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EVENTS

Pre-Conference Training Workshop on “Capacity Building in Higher Education Leadership and Management”


Participating in the training workshop were 41 leaders and senior administrators from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Department of Higher Education, the Ministry of Education of Myanmar, the Department of Education of The Philippines, and various higher education institutions from Cambodia, Myanmar, The Philippines, and Vietnam. The workshop was organized in the online modality on the Zoom platform and SEAMEO RETRAC’s Moodle site to bring an online learning experience to the participants. During two-day training on Zoom, participants were provided with plenty of opportunities to be updated with current and innovative practices in leadership and management to discuss various issues that their universities and colleges are confronting. Four main topics of discussion covered in the training course include (1) Assessment and Appraisal of Faculty Performance, (2) Leadership and Management: Effective leadership in the Covid-19 Pandemic, (3) Staff Professional Development, and (4) Curriculum Development and Assessment.

International Conference on “Global Leadership and Management in Higher Education: Innovations and Best Practices”

On October 28-29, 2021, SEAMEO RETRAC, in collaboration with British Columbia Council for International Education (BCCIE, Canada) and with the gold sponsor – Capilano University in Canada, organized the 2021 International Conference on “Global Leadership and Management in Higher Education: Innovations and Best Practices”. The Conference aimed at creating a global platform for discussion, collaboration, and intellectual exchange among educational leaders, academicians, and professionals in the areas of higher education from all over the world.

This year, the Conference was conducted on the Zoom platform and concurrently live-streamed on YouTube Live with the attendance of distinguished guests including Dr. Ethel Agnes Pascua-Valenzuela, Director, SEAMEO Secretariat, Thailand, and Dr. Randall Martin, Executive Director, BCCIE, Canada – the co-organizer of the Conference. Moreover, the Conference also welcomed the attendance of two keynote speakers, Prof. Paul Dangerfield, President, Capilano University, Canada, and Dr. Howard Youngs, Senior Lecturer, Educational Leadership, Leader, International, School of Education, Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand, and 30 respectful speakers and moderators joining the Conference.

Throughout one and a half days of the Conference, over 1000 participants, coming from Australia, Canada, Finland, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Timor-Leste, Thailand, the USA, and Vietnam, were provided with ample opportunities to listen and be involved in dynamic discussions of insightful presentations. The Conference assists the participants to update and exchange information about best practices and effective innovations in leadership and management in higher education to be better prepared for the future. Moreover, the Conference focused on exploring innovative ideas and practices related to current leadership and management strategies, quality assurance and accreditation, industry and university partnership, technology applications, and global citizenship education.
Virtual Regional Training Course on “Enhancing Excellence in Leadership and Management in Higher Education”

From November 23-December 02, 2021, SEAMEO RETRAC conducted a virtual regional training course on “Enhancing Excellence in Leadership and Management in Higher Education”. Participants of the course included leaders and administrators of different higher education institutions from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, and Vietnam. This course is aimed at equipping participants with updated knowledge and necessary skills in leadership and management practices in higher education as well as giving them opportunities to share their experience with other participants and trainers. The topics of discussion covered in the training course included (1) Strategic Management and Resource Management, (2) Educational leadership in Higher Education in the Covid-19 Pandemic, (3) Effective Organizational Communication, and (4) Managing Conflict and Decision Making.

The training course is one of the key activities annually carried out by SEAMEO RETRAC to support countries in Southeast Asia, especially Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam, in strengthening the leadership and managerial capacity of their schools’ leaders.

This year, the course was conducted online on SEAMEO RETRAC’s Moodle site and Zoom platform under the facilitation of 04 respectful trainers including Dr. Chris Bottrill, Director, International, Capilano University, Canada, Dr. Ho Thanh My Phuong, SEAMEO RETRAC’s Director, Dr. Do Thi Hoai Thu, Dean, Division of Education, and Dr. Anita C. Oblina, Senior Education Specialist, SEAMEO RETRAC, Vietnam. During phase 1 from November 23 to November 24, 2021, participants joined the lecture series on the Zoom platform within 02 days. In phase 2 (November 25-December 02, 2021), participants accessed the SEAMEO RETRAC’s Moodle site to get instructional materials, reply to questions in forum discussions, and complete assignments. After fully attending the course and accomplishing the course requirements, there were 31 participants who received the Certificate of Completion.

The International Virtual Conference on TESOL “English Language Teaching in the New Era: Empowering Teachers and Students”

On November 25, 2021, the International Virtual Conference on Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) on “English Language Teaching in the New Era: Empowering Teachers and Students” was held virtually by SEAMEO RETRAC in cooperation with Curtin University, Australia.

