

# Asia Hub Annual Meeting 2024

*in conjunction with the CIAERA meeting*

November 12-15, 2024

at Centara Riverside Hotel, Chiang Mai, Thailand

## Logistic Information

<b>Seminar dates</b>	Arrival: 11 November 2024 Meeting: 12-15 November 2024 Departure: 16 November 2024	
<b>Secretariat</b>	<p><b>CMU:</b> Prof. Emeritus Dr. Sanchai Jaturasitha Email: sanchai.j@cmu.ac.th</p> <p><b>MSU:</b> Jennifer Wargo Email: pippinj1@msu.edu</p> <p><b>NAU: Wei Wei</b> Email: weiwei@njau.edu.cn</p>	
<b>Venue</b>	Centara Riverside Hotel, Chiang Mai, Thailand	
	Address:	1 Chiang Mai-Lamphun Rd, Wat Ket, Mueang Chiang Mai District, Chiang Mai 50000
	Reservation Email:	ccm@chr.co.th
	General Email:	ccm@chr.co.th
	General Telephone:	+66 (0)-5-327-5300
<b>Meeting Arrangements</b>	Meeting Room:	The opening ceremony of the seminar will be held in the Taratong Ballroom. Rooms for the workshops will be Taratong Ballroom & Meng Rai 1-2.
	Equipment:	LCD, overhead and slide projectors will be available, but to facilitate set-up, please advise secretariat staff in advance if these or other equipment are required.
	Updated program of the seminar:	<a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cT1qrRjW-NQXs6fqj7RCHZ6BuOexIU9N/view">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cT1qrRjW-NQXs6fqj7RCHZ6BuOexIU9N/view</a>
	Registration link:	<a href="https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eVRLPiIBTywiACO">https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eVRLPiIBTywiACO</a> until 1 October, 2024
	Registration fee:	
<b>Arrival &amp; Departure Information for participants from foreign countries</b>	Arrival:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please send your flight information to Mrs. Jennifer Wargo. CMU will provide transportation for free from airport – Centara Riverside Hotel – L Nimman hotel. Please look for the sign "<b>AH &amp; CIAERA Meeting</b>" when you arrive at Chiang Mai international airport at both international and domestic arrival area.</li> <li>If your flight is delayed or you miss hotel staff, please wait for the other van to pick you up later.</li> <li>If you prefer to use public car, please request a car by using Grab, Bolt and Maxim application.</li> </ul>
	Departure:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Van will be available to take you to the Airport on your departure date. Please be sure you have provided us with correct departure information.</li> <li>If you prefer to use public car, please request a car by using Grab Bolt and Maxim application.</li> <li>Hotel van is available to take you to the airport (fee), please inform the check-in counter of your flight in advance.</li> </ul>
<b>Hotel Facilities</b>	Rooms:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All rooms include mini-bar, color cable TV, private bath &amp; shower, telephone and climate control.</li> <li>Charges for beds, mini-bar, laundry, room service, telephone/fax, etc. are paid by participants to the hotel front desk upon check-out.</li> </ul>
	Meals:	According to the program:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breakfast: will be served during 6:00-9:00 am. at River Terrace, ground floor.</li> <li>• Lunch: Buffet lunch will be provided during 12.00 am. – 1.30. pm. at China Room, M floor.</li> <li>• Dinner: There will be welcome dinner on November 12, 2014 at Taratong Grand Ballroom from 6.00 – 9.00 pm. For other days, please feel free to explore and enjoy local food by your own self.</li> <li>• Coffee breaks: will be provided in the morning &amp; afternoon each day in connecting room next to Taratong Grand Ballroom</li> </ul>
	Services:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Swimming pool (no charge)</li> <li>• Internet (no charge)</li> <li>• For laundry, please contract hotel front desk.</li> </ul>
<b>Excursion</b>	Bus:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vans will be provided for each route depends on your selected route. Please be sure you have registered the route before the excursion day.</li> </ul>
<b>Climate</b>	Weather:	November is in end of the rainy season, so daytime temperatures are likely to be about 25-30 C, and rain showers are possible.
	Clothing:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The seminar and Welcome Dinner will be formal.</li> <li>• Bring comfortable shoes if you plan to go on the field trip.</li> </ul>
<b>Entering &amp; Leaving Thailand</b>	Port of Entry:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most international participants may pass through immigration &amp; customs at the international airport in Bangkok and transfer to the domestic terminal for a connecting flight to Chiang Mai. A walkway connects the terminals or you can get on shuttle buses to the domestic airport free of charge.</li> <li>• Chiang Mai Airport has immigration &amp; customs facilities for those who book direct flights &amp; check baggage through to Chiang Mai. If you pass through immigration &amp; customs in Chiang Mai, please look for staff with a “<b>AH &amp; CIAERA Meeting</b>” sign at the domestic area, end of the terminal building in front of the post office.</li> </ul>
