

## The Third Annual Symposium on TRF Senior Research Scholar on Flow Based Analysis, 23 September, 2004, Chiang Mai University, Thailand.

Associate Professor Dr Kate Grudpan (Chiang Mai University) is a Thailand Research Fund (TRF) Senior Research Scholar, and leads a program on the development of *Flow Based Analysis*. This program, which has now been in operation for more than three years, aims to encourage high quality research outputs as well as research team building and the nurturing of young researchers in Thailand. The program currently involves 18 researchers from six universities or research organizations in Thailand.



The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Symposium on Flow Based Analysis program was held on 23 September 2004 in Chiang Mai. In opening the meeting, Prof Vichai Boonsaeng, Director of the Academic Division, TRF, spoke warmly of the successes of the program, and announced the TRF's continued financial support for a further three years.



The meeting was attended by about 80 Thai researchers, as well as several overseas visitors as keynote speakers, and additionally attracted 33 contributed papers and poster presentations.

Prof Elo Harald Hansen (Technical University of Denmark), co-inventor of Flow Injection Analysis (FIA), presented a keynote lecture entitled "*The Impact of Flow Injection Analysis on Modern Chemical Analysis*", in which he traced the genesis and advantages of FIA, and described the applications of new generations of flow analysis such as sequential injection analysis (SIA) and lab-on-a-valve (LOV).

Professor Tadao Sakai (Aichi Institute of Technology, Japan), in his lecture "*Flow Injection Solvent Extraction for Some Water Monitoring*" described the use of FIA for on-line solvent extraction methods for cationic and anionic surfactants, and the spectrofluorometric determination of dissolved oxygen. Professor Shoji Motomizu

(Okyama University, Japan) focussed on the use of FIA for measurement of NO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub> in air, based around the use of a chromatomembrane collection and preconcentration device. Dr Ian McKelvie (Monash University, Australia) continued the environmental analysis theme and described the development of fast FIA systems for underway nutrient mapping in estuarine and marine waters.



This was followed by a number of short oral presentations by Professors Hideyuki Itabashi (Gunma University, Japan) and Hiroyuki Ukeda (Kochi University, Japan), and Dr Keiro Higuchi (FIA Instruments Co Ltd, Japan) along with presentations from young Thai researchers Jeerawan Promchan, Maliwan Amatatongchai (both Mahidol Univ), Thiraporn Charoenraks (Chulalongkorn Univ), Orawan Tue-ngeun, Sarawut Somnam, Rodjana Burakham and Jaron Jakmune (all Chiang Mai Univ). The diverse range of applications of flow analysis presented in this session served to illustrate the versatility and scope of application of flow based analytical techniques. This point

was further emphasized by the content and range of the afternoon poster session.



The final session of the day was an informal discussion of the value and directions of the TRF Senior Research Scholar program on *Flow Based Analysis*. Participants all agreed that the program had been an encouragement for them in conducting their own research activities, and that it had acted as a catalyst for the initiation of collaborative research with staff from other institutions.

