



**MAHIDOL  
UNIVERSITY**  
*Wisdom of the Land*

**RATCHASUDA COLLEGE**

# Forum for the PEN-International

**Ratchasuda College,  
Mahidol University, Thailand**

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Assistant Professor and Dean

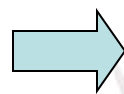
12 September 2009



## Policy and Legislation related to PWDs in Thailand

- The Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons Act 1991

[The Office of Rehabilitation under the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS)]



- The Persons with Disabilities Empowerment Act, 2007

[The Office of National Empowerment of PWDs (NEP) under the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS)]

- National Education Act - Education for All 1999 (Ministry of Education)



- The Persons with Disabilities Education Act, 2008 (Ministry of Education)



# The Persons with Disabilities Empowerment Act, 2007

- Section 20. Persons with disabilities shall be entitled to access and use public facilities including other welfare and assistance provided by the state as follow:
  - (2) Education as set forth in the legislation on national education or the national education plan, which suits their physical and mental condition in a specific education institute, a general educational institute, an alternative educational institute or non-formal education, where the agencies involved shall be responsible for providing suitable and necessary facilities, medias, services and any other educational assistance for disabled persons.



# The Persons with Disabilities Education Act, 2008

- Section 8. Higher education institutions shall accept qualified students with disabilities in their institutes.
- Education institutes shall be responsible for providing suitable and necessary facilities, medias, services and any other educational assistance for disabled persons.



### Population with Disabilities (Survey 2007)

Age Group	Population			PWDs			% PWDs		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0-6	3,447,690	3,321,114	6,768,804	6,903	5,835	12,738	0.20	0.18	0.19
7-14	4,080,680	3,892,671	7,973,351	23,872	19,621	43,493	0.59	0.50	0.55
<b>15-24</b>	<b>5,370,419</b>	<b>5,176,771</b>	<b>10,547,190</b>	<b>55,676</b>	<b>36,849</b>	<b>92,525</b>	<b>1.04</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>0.88</b>
25 - 44	10,556,069	11,020,190	21,576,259	183,524	123,199	306,723	1.74	1.12	1.42
45 -59	5,613,252	6,115,533	11,728,785	179,670	171,360	351,030	3.20	2.80	2.99
60 -69	1,899,885	2,201,646	4,101,531	153,867	206,631	360,498	8.10	9.39	8.79
70 +	1,211,109	1,659,337	2,870,446	260,516	444,337	704,853	21.51	26.78	24.56
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,179,104</b>	<b>33,387,262</b>	<b>65,566,366</b>	<b>864,028</b>	<b>1,007,832</b>	<b>1,871,860</b>	<b>2.69</b>	<b>3.02</b>	<b>2.85</b>

Source: NSO (2007). Report of Disabled Person Survey 2007





# Number & Percentage of PWDs

Total Population aged 7 yrs and over -58.7 million

- Population with Disabilities : 3.1% (1.8 million)
  - Visual Impairment (Blind & Low Vision) - 1.3 % (744,859)
  - Hearing Impairment (Deaf & Hard of Hearing) - 0.7 % (389,402)



Students with Disabilities in Higher Education, 2008

Type of Disabilities	Undergraduate		Graduate		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Physical/health-related Impairment	274	243	2	5	276	248
<b>Hearing Impairment</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>181</b>
Visual Impairment	141	148	5	6	146	154
Autism	22	5	1	0	23	5
Behavioral Disorder	25	21	0	0	25	21
Intellectual	4	9	0	0	4	9
Learning Disabilities	7	11	0	0	7	11
Mutiple Disabilities	5	9	0	0	5	9
Speech&language Disorder	24	21	0	0	24	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>648</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>659</b>