	Money Exchange:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currency: Thai Baht (THB) may be purchased at airport, banks &amp; hotels</li> <li>• Rate: Floating (changes daily), generally in range of US\$1.00 = 33 – 35 THB</li> <li>• Excess Baht readily exchanged for other currency in airport departure areas</li> </ul>
	Customs Rules when <u>Entering</u> Thailand:	<p>When entering Thailand, several items and activities are strictly forbidden. Here are the key rules and restrictions you need to be aware of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Drugs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Illegal Drugs: Possession, use, or trafficking of illegal drugs is a serious crime in Thailand and can lead to severe penalties, including long prison sentences and hefty fines.</li> <li>• Controlled Substances: Certain prescription medications may also be restricted. Always carry a copy of the prescription and check if the medication is allowed before traveling.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2) Weapons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Firearms and Ammunition: Bringing firearms, ammunition, or any kind of weapon into Thailand requires special permission from relevant authorities. Unauthorized possession can lead to arrest and severe penalties.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3) Pornographic Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obscene Materials: Importing, distributing, or possessing pornography is illegal. This includes films, books, and other media.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4) Cultural Artifacts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Religious Images: Taking out Buddha images or other religious artifacts requires special permission. Small religious figurines worn as jewelry are generally exempt from this rule, but it's best to verify.</li> </ul> </li> <li>5) Antiques and Cultural Property:</li> </ol>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Export Restrictions: Exporting Thai antiques and cultural artifacts without proper documentation and permission is illegal.</li> </ul> <p>6) Plants and Animals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wildlife and Plants: Importing or exporting certain types of wildlife, plants, and seeds is regulated to prevent the spread of diseases and pests. Specific permits are required for some species.</li> </ul> <p>7) Counterfeit Goods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fake Goods: Bringing counterfeit products, such as pirated DVDs or fake brand-name items, into Thailand is illegal and can result in fines or other legal consequences.</li> </ul> <p>8) Certain Chemicals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazardous Materials: Importing chemicals or substances that are hazardous or controlled under international agreements requires special permits and compliance with regulations.</li> </ul> <p>9) Excessive Cash:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unreported Currency: Carrying large amounts of cash (over 20,000 USD or equivalent) must be declared to customs upon entry. Failure to declare large amounts of cash can lead to penalties or confiscation.</li> </ul> <p>10) Illegal Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaging in illegal activities: Any activity deemed illegal under Thai law, such as certain types of financial transactions or business activities, is strictly prohibited.</li> </ul> <p>Always ensure you are up-to-date with the latest regulations by consulting the Thai embassy or consulate, or checking official government resources before traveling.</p>
	<p>Customs Rules when <u>Leaving</u> Thailand:</p>	<p>1) Duty-Free Allowances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duty-Free Goods: There are limits on the amount of duty-free goods you can carry out of Thailand. Exceeding these limits may require you to pay duty on the excess amount.</li> </ul> <p>2) Tax Refunds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VAT Refunds: If you are eligible for a VAT refund on items purchased in Thailand, you need to complete the VAT refund process before leaving the country. Keep all receipts and obtain the necessary paperwork from the shop and the VAT refund office at the airport.</li> </ul> <p>3) Export Restrictions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Antiques and Cultural Artifacts: Exporting antiques or cultural artifacts without proper permits and documentation is illegal. Ensure you have the correct permissions if you are taking such items with you.</li> </ul>
<p><b>More information</b></p>	<p>MSU website:  <a href="https://asiahub.isp.msu.edu/asia-hub-meeting/">https://asiahub.isp.msu.edu/asia-hub-meeting/</a></p> <p>MDRI local website:  <a href="https://mdri.cmu.ac.th/asiahub2024/">https://mdri.cmu.ac.th/asiahub2024/</a></p>	