(1) GENERAL COMMENTS

For administrative purposes, Thai is in the Department of Indonesian Languages and Literatures.

The A.N.U. represents a concentration of resources for Thai studies in Australia, and the Thai language program complements and supports research and teaching activities in other University departments with expertise and particular interest in Thailand; among them:

- Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts (Mr E.C. Chapman; Dr L. Sternstein)
- Department of Prehistory and Anthropology, Faculty of Arts (Dr D. Miles)
- Department of Anthropology, Research School of Pacific Studies (Dr G. Wijeyewardene)
- Department of Pacific and South-East Asian History, Research School of Pacific Studies (Dr J. Cushman)
- Department of International Relations, Research School of Pacific Studies (Dr J.L.S. Girling)
- Department of Asian History and Civilisations, Faculty of Asian Studies (Dr H. Loofs-Wissowa; Dr B.J. Terwiel)

An interdisciplinary Thailand studies group meets regularly.

Providing language instruction to University students and staff along the lines of formal coursework is an obvious function of the Thai program, but other support functions of a less formal character are seen by the Thai staff as equally significant. Thus considerable staff time is spent rendering special teaching and consultative services to University postgraduate students and staff members whose needs, for one reason or another, cannot conveniently be served through the normal undergraduate course sequence. This is in line with overseas universities which offer languages such as Thai, where they are seen and justified mainly in terms of supporting postgraduate and staff research activities and only marginally as an option for undergraduate study.

Since the A.N.U. has the only full tertiary Thai language sequence in Australia and also concentrates library and other academic resources in Thai studies as noted above, certain students come to the A.N.U. with Thai in mind. Annual questionnaires have been administered and results over the past five years indicate that somewhat above half of the students studying Thai decided to come to the A.N.U. specifically for this purpose.

However not all who wish to learn Thai can come to Canberra, and during 1982 discussions have been held on how to make more widely available various lesser-demand languages offered by the Faculty of Asian Studies. It is hoped that this will be an area of future development which will add to the Faculty's leadership role in providing for Australia's needs in Asian language expertise.
(ii) COURSES

The three-year Thai sequence at pass level is described on pp. 222-223 of the 1983 Faculty Handbook; Honours units (open to qualified pass-level students), on p.228. The Lao language, which is related to Thai, can be studied at Honours level.

(iii) ENROLMENTS AND EXAMINATION RESULTS

Enrolment details are in the Appendix. Students enrolled in Thai courses (30-4-82) numbered 30; in addition several non-enrolled students regularly attended lectures and tutorials. Several attended through an arrangement with the Centre for Continuing Education.

Two Faculty of Asian Studies Honours students were supervised by the staff. In addition a Faculty of Arts (history) Honours student working with Thai materials was given informal supervisory assistance (Ms B. Ryan).

Department of Defence personnel also attended Thai classes (Army: A. Longhurst, R. Gray; Navy: C. Emerson). As formal University enrolment is often not possible in these cases, Defence personnel have been admitted informally. For 1982 this policy was also followed in the case personnel from the New Zealand High Commission (Mrs T. Middleton).

(iv) STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Ms S. Borschman was elected student representative to the Department of Indonesian Languages and Literatures.

All aspects of evaluation and assessment were discussed with students and issues of weighting and scheduling were determined by majority consensus and vote. For 1982, students decided on a combination of continuous assessment assignments and tests, with optional final examinations.

Students were also asked to submit anonymous course evaluations at the end of the year. Constructive suggestions are to be incorporated into future teaching. Frequent informal contact between staff and students has provided natural contexts for feedback in both directions.

(v) WORK OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

1. At the A.N.U.
Miss J. Mulholland (supervised by Dr A. Diller and Dr B.J. Terwiel) submitted her doctoral dissertation on Thai traditional medicine.

Miss Anrini Sofion, a Master-level student in the Faculty of Arts (Prehistory and Anthropology), was supervised by Dr A. Diller and assisted considerably by Mr P. Juntanamalaga.

