

SmartMetro : Smart Metro Operations Enhancement through Data Analysis

Newsletter No. 1
Quarterly SMARTMETRO Newsletter
May-July 2019



Activities under SmartMetro Project

First meeting (online discussion)

The first meeting was done via on-line facilities on 17 May 2019. Key researchers of the SmartMetro Project including Dr. Taku Fujiyama and his Ph.D. student Ms. Natchaya Lailomthong from University College London (UCL), UK and Dr. Jirapan Liangrokapart, Dr Waessara Weerawat and Dr. Anna Fraszczek from Mahidol University (MU), Thailand participated in the two hour discussion. The issues discussed included plan for visit UK in June-July 2019. The visit will be a kick-off meeting which in addition to the UCL and MU researchers, industry partners from Transport for London who work for London Underground will participate. An industry representative from a Thai metro operator, Bangkok Mass Transit System Public Company Limited (BTS) will also join the visit.



Visit of the Vice Dean and Pro-Vice-Provost of UCL

Visit of Prof. Claudio Stern, Vice Dean (International) of Life Sciences & Pro-Vice-Provost (Regional) of South-East Asia and Australasia, University College London, UK at Mahidol University and Siriraj Hospital on 22nd May 2019. The objective of the visit is to discuss about future collaborations with Mahidol University. Assoc. Prof. Nopraenu Sajjarax Dhirathiti, Acting Vice President for International Relations and Corporate Communication, and Mahidol executives welcomed.



Visit of Prof. Claudio Stern, University College London, UK



The faculty members and staff of MU visited to University College London, UK

An official kick-off meeting

An official kick-off meeting was on 2nd July 2019 during the faculty members, staff, and students of Mahidol University visited to UCL. Project activities and plan were discussed and agreed upon. Dr. Taku Fujiyama, Associate professor, Centre for Transport Studies, University College London also gave a two-day seminar for the Thai participants. The topic of the seminar is on "Metro Performance and System Design." Discussion sessions at UCL and technical visits to Transport for London, the railway operator were included.

Transformation from OTP to DRT

Our partner, the Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning (OTP), its Rail Project Development Office has been upgraded formally to the Department of Rail Transport (DRT), under the Ministry of Transportation. The new Department functions as a policymaker and regulator for overall rail management in Thailand. As the functions of the new DRT matches with our research objectives and plan, the Director of OTP has agreed to change its partnership from the OTP to the DRT in which the interim Director-General of the new Department has also agreed. The two staff of OTP who are working for the SmartMetro project have been transferred to the new Department and will continue to work for the project.

Future Activities: SMART Metro project

Mahidol University invited Dr. Taku Fujiyama and partners from Transport for London to participate Thailand Rail Academic Symposium-TRAS in November 2019 in which Mahidol University is the host of the symposium. In this conference, the rail operators, the Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and planning (OTP), and academia who are working in the Rail system will participate.