

**Changing of the Old Guard:  
Retirement of Prof. C. K. Lin**

The period under review has seen the end of an era in AARM, with the retirement from AIT of Professor Chang Kwei-Lin on June 30, 2002. Kwei is a victim of AIT's policy of retirement at 60, although many will recall that that birthday was celebrated in style in September 2001 by many lifelong friends and colleagues. Kwei's departure from AIT was celebrated with a party at the Institute. Of course, it has not been possible for Kwei to step down immediately given his many duties in AARM and he was persuaded to stay on for several months to help in teaching the Coastal Aquaculture course and to complete his usually heavy load of Masteral student supervision. True to form, he also insisted that his extensive library should be passed over to the programme as a contribution to the plan to set up a student reading room.

Kwei has been waiting for some time to firm up plans to move to Vietnam to take up a position as technical advisor on a World Bank project on coastal resources management. Inevitably such projects take some time in coming to fruition and it was only towards the end of the year that some clarity was achieved about his future location.

Stop-press news (March 2003) is that Kwei has now taken up his position in Can Tho and may be contacted still through lin@ait.ac.th or his mailing address: 12/4E, Le Lai, Cantho City.

**Prof. P. Edwards' Contract Ends**

It was not long after Kwei's official retirement that the AARM programme lost the regular services of Professor Peter Edwards, whose contract ended on August 31, 2002. Peter has been on a part-time contract with AARM for three years already, since the end of the DfID Project of Support to Regional



*Prof. Lin with ITCZM graduates and other AARM Faculty during the August 2002 Graduation.*

Aquaculture Development. He has been teaching a couple of courses, doing selected student supervision and providing key inputs to Outreach. However, such an arrangement in the long-term has been beyond the Program's resources, particularly since AIT has not contributed from central funds. Of course, we will not be saying goodbye to Peter and therefore this will not be a full appreciation. Peter is continuing to live in Bangkok and will be making inputs on contract to the Programme. It is hoped that he will be involved, in particular, in the CABI Compendium and the Papussa Project (Production of Aquatic Products in Peri-Urban Systems in Southeast Asia) when these get underway in early 2003. Meanwhile, Peter is busy with the demands inevitably being placed on a man of his experience by various organization seeking consultancy expertise.

**Appointments**

Meanwhile there are new faces in AARM, notably Dr. Somsak Boromthanarat, the former Director of the Coastal Resources Institute (CORIN) at the Prince of Songkhla University in southern Thailand. Somsak has replaced Dr. John Rubin, who returned to the United Kingdom in August 2001.



AARM is fortunate to secure the services of such an experienced coastal zone planner and policy maker in the programme and his new colleagues are already benefiting from his energy and experience. Dr. Somsak was pitched into action almost immediately after taking up his appointment at the beginning of June, taking overall responsibility for the courses in Coastal Aquaculture and Planning and Fisheries Management. He also organized the workshop series in Coastal Zone Management in the September term.

*Above news items were written by Dr. Harvey Demaine.*

AARM is welcoming Dr. Ole Pedersen who is replacing Dr. Kathe Jensen as Danida-seconded faculty on Integrated Tropical Coastal Zone Management (ITCZM) which is anchored at AARM. On the teaching side, Dr. Pedersen is expected to further develop the ITCZM curriculum together with his colleagues at AIT and thereby bring ITCZM into a position where the program is able to survive as a sustainable Area of Study at AIT beyond the Danida support which possibly ends in December 2004.



*Dr. Pedersen showing AIT-ITCZM's appreciation to Dr. Worawit Wanchana of SEAFDEC for hosting a student field trip.*

Dr. Pedersen is on leave from his position as Associate Professor at University of Copenhagen where he is affiliated with the Freshwater Biological Laboratory (<http://www.fbl.ku.dk>). Nevertheless, Dr. Pedersen is specialized in seagrass ecology and has some experience from the region where he, among other things, has been doing research on the effect of deforestation-derived siltation in coastal ecosystems such as mangroves, seagrasses and corals.

*Information from Dr. Ole Pedersen.*