Source: Report of the Survey on DSS in Higher Education Setting, 2008

The Office of the Higher Education Commission

*Note: Deaf students in Ratchasuda College = 67 (M=33, F=34)*

• *Total Undergraduate Students in 2008*

- *Public Universities = 1,495,705*

- *Private Universities = 267,761*

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Mahidol University*







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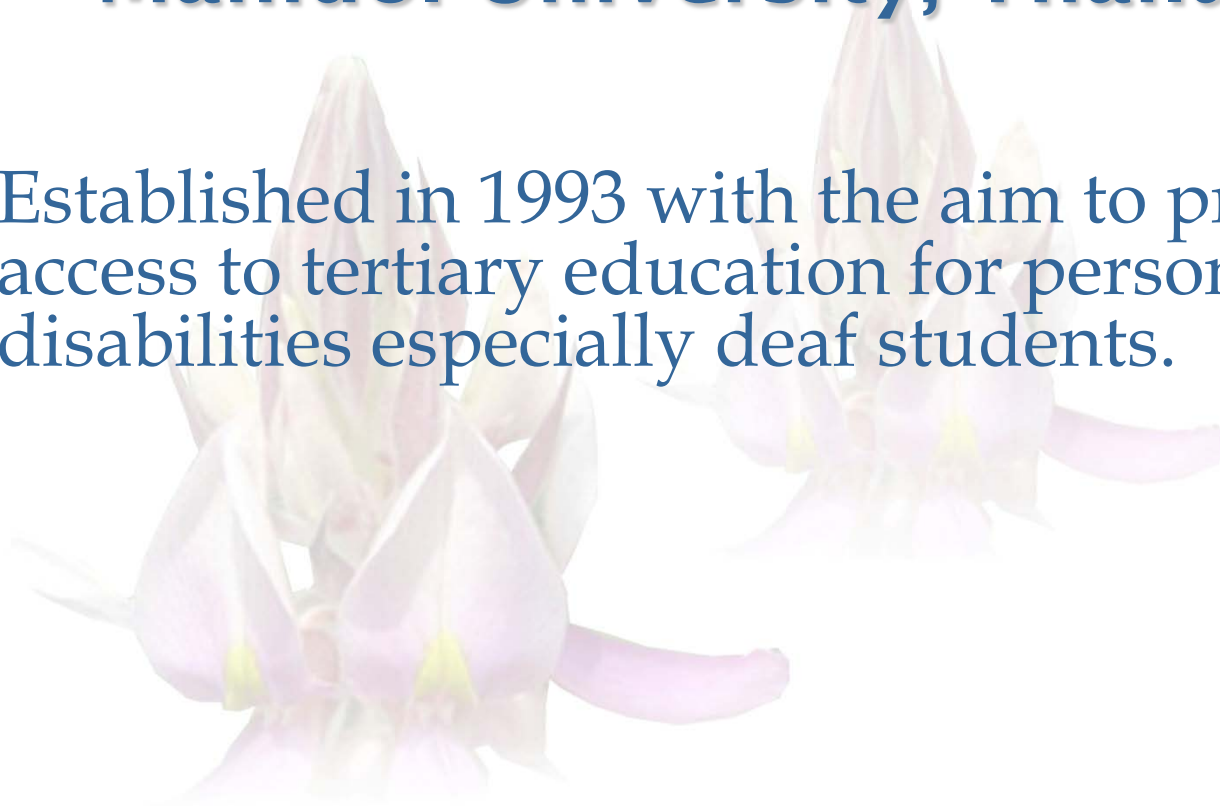
*Wisdom of the Land*

**RATCHASUDA COLLEGE**



# Ratchasuda College, Mahidol University, Thailand

- Established in 1993 with the aim to provide access to tertiary education for persons with disabilities especially deaf students.





