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Headline: Mahidol, Mae Fah Luang top uni list

EDUCATION

Mahidol, Mae Fah Luang top uni list

POST REPORTERS

Mae Fah Luang University and Mahidol University were ranked as the best tertiary education institution in Thailand in a global survey released by the *Times Higher Education*.

The latest edition of the survey, which was released yesterday, placed Mae Fah Luang and Mahidol universities in the 601-800 band of rankings. The survey does not assign specific rankings for universities outside the top 200 spots.

Mae Fah Luang University, in Chiang Rai province, received high scores for research citations and its "international outlook", while Mahidol performed best in terms of its graduates' income.

International outlook is defined as a university with a presence of international students, staff and teachers on campus. Chulalong-korn was ranked lower in the 801-1,000 band.

Thirteen other Thai tertiary education institutions were ranked in the top 1,000 — namely Suranaree University of Technology, King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, Chiang Mai University, Khon Kaen University, Prince of

Songkla University, Silpakorn University, Naresuan University, Srinakharinwirot University, Thammasat University, Mahasarakham University, Kasetsart University, King Mongkut's University of Technology North Bangkok, and King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang.

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"Thailand is once again the most-represented country in the Asean region, with 16 institutions," the *Times* said.

Mahidol University maintained its status as the leading university as it was also ranked in the 601-800 band last year. Although more Thai universities joined the rankings, higher education institutions in Thailand still trailed behind Singapore, the Philippines, Brunei and Malaysia in terms of ranking.

National University of Singapore maintained its status as the best in Asean, staying at 25th in the world rankings, while Nangyang Technology University — ranked the 48th best university in the world — came in second best in Asean. The University of Malaya stayed third in the region as it ranked in the 301-350 band, while the University of the Philippines and Universiti Brunei Darussalam of Brunei, another new entrant from Southeast Asia, were put in the 401-500 band.

This year, seven Asean members had 43 universities in the rankings — up from 34 a year ago — with Brunei and Vietnam entering the list for the first time.

"These nations must continue to invest in higher education if they are to further improve both in terms of quantity and quality," Ellie Bothwell, the rankings editor said in a statement.

The University of Oxford remained the best in the world for the fourth consecutive year, followed by California Institute for Technology and Cambridge University, according to the survey. The top-ranked university in Asia was Tsinghua University at 23rd, with its rival Peking University just one notch below. The survey ranked almost 1,400 universities across 92 countries.



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