



Faculty of Social Administration, Thammasat University and Division of Industry and Community Network, Universiti Sains Malaysia are pleased to announce their joint conference on University and Community Engagement 2012 with the theme: “University-Community Engagement for Empowerment and Knowledge Creation” to be held in Chiang Mai Thailand from January 9-12, 2012. The conference aims at creating a venue where interested participants can contemplate on the central question of how universities can vigorously become an integral part of a global effort to create and maintain a just and sustainable world.

## Objectives

1. To deepen critical discourse on empowerment role of universities and their knowledge creation practice;
2. To explore methods, strategies and experiences used in mutual social engagement and partnership among different sectors;
3. To strengthen the capacity of universities in the process of social reform for social justice and sustainable development;
4. To enhance networking, experience sharing among educators, communities as well as

social development practitioners and to show best-practice cases of university-community engagement of various types. We invite those who are interested to present papers and/or posters on the following sub themes:

### ❖ Community - University Engagement : Critical & Conceptual Review

Papers under this sub-theme can explore theoretical work in order to generate diverse views and meanings of the concept and value premises of “University-Community Engagement”;

### ❖ Social Reform and/or Higher Education Reform?: Strategy and Process for Social Transformation

While this sub-theme may seem fitting with the current Thai context, it may also be relevant to societies grappling with poverty, social and economic inequality; questions such as what roles can we or do we play in social reform or why do we need to reform ourselves as well in order to lead to the social reform movement can be explored.

### ❖ Curriculum (and program) Innovation for Social Change and Sustainable Development

This sub-theme invites presenters who are pragmatists and love working on practical issues; we hope to get presentations aiming at illustrating best practice; it is also suitable for poster presentations; papers and posters can share with the audience how ‘change from

within’ higher education institutions can take place; additionally this provides a change to follow up on how ‘reinventing higher education’ --the theme of the 2007 UNESCO’s 11<sup>th</sup> APIED Conference—can be materialized.

### ❖ Engaged Scholarship for Diversity through Field Education: (A Community’s Call!)

If engaged scholarship (which was also one among key words of UCEC 2009) means academic work/mission that are socially relevant and socially engaged, how can engagement scholarship be enhanced through the designs of field education/fieldwork/field practicum curriculum? Papers on capacity building initiatives between universities and communities are welcome. Prospective presenters are encouraged to explore social inclusion based on respect for human diversity in both the essence and practice of higher education; community’s agency is highlighted to raise the question of power relationship and differing standpoints in the university-community engagement process.

### ❖ Participatory Paradigm for Research Practice: Opportunities and Challenges

This is a chance to reflect on the purpose of knowledge creation and how research practice in universities are designed based on empowerment principle ; opportunities and challenges for the adoption of appropriate paradigm(s) are examined in light of universities’ attempt to recreate our vision,

mission and goals, given the present global socio-political context.

❖ **Other sub-themes related to the main theme of the conference**

**Important Deadlines**

Abstract submission	: 30 November 2011
Notification of abstract acceptance	: 5 December 2011
Online registration with payment	: 15 December 2011 for paper and poster presenters : 15 December 2011 for general participants
Full paper submission	: 15 December 2011 For those who wish to have their full papers uploaded for the UCEC 2012

**Guidelines for Submission :**

**A) Paper Presentations**

Abstracts and full papers should be in Microsoft Word document file, single-spacing, using Times New Roman font type with 12 point font-size. Abstract should not exceed 300 words and full paper NOT longer than 10 pages (inclusive of appendices). All submission should be in English. Those wishing to submit abstracts need to register by completing the submission abstract form online at [www.UCEC2012.com](http://www.UCEC2012.com)

**B) Posters**

This is a visual display which can cover research, practice or programme development

related to university-community engagement. Recommended poster size is A1 (841x594 mm).

- All presenters must register as conference delegates and pay the registration fees.
- All correspondence on submissions will be done online.

**Conference Fees :**

- USD 350 for international participants
- USD 100 for participants from developing countries
- USD 50 for Thai and international students
- BHT 5,000 for Thai participants

Conference fees include registration package with book of abstracts, program booklet and certificates of attendance, participation in all paper and poster sessions, welcome reception, lunches and refreshments, cultural night dinner and fieldtrips to Lampang and in Chiang Mai.

**The Secretariat**

**University-Community Engagement Conference UCEC 2012**

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**University-Community Engagement Conference**

*UCEC 2012*

**University-Community Engagement for Empowerment and Knowledge Creation**

**9 -12 January 2012**

**Le Méridien Chiangmai Chiangmai, Thailand**