# Education Program

- Bachelor degree program in Deaf Studies (since 2000)
- Certificate program in Thai Sign Language Interpretation (no longer offered)
- MA program in Rehabilitation Science for Persons with Disabilities (since 1996)
  - Rehabilitation Counseling
  - Assistive Technology
  - Education Support Services for Blind & Low Vision Persons
  - Rehabilitation Administration



# Objectives of the BA Program in Deaf Studies

The deaf students are expected:

1. To be a professional in Deaf studies/Deaf Education such as sign language teacher , teacher in the primary educational level of the school for the Deaf, an inclusive school, and regular school . or
2. To work in ceramics as self-employed or in the factories.
3. To be a professional colleague who works with other professions, to make the public aware about the importance of the Deaf's lifestyle, both at the domestic and the international levels.



# **B.A. in Deaf Studies (5 yrs.)**

- Teacher Preparation program and Sign Language Interpreting program: 5 majors & 3 minors
  - 5 majors:
    - Deaf History and Culture
    - Thai Sign Language
    - Sign Language Interpreting (for hearing students only)
    - Educational & Information Technology
    - Applied Arts in Ceramic





# **B.A. in Deaf Studies** (5 yrs.)

- 3 minors :
  - Teaching Thai Sign Language
  - Deaf Education
  - Guidance
- At present there are about 128 students in the BA program in Deaf Studies. About 1/3 are hearing students. These students are all in their 1<sup>st</sup> year.



# Support Services for Deaf Students

- Sign language interpreter
- Note taking
- Tutoring
- Video recording of the lectures
- Computer Laboratory
- Counseling



## **Progress Work between 2008- 2009**

- Curriculum revision of BA Program in Deaf Studies by adding educational & Information technology major (36 Cr.) in the program as 1 of the 5 elective majors.
- Conduct training course in Multimedia Software Development for Persons with Hearing Impairment (20 participants in May,2008)



## **Progress Work between 2007-2009 (cont.)**

- New B.A. Program (will offer in 2010)
  - B.A. Program in Thai Sign Language Interpreting (4 yrs.)
- New projects:
  - Research Projects
    - Using Multimedia technology to teach Thai language to deaf students
    - 3 D Sign Language Innovation
    - Design and evaluation of web based instruction for students who are deaf and hard of hearing: Global warming approach
    - **Research and development of sign language in educational and information technology terminology**
  - Teaching Thai sign language on RS web site (on-going work)
  - Pilot project - Ratchasuda Ceramics Souvenir Shop

# *Awards Receiving*



*BEAUTY IS IN SMALL THINGS*





# Project: 3-D Sign

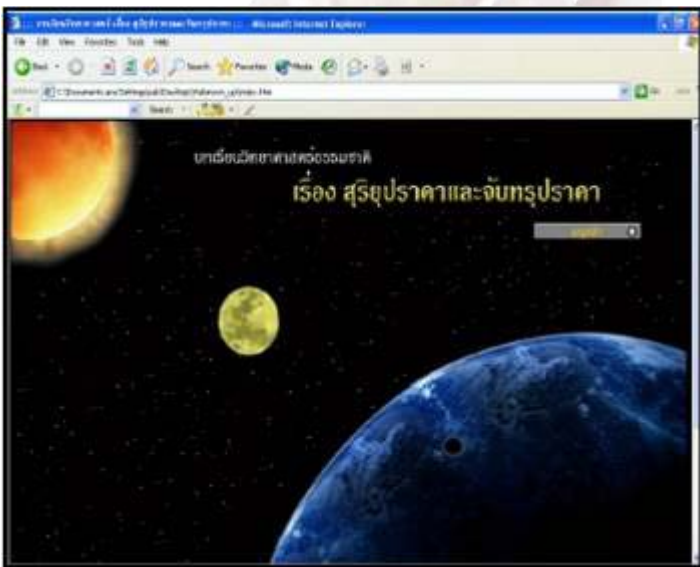
1st Prize Award in Technology for Persons With Disabilities Competition





# Research

*Web-Based Instruction on Solar Eclipse and Lunar Eclipse for Deaf and Hard of Hearing People*







# *7<sup>th</sup> Abilympics (in Japan), Golden Award in Ceramic Work*





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*THANKS YOU*