About 700 speakers and participants attended the conference, and 15 presentations were presented virtually by eminent researchers, lecturers, and scholars around the surrounding the five topical areas: Innovative approaches and methods in English Language Teaching; Curriculum and Materials Design and Development; Emerging technologies and applications for English Language Teaching; Language Testing and Assessment; and Teacher Professional Development. The conference was a forum for professionals in the field of English language education to share and discuss research findings, experiences, and practical and theoretical issues related to the teaching of English to learners of different backgrounds, levels, interests, and motives. This conference was a valuable opportunity for English teachers to take part in their continuing professional development, networking, and cooperation activities with their colleagues from different parts of the world.

Virtual Training Course on “Interactive Teaching Methodologies in Higher Education”

On November 27-28, 2021, SEAMEO RETRAC held a virtual training course on “Interactive Teaching Methodologies in Higher Education” for 30 participants who are lecturers and academic staff from different departments of the University of Sciences – Ho Chi Minh City National University.

The course was designed to focus on various interactive methods, strategies, and techniques that participants can flexibly apply in their teaching practice at their institutions. During Day 1, participants were provided with knowledge of influential teaching theories and different classroom activities related to the 5E instructional model (Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, Evaluate). Additionally, participants also learned about one of the most popular innovative teaching approaches, which is Problem-based Learning. On Day 2, participants were introduced to several interactive strategies and experienced the suggested way to organize the activities in the classroom.
Capacity Building for Guidance Counselors at Universities and High Schools in Vietnam “Open Door to U.S. Higher Education”

In December 2021, SEAMEO RETRAC, in partnership with the U.S. Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City successfully hosted 3 separate 1.5-day virtual training workshops on Capacity Building for Guidance Counselors at Universities and High Schools in Vietnam “Open Door to U.S. Higher Education” for 102 participants who are English teachers, admin staff, counselors and advising staff from major high schools, colleges, and universities in Ho Chi Minh City, Can Tho City and Hue City.

Presented at the workshop were representatives from the U.S. Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City, Arizona State University, USA, and Dr. Ho Thanh My Phuong, SEAMEO RETRAC’s Director. The 1.5-day virtual training workshop was designed to update participants with a better understanding of the U.S. higher education system, necessary tools to explore a range of academic programs and scholarships, as well as the enrollment and visa application procedures.

The workshops were great opportunities for participants to raise questions about issues related to studying in the U.S. to better support and pave the way for Vietnamese students who wish to pursue education in the United States.

Virtual Training Course on “ICT Applications in Students’ Assessment and Evaluation in Online Teaching”

On December 25-26, 2021, SEAMEO RETRAC conducted a training course on “ICT Applications in Students’ Assessment and Evaluation in Online Teaching” for 23 lecturers of the Foreign Language Center of the University of Sciences – Ho Chi Minh City National University. The course was conducted on the Zoom platform under the facilitation of Mr. Cao Hong Phat from the University of Pedagogy Ho Chi Minh City.

During one and a half training days, the participants were able to equip themselves with useful knowledge of the ICT applications currently used in the test preparation and in the assessment of students’ achievement. In the course, ICT applications introduced to participants included Quizalize, Quizizz, Kahoot, Azota, Edulastic, Google Tools, QuickRubric, etc.

Regional Seminar 2021 on “Internationalization of Higher Education in the Pandemic Landscape: Transforming Challenges to Opportunities for Development”

On December 10, 2021, SEAMEO RETRAC organized the Regional Seminar on “Internationalization of Higher Education in the Pandemic Landscape: Transforming Challenges to Opportunities for Development” from 08:30 to 11:30 (GMT+7/Vietnam Time). The Seminar was conducted on the Zoom platform and concurrently live-streamed on SEAMEO RETRAC’s YouTube Channel. The Seminar once again served as a wisdom platform for leaders, administrators, educators, and lecturers from different universities and colleges in the Southeast Asian region to exchange effective internationalization strategies and share their experience on the transformation of the situations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic as an opportunity to enhance the institutional quality. Speakers of the Seminar included 07 invited scholars and leaders from different universities in Southeast Asia and from international organizations in Australia and Canada who shared their experience and expertise with the participants through their presentations. The focus on internationalization strategies adopted by higher education institutions to tackle the challenges in the while and post-crisis times, the Seminar attracted the attendance of more than 190 participants from different nations including Cambodia, Lao PDR, Indonesia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam.