



Suryadhep Teachers College, Rangsit University

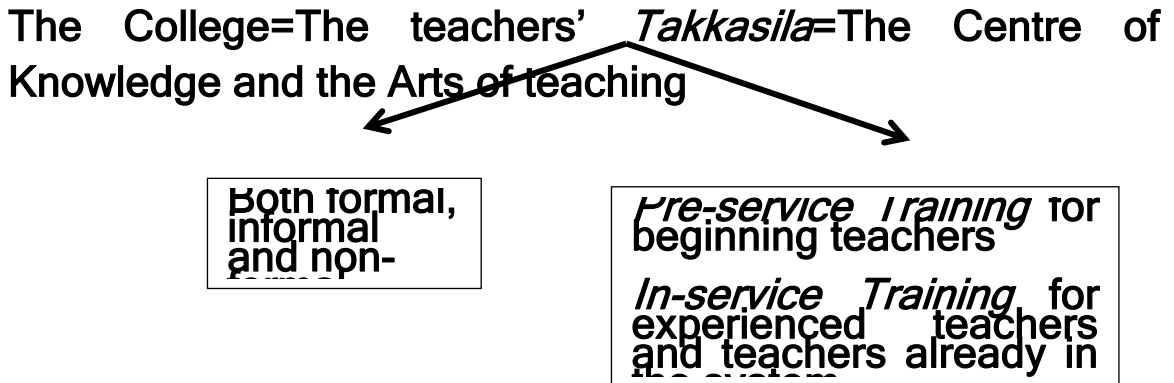


President of Rangsit University, Dr. Arthit Urairat officially decreed that the Faculty of Education, Rangsit University be upgraded to Suryadhep Teachers College on 16 July 2018.

Thus, Suryadhep Teachers College clearly symbolizes the President's strong determination to fully support education. He would like to see that Thai education has the same standard as those at the International level. The students should demonstrate the exam results and learning outcomes at the level of "Very Good". In addition, on top of everything, Dr. Arthit Urairat would like to see that students with outstanding learning results value the teaching career. In his vision, Thai teachers must be well-versed in knowledge and possess the teaching spirit. The teaching career should be respectable and honourable.

A Teachers College is an educational institution with a mission to produce professional teachers for Thailand. Teachers are 'the heart' of an educational reform. He believes that an education reform needs to begin with changes in the teaching pedagogy and content of teacher development, especially cultivation of the teachers' professional spirit. The Teachers College is a sacred and meaningful word. It is the Teachers'

Takkasila (the Centre of Knowledge and the Arts of Teaching). The following figure shows the main missions of the college:



In brief, Suryadhep Teachers College will function as the Centre of Knowledge for both beginning teachers as well as experienced teachers and those already in the system. The young intelligent ones will come in for cultivation of the teacher's spirit and experienced teachers and those in the system will come in for continuous learning and enhancement of teaching experience.

The change from "Faculty of Education", which signifies a rather general meaning, to "Teachers' College" reveals a deep meaning and significance of the word "Teacher"

His Royal Highness King Bhumibol Adulayadej, on 28 October 1980 kindly gave a speech to an audience of senior teachers at Dusitdalai Royal Hall, Chitralada Palace of which an extract runs as follows:-

"Genuine teachers must be ones who always do good, that is, they must be diligent, hard-working, perseverant, kind, benevolent and sacrificial. They must be truly patient and carefully in control of themselves so that they show discipline in leading their lives as

well as honesty, sincerity, impartiality, not allowed their minds to be influenced by bias”

Suryadhep Teachers College, Rangsit University, humbly embraces the late King’ speech with determination to effectively manage teaching and learning so that teachers can fully support student learning to their highest potential. It aims at produce teachers who understand the changing context of the 21st Century world. Teachers must be lifelong learners, capable of being worthy coaches for students who mostly were born in different periods as younger generations in harmony without creating conflicts both in concepts and understanding of differences in lifestyles, knowledgeable in the selection of appropriate technology. Teachers must be able to deliver happy lessons that require substantial learning efforts. In addition, they should be able to identify the countries’ problems and be active problem solvers.

In order to achieve the goals, Suryadhep Teachers College, Rangsit University take serious consideration into 1) change of ways of knowledge delivery and 2) create education al innovations in all forms no matter whether it’s choice of teaching techniques or increased effectiveness of student learning. Prawes Wasi (2557: 12-13) recommends that teachers teach less and promote student learning instead because in this age, students can easily access various sources of information by themselves. Therefore, if teachers still persist on teaching knowledge by rote learning or memorization, students will lose their chances of genuine learning. There is a need for change in education paradigm from “Change from teacher-directed teaching to genuine learning and from learning from textbooks to learning from real life situations and practical experiences.

With a great vision of the President, Dr. Arthit Urairat established the Faculty of Education in 2005 and offered scholarships to first-year students who joined the Rangsit Model, a new way of education reform,

aimed at training qualified teachers for Thailand with the following principles:

Able teachers must graduate in their specialized fields of study with a GPA of not lower than 3.50.

- Undergo teacher training courses at the master's degree level at Faculty of Education
- Clearly understand educational state-of-the-art innovations, research and changes in education
- Demonstrate English abilities and technology skills at the level of "Very Good"
- Strongly determined to become professional teachers
- Qualified enough to earn a salary of not less than 17,000 baht

Besides, the President is aware of the significance of adopting bilingual education in learning management. Teachers must have excellent English language abilities and outstanding IT skills because with both skills, the learners can conveniently access various sources of knowledge outside the classroom and effectively communicate with the world communities in the borderless world.

Suryadhep Teachers College, Rangsit University will willingly and attentively continue the missions of the Faculty of Education. Students who are interested in studying at Suryadhep Teachers College can choose to attend any bachelor's degree program such as English, Islamic Education, IT and Art so that they will do their intensive specialized courses within 3 or 3 and a half years and receive their bachelor's degrees. Then, they continue at Suryadhep Teachers College in Years 4 and 5 in the programmes that are accredited by the Teachers' Council of Thailand. While at Suryadhep Teachers College, students have to do their practicum in the assigned schools for 12 credits at the same time as doing their theses. They will get their second degrees in 5 to 5 and a half years. This year (2018), Suryadhep Teachers College (by initiative

of the President) will offer 10 scholarships to interested people. Interested people with a GPA of less than 3.5 can apply to study at Suryadhep Teachers College.

Suryadhep Teachers College welcomes all to study here.

References

Phra Bat Somdet Phra Paraminthra Maha Bhumibol Adulyadej.. "The Royal Speech given to the audience of senior teachers of the year 1981 on 28 October 1980 at Sala Dusidalai, Chitralada Palace, Department of Information, office of the Prime Minister.

Prawes Wasi (2557). Upgrading the quality of Thai teachers in the 21st Century. Document of the Academic Conference "Reforming Learning...to the Turning Point of Thailand" (6-18 May 2014) (photocopied).