

**A brief report on a workshop entitled “Technology Transfer of Strategy-based Screening for Antimicrobial Activities of Thai Medicinal Plant Extracts” at Udon Thani Rajabhat University (UDRU), Udon Thani, Thailand, from June 12-15, 2009**

Dr. Naowarat (Ann) Cheeptham, Assistant Professor of Microbiology at the Department of Biological Science, Faculty of Science, Thompson Rivers University (TRU) and Director of the Canada Region for the Association of Thai Professional in America and Canada (ATPAC), Dr. Ken Wagner, TRU Adjunct Professor, and Paul Moote, TRU M.Sc. student were at Udon Thani Rajabhat University (UDRU), Udon Thani, Thailand, from June 9 -15, 2009 to give a workshop entitled “Technology Transfer of Strategy-based Screening for Antimicrobial Activities of Thai Medicinal Plant Extracts”. Drs. Cheeptham (Principle Investigator) and Sritubtim of UDRU were granted a \$10,000 to organize this workshop to help support Thai medicinal plants research projects and to update current microbiology knowledge for students, researchers, and professors not only at UDRU but also interested researchers from other sectors in Northeastern Thai area. The grant and financial support for the workshop was through the Office of Science and Technology (OSTC), Royal Thai Embassy, Washington, D.C., the Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology, and the Thai Commission of Higher Education (CHE). This workshop was co-organized by the above-mentioned agencies and TRU, and UDRU.

Participants were targeted at 50 people on the first day of the workshop (which was all lectures) and capped at 20 people for the laboratory sessions. Due to the level of interest, we had more than 80 participants for the first day and 40 participants in the laboratory sessions which exceeded our plan and expectations. At the end of the workshop, we were asked to return to present a similar workshop at other Thai universities in coming years. Drs. Cheeptham and Sritubtim are discussing a promising research project on antimicrobials from medicinal plants of Thailand. Additionally, UDRU is looking forward to a discussion with TRU in regard to further collaboration.



A campus tour with the UDUR Head of International Affairs, Dr. Wilailak Riach, Drs. Somrudee Sritubtim, and Nookorn Pathompat of the Department of Chemistry, UDRU.



a) UDUR President at the opening ceremony



b) Participants, more than 80 people



a) Dr. Ken Wagner during his talk



b) Dr. Naowarat Cheeptham during her talk



a) Some participants during the laboratory sessions



b) Paul Moote helped facilitating discussion session after the laboratory.