



CGE and Union of Myanmar Ministry of Education Summary Report from August 2-6, 2004 Visit

Invitation from: H.E. Ambassador Linn Myaing, Myanmar Embassy DC

Assisted by: Wunna Han, Myanmar Embassy DC
Min Lwin, Myanmar Embassy DC

Hosted by Ministry of Education:

H.E. U Than Aung, Minister, Union of Myanmar
H.E. U Myo Nyunt, Deputy Minister, Union of Myanmar
U Saw Lwin, Director General, Department of Higher Education
Lower Myanmar, Union of Myanmar



CGE Participants:

Dr. Carolyn Bishop, President, Consortium for Global Education
Dr. Andrew Westmorland, President, Ouachita Baptist University
Dr. Pat Taylor, President, Southwest Baptist University
Dr. Cynthia Jayne, Asst. Provost, Union University
Dr. Jeanna Westmoreland, Dean of Education, Ouachita Baptist University
Mrs. Judy Taylor, Communications, Southwest Baptist University

In August 2004, CGE visited Myanmar and were hosted by Deputy Minister U Myo Nyunt and director General U Saw Lwin. Many of the rectors of the universities in Yangon participated in the first official meeting at Yangon University. CGE listened to descriptions about their universities and schools and responded with information about CGE's international interests for mutual cooperation. Over the next three days the CGE delegation visited Yangon University, Yangon University of Foreign Languages, Yangon Institute of Education, Yangon Institute of Economics (Hliang and Ywathagyi Campus), Dagon University, East Yangon University, and the Myanmar Maritime University. The CGE delegation enjoyed visiting classrooms, talking with faculty, and learning about the academic programs in each curriculum and the new HRD programs.



Yangon University

CGE met with the Rector and Deans in the departments of **Law, Engineering, Physics, Education, History, Zoology, & Research**. There are 156 universities in Myanmar with 64 under the authority of the Ministry of Education.

A visit to the **English Department** highlighted the 5 week course for



teachers to learn to teach in English. The post-graduate department includes Doctorate degrees, Master of English Language and English Literature, and a diploma of English Language. Training faculty in post-graduate programs is a priority with English being compulsory all 3 years in every discipline. English classes begin with Standard English and then for example study sciences in English. There is a focus to teach more courses in English. Students number 3,000 in Master's and PhD, with 10,000 in HRD program. **Potential partnership would be for Teacher Training Development Teams to come between June to end of September. January is a possibility.**



The **Research** department has a two prong IT program with an IT lab and biotech lab. They have 10 PhD candidates a year or 98 in all. Most candidates will become teachers after passing their PhD examinations led by 51 government members acting as the examiners.

They have 4-5 years with 1 year of preliminary coursework with examinations and 2 years of research. **Yangon University offered requests for advisory examiners.**

The **History** department has 6 in the PhD program and master's degrees include US & Diplomatic History, Asia and Pacific Studies, ASEAN studies, Teaching & Research. **Invited examiners to hear PhD candidates.**

The **Law** faculty, all female professors, requested **CGE to assist with their HRD courses.**

The **Geography** department partners with Colon University in Germany and conducts joint urban research in Yangon on rural and urban sustainability. **Interested in co-researchers.**

The **Botany** Department includes the environmental department and expressed priorities for medicinal plant studies and environmental studies. The Pharmaceutical department includes herbal medicine and western medicine. Herbal medicine seems to be spreading and partnerships are requested for teaching and research, helping PhD candidates and serving as examiners. Some Japanese are doing joint research in the North.

The **Zoology** Department explained their program on bio-diversification and partnerships with University of Essex and in southern California.

Yangon University of Foreign Languages

In 2000 they began a 4 year plan with 2001 instituting a 30 year plan in 6 phases of 5 years each. Programs number 36 and emphasize quality of education, ICT uses, research, and teacher training. Have 1,500 in HRD every evening. For MA have 64 in 1st year, 50 in 2nd year and total enroll about 1,350 a year with 20,790 graduates. They also have a Certificate HRD program (CHRD) which has a language proficiency upgrade. **CGE requested to help with this CHRD program for certificates.** This program bridges to a diploma program with thesis written for credit in the University program. They have a department of Humanities with International Relations and Department of Linguistics.



Myanmar Maritime University– State of the art university campus located on expansive campus. Opened by the Prime Minister. Partnerships with Hawaii University for civil engineering and shallow water mapping. Also partner with Shanghai Maritime University and Korea Maritime University. They belong to PACON- pacific Area Committee on Naval, and SNAME, Society of naval ... **Requesting CGE to participate with Engineering 101 type courses. CGE could send reference books in Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. Also interested in teacher training and opportunities for faculty to get MED (have sent 20 and 16 have completed. Currently 8 in Japan and 24 in Shanghai).**



Yangon Institute of Education

Until 1921 this was a part of the Department of Education at Yangon University and then in 1931 a Teacher Training College. In 1974 the school became the Institute of Education. Observation of training programs present **CGE with the potential of having workshops the end of October or early November. Along with Teacher Training would be opportunities for Student Teachers.**



Yangon Institute of Economics

Areas of study include research in commerce, economics, management studies, applied sciences and statistics. There are 3 systems: a regular system of 3 years, HRD system, and on-line learning system. In 2002 they opened evening classes for MPA (2 years and MBA and in 2003 opened a MA in Development Studies. 14,534 students total (3rd largest in Myanmar) with 390 plus 210 in Masters study and CHRD with 830 students. MBA lectures, joint projects.



The Executive MBA (30 months) in the evening has 50% public administration and 50% developmental studies. Students come from government offices and private sector. Six certificate courses are offered to encourage students to get into college and advance to diploma level. Diploma classes are taken by upper leaders and need educational management. **CGE asked to provide lecture series and business specialties in MBA programs.**

University of East Yangon – Built 4 years ago on 158 acres with 10,000 undergraduates. Three classroom buildings have classrooms with 203 computers. The 19 academic departments also service an additional 40,580 on-line developmental programs (UDE).



Dagon University – Undergraduate projects



Universities Central Library - Research



CGE Proposes a January 2005 visit to Myanmar

Duration of Trip: 8 day CGE Delegation arrives in Yangon for a 4 day workshop with Universities in Yangon and 3 days to accept H. E. U Thang Aung's invitation to visit Bagan and Mandalay.

Approximately 10 – 12 CGE Delegates

1. Lectures with Yangon University Department of English, Department of Foreign Languages Institute of Education, and Institute of Economics.

Topics:

- Teacher Education Methodology
- Teacher Training for TESL for special purposes
- MBA lectures by CGE faculty and business professionals
- Other specialty department lectures

2. CGE faculty participation in PHD candidate committees at all of the universities, colleges, and institutes listed above.