, SEAMEO RETRAC delegates attended the International Conference on Embedding Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education Policy and Practice for Southeast Asia organized by SEAMEO Regional Open Learning Center (SEAMOLEC), Ministry of Education and Culture and Ministry of Communication and Information of the Republic of Indonesia.



Mid-Autumn Festival at SEAMEO RETRAC

During the second week of September 2019, numerous exciting activities were organized by SEAMEO RETRAC's Kiddy Programs to celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival at the Center's premises. The iconic characters, The Moon Lady (Chi Hang) and The Moon Boy (Chu Cuoi) came to the Center with bags full of candies to bring great joy of this festival to the students, especially Kindergarteners who



were completely surprised and delighted. Over 2,200 students at all levels were instructed to make and decorate lantern crafts with materials prepared by their teachers. All of these meaningful

activities were aimed at providing opportunities for students to develop their creativity and memorize a traditional family reunion festival of Vietnam.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 12-15, 2019

Training Course on "Soft-Skills Training – Module 3"

November 20-23, 2019

International Training Course on "Capacity Building in Leadership and Management for Higher Education" for Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam

December, 2019

Gearing Up Responsible and Outstanding Teachers in Southeast Asia for the 21st Century (GURO21) Course on "Training of Trainers for Flexible Learning Tutors"

December 05-06, 2019

Training Workshop on "Scientific Research Paper Writing Skills"

December 8-22, 2019

Internship Program for Students from the University of South Australia

December 21, 2019

Christmas Fun Fair of Kiddy Programs



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