



Minutes of Round Table on

Furthering International Relations Capacities and Intercultural Engagement to Nurture Cultural Diversity and to Support Internationalization at Home (FRIENDS)

at Svay Rieng University (SRU)

Thursday, February 05, 2020 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM (Cambodia Time)

AGENDA

Dissemination of information about FRIENDS Project to SRU's management team and lecturers and the plan to integrate inclusive Internationalization at home into SRU's curriculum.

MINUTES

H.E Tum Saravuth, rector of Svay Rieng University, presented the background information on the FRIENDS project. The following information was presented at the beginning of the round table.

- FRIENDS stands for Furthering International Relations Capacities and Intercultural Engagement
To Nurture Cultural Diversity and to Support Internationalization at Home. It's about having a sense of international environment by offering students an English-speaking zone tea house and an international perspective in to the curriculum and study programs at local institutions.
- FRIENDS project consists of two types of country partner. They are program countries including Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and Turkey and participant countries including Cambodia, Bhutan, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand.
- There are 8 work packages in the FRIENDS project.
- Students at SRU can experience an online learning experience (MOOC) developed by the European Partners. The online courses can be done both in-class and outside the class, and students from partner universities in Asia can register and study for free on the website.
- For digital storytelling, students film a video clip for the competition. The short videos can be about the students themselves, or they can talk about topics that are inter-cultural. The three winners from each partner university will attend a six-week boot camp in July 2020 in Bulgaria.
- Both staff and students will benefit a lot from the project, such as knowledge and best practices on Internationalization @ Home and International Curriculum, building Capacity in Internationalization @ Home and International Cooperation, Building Capacity in global competences and getting to know different cultures.
- FRIENDS SWAG DESIGN CONTEST is about designing a logo that embodies the diversity and unity of FRIENDS's original logo. Students come up with their logo design and compete with other students at an institutional level. The institutional level winner will compete again all



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other project countries winners. It's judged by online voting. The first place winner's logo will be used in promotional materials such as T-shirt, bag, pen...etc.

H.E Tum Saravuth also open the floor to the Vice Rectors, Deans, head of departments and other participants to discuss how the university can integrate Internationalization @Home into the curriculum. Mr. Loek Virak, vice rector, mentioned that Internationalization @Home will promote the mobility of both staff and students as a means to improve their international perspectives and intercultural awareness. Mr. Bill Shields mentioned that the tea house which is the English only speaking zone will benefit those who want to improve their language and interaction with other people as they can have it as a cozy place to meet. Dr. Hov Sokhoun, dean of FAHL argued that if the university is to become truly international, the university will also need lecturers with qualified English capability as it's required as the means of instruction. He went on saying the lecturers need to improve their English to be qualified to teach in the international program. Mr. Mom Ket, Dean of the Faculty of Business said that integrating Internationalization @Home in to the curriculum can start with the faculty of Art, Humanity and Foreign language first as that faculty uses English as the medium of instruction and as the time goes by, the university can move it into other faculties.