

## 8/27 ~ 9/3 International Summer Program 2023 in Thailand

In the 15<sup>th</sup> International Summer Program, 11 students from the Yamagata University Faculty of Engineering went on an educational journey to Kasetsart University (KU) Sriracha Campus in Thailand. This student exchange program took place from August 27<sup>th</sup> to September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, offering our students a unique opportunity to engage in diverse activities aimed at enhancing their cultural understanding and academic growth.

During their stay at KU Sriracha Campus, 11 YU students actively participated in a range of activities. These activities included a comprehensive campus tour, visits to research laboratories, cultural presentations, and lectures by KU professors. These experiences provided our students with valuable insights into the academic and daily life of their Thai peers.

One of the program's highlights was a mangrove planting activity, in which our students contributed to environmental conservation efforts. They also embarked on an educational excursion to a mountain within the KU campus, where they explored the fascinating interaction between wildlife and human habitats, gaining a deeper appreciation for ecological balance.

To gain understanding of Thailand's contemporary landscape, the Summer Program participants visited the nearby Space Krenovation Park. This visit exposed them to Thailand's cutting-edge developments and emerging technologies, broadening their global perspectives.

Throughout the program, our YU students received unwavering support and warm hospitality from their KU counterparts. These interactions resulted in the formation of numerous new friendships, further highlighting the program's success in fostering international connections and cultural exchange.

Despite the program's brief 8-day duration, our YU students left Thailand with a profound appreciation for the nation's current state of development and its ongoing progress. This was made possible through a diverse range of activities that illuminated different facets of Thai society and culture. We extend our deepest gratitude to Kasetsart University for their outstanding support and generous cooperation, which made this experience possible.

In conclusion, the 15<sup>th</sup> International Summer Program proved to be an enriching and transformative experience for the Yamagata University Faculty of Engineering students. It broadened their academic horizons and facilitated the formation of lasting intercultural bonds that will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on their personal and academic journeys.

