



AITAA

AIT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Subject: Result of Election of New AITAA President

Dear AIT Alumni,

On behalf of the AITAA Headquarters, I am pleased to announce that during 44th AITAA Governing Board Meeting (GBM) in Colombo, Sri Lanka, on 31st October 2015, Associate Prof. Dr. Somchet Thinaphong has been unanimously elected by the Governing Board as new AITAA President, succeeding Mr. Thanin Bumrungsap who will complete his two-years' term, effective 1st January 2016.

Dr. Somchet obtained Master of Engineering and Doctor of Engineering from AIT in 1977 and 1980 respectively. He has been working in high profile positions both in private and public sectors. Currently he is holding various important positions including Chairman of the Executive Board of National Innovation Agency (NIA), Ministry of Industry, as well as Chairman of Executive Board of Geo-Informatics and Space Technology Development Agency (GISTDA), Ministry of Science & Technology. You may find summary of his past experiences in attached CV. He is not new to AITAA, having been the President of the Thailand Chapter during 1993-1998.

During the election process, up to the nomination deadline of 30th September 2015, there were two official nominations, i.e. the Thailand Chapter nominated Dr. Somchet and the Philippines Chapter nominated Mr. Thanin Bumrungsap, the current president. But Mr. Thanin declined, thus leaving Dr. Somchet as the sole candidate in the GBM. Then during the meeting there was a comment by a senior delegate and patron of Pakistan Chapter that Khun Thanin should continue, given his diligence and excellent performance during his term so fruitful for the alumni and the institute. But I explained that the rules must be strictly observed as Khun Thanin's own refusal was final. Then Dr. Somchet was invited to present his manifesto. After that, I proposed for a secret vote of acceptance or objection of Dr. Somchet but the same senior delegate counter-proposed for a unanimous approval without going into ballot voting. There was no objection to the counter-proposal thus it is considered that Dr. Somchet has been unanimously elected by the Governing Board comprising representatives of the 16 National Chapters who attended the meeting, in full compliance with the condition of AITAA Statutes.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the outgoing president Mr. Thanin Bumrungsap and the members and advisors of the Executive Committee of AITAA Headquarters for their great supports and contributions to AITAA and AIT during the past two years.

I would also like to thank Thai Chapter and the Filipino Chapter for the nominations and Dr. Somchet for his acceptance.

Please join us in welcoming Associate Prof. Dr. Somchet Thinaphong.

Sincerely yours,

Zaw Zaw Aye
Chair, AITAA Presidency Nomination Working Group