Provision of Desirable Study/Research Environment for Students/Researchers: Thai Students' Expectations

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ABSTRACT

Student expectations on the international environment presented in this paper were compiled from 500 questionnaires obtained from Science Students, including both undergraduate and graduate students. Students who answered questions stay in the areas next to Bangkok (not Bangkokians), the capital of Thailand. This group of students might reflect the requirements on international environment quite well, since they are away from their hometowns and do not have any relatives nearby. All of them stay either in student dormitories or apartments which are close in distance to the university campus. Their expectations are categorized as follows:

Academic facilities: Major concern of students on the academic part is that they want to have nice professors who are trying to understand students and their limitations. They want to have nice classrooms and clean laboratories. They strongly need Language Center, and language materials which can be used for self-practices. Wireless LAN should be equipped campus-wide.

Accommodation and Foods: Student dormitories and private apartments should be close to the campus. There should have a road network that can be easily accessed. Buses connecting between residences and a campus as well as academic buildings must be sufficient in terms of their number and frequency. Student dormitories must do not have any thieves, and facilitate the low cost international call, special prize for international students. The dorms must be furnished with the kitchens and cook-wares, as well as a computer network.

Foreign Affairs: The students expected that university should set an office facilitate them on part time jobs legally both in the campus and outside the campus. They also needed

to have the brochure published by the university telling them where about locations of foreign embassies and consulates.

Health Care: Students want the university to have its own Health Center. They want to see that a GP doctor will be available 24 hours daily, everyday. They want to purchase pharmaceutical drugs without prescriptions. The health insurance for students should be competitive in price which covers dental care. There should be special unit for eye-care, and a unit offering them a low cost of visual corrected eye-glasses.

Recreation, Sport, and Cultural Centers: They want to have all kind of sport-fields, fitness center, and swimming pools. Students also want to have a theater resided in the campus. International films series/movies are available every week. The movie fees must be kept to be minimal. Some students want to see the university's park where they can enjoy sunset and relax.