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Ref.No. MUA. 5136/144

1 April, 1998

Prof. John A. Ballweg Professor and Extension Sociologist Virginia Tech, Viriginia Cooperative Extension Rural Sociology, Femover Hall, Room a411 Blacksburg, Virginia 24061-0136 U.S.A.

FAX: (703) 2311.3860

Dear John.

Thank you very much for the Virginia Tech Graduate School Brochure. It was really a pleasure meeting you during the MAEP meeting. I waited for your call during your short stay in Bangkok, but I presumed you did not find the time for other social calls. I hope next time you are in town you can visit our University.

Your programs in Engineering are very interesting. I am particularly interested in vour Environmental Science and Engineering program as we have started with our M.Sc. and Ph.D. programs in these fields (Environmental Biology and Environmental Engineering) I am very much involved in these two fields. We would be interested to explore how our students can avail of a sandwich program in your University so that they can do part of their research on a joint advisorship. Some of our students have the Golden Jubilee Fellowship grants (government grants in honor of the 50th year of the ascension to the throne of the King) and they can visit foreign universities for even a year.. Their foreign advisers can also visit us. We would also encourage some of your students to do their research for thesis with us, also on joint advisorship if they want to work on projects related to Asia or the tropics. We can provide them with either research or teaching assistantship grants depending upon their qualifications and interests. They however, have to pay for their own airfare., We could also consider some of your staff on sabbatical to be with us and give lectures for a term or two.

There are some of the possibilities. Perhaps you have others in mind or there are schemes available from your University that we can pursue. Please do not forget MAEP, if there are concrete ways by which your University can help, please let me know.

Happy Easter and best regards.

Sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Ruben C. Umaly

Director, CIA

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Virginia Cooperative Extension



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March 23, 1998

Dr. Ruben C. Umaly Center for Affairs Saranaree University of Technology 111 University Avenue Nakhon, Ratchasima Thailand



Dear Dr. Umaly,

It was a pleasure to meet you and to hear your address at the MAEP meeting in Cayayan de Oro. I am sorry we were not able to meet in Bangkok.

Enclosed is our Graduate Bulletin. I would be pleased to cooperate with you if the possibility arises. Let me know.

Sincerely.

John A. Ballweg

Professor and

Extension Sociologist

enclosure

Virginia Cooperative Extension



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April 14, 1998



Professor Dr. Ruben C. Umaly Director, CIA Suranaree University of Technology Centre for International Affairs 111 University Avenue, Muang District Nakhon Ratchasima Thailand

Dear Professor Dr. Umaly,

Thank you for your letter of April 1 and the Annual Report of Suranaree University of Technology. We do have many comparable programs at our universities.

For a number of years we have had Royal Thai Scholars on our campus, seeking degrees in a range of disciplines including Environmental Science and Engineering. We have one of the top three programs in the United States in that area. We are very proud of our Thai students and their excellent work increases the possibility for more students.

A representative from our Research and Graduate Studies Office expect to be in Thailand next month. He is Dr. Bernard La Berge. I have suggested that Dr. La Berge contact you during his visit. Unfortunately, Dr. La Berge was out of town when I received your letter and I will be in Korea on a research project before he returns. So, I don't know if he will have the time or opportunity to meet with you.

Possibly sometime in the future, your Rector may be in the United States. We would be pleased to have him visit our campus. He could visit our laboratories and meet with faculty to promote exchanges.

Again, let me thank you for your letter. I am very thankful that we met at the MAEP meeting. My heart is in Mindanao. In fact, next month we plan to host a visit by the Chancellor of the new University of the Philippines - Mindanao. The campus is in Davao.

Sincerely,

John A. Ballweg Professor and

Extension Sociology

cc: Dr. Bernard La Berge