Mr P. Jackson, a Ph.D.-level student in the Faculty of Arts (Philosophy) received approximately 50 hours of individualised language instruction from Dr A. Diller and Mr P. Juntanamalaga, as well as informal supervisory assistance. In addition, Mr Jackson was admitted into the summer language practice arrangements that have been set up with Silpakorn University, Nakhon Pathom, Thailand (see previous Annual Reports for details). At the time of writing, Mr Jackson is in residence at Silpakorn University, where he is being assisted by Professor Banyat Ruangsri, a former Faculty Visitor. His doctoral research area is Thai religious and political philosophy.
Mr Ananda Raja, a Ph.D.-level student in the Research School of Pacific Studies (Anthropology), received considerable assistance from Mr P. Juntanamalaga.

Ms N. Cook, a Ph.D.-level student in the Research School of Pacific Studies (Anthropology), presently in Thailand collecting field data, continued to receive informal assistance from the Thai staff.

2. Supervisory cooperation with other Australian universities

Miss Sarinee Anivan, a Ph.D.-level student in Linguistics at Macquarie University received over 15 hours of supervisory assistance from Dr A. Diller, arranged through her official supervisor, Dr J. Clark. A special trip to Sydney was necessary.

Mr K. Hewison, a Ph.D.-level student in political economy in the School of Human Communication, Murdoch University, continued to receive support in his research activities from the Thai staff. (See also 1981 Annual Report.)

Ms J. Hunt, a Ph.D.-level student in the Department of General Studies, University of New South Wales, was assisted by Dr A. Diller with respect to her plans to conduct field research in Thailand.

Mr N. Grano, of the University of Tasmania and the Western Australian Institute of Technology, consulted the Thai staff at some length on his fieldwork plans.

The Thai programme has responded to a variety of additional requests by students in other Australian institutions.

(vi) STAFF

1. list of academic staff

Lecturer: Dr A.V.N. Diller, B.A. (Williams), M.A. (Johns Hopkins), Ph.D. (Cornell)

Tutor: Mr P. Juntanamalaga, B.Ed. (Sri Nakharinwirot), M.S., M.Ed. (California State U.)

2. visitors

Achan Sutira Wacharaboworn, Department of General and Secondary Education, Thai Ministry of Education, visited the Faculty of Asian Studies from April-May, 1982, and assisted in the preparation of instructional materials.

Phra Mahasamai, a Buddhist monk from Laos and Thailand, visited the Faculty of Asian Studies on two occasions under the auspices of the A.C.T. Buddhist Association. A.N.U. students took the opportunity to discuss matters of interest with him and to observe important cultural ceremonies. Mr P. Juntanamalaga was active in arrangements.
Other Thai visitors to Canberra and the A.N.U. have been received by
the Thai staff throughout the year.

3. staff movements and research

(internal)

(A.D. = Dr A. Diller; P.J. = Mr P. Juntanamalaga)

3.1 By invitation of the Department of Linguistics, Faculty of
Arts / Faculty of Asian Studies, taught the course
Linguistics C-1, 'Seminar in Psycholinguistics', in
cooperation with Dr J. Jaeger (A.D.).

3.2 Produced recordings for use in courses of the Department of
Linguistics, Faculty of Arts / Faculty of Asian Studies in
cooperation with Mr P. Rose (P.J.).

3.3 Presented a public lecture on Thai classical love poetry in
the Asian Literature Seminar Series of the Humanities
Research Centre (April, A.D.).

3.4 Presented a guest lecture on videotape resources in language
teaching to Linguistics A-13 (Applied Linguistics), at the
invitation of Dr Karl Rensch (A.D.).

3.5 Presented a public lecture on conversation and language
pedagogy in the Faculty of Asian Studies Language Lecture
Series (November, 1982; A.D.).

3.6 Served as a trustee for the Richard B. Davis bequest to the
University (A.D.).

3.7 In cooperation with the Vietnamese Consultative Committee,
devoted substantial time and effort this year as last in
supporting the introduction of Vietnamese instruction in the
University. As Vietnamese was taught on an ad hoc
basis for the first time in 1982, many organisational
details needed attention from the Committee.

3.8 In conjunction with a project of Dr A. Milner, Department of
History, Faculty of Arts, assisted staff of the British
Museum in preparing a cataloguer's guide dealing with
classification of Thai literature (A.D., P.J.).

3.9 At the request of Dr A. Reid, Department of Pacific and
South-East Asian History, Research School of Pacific Studies,
provided Thai-related admissions assistance to that
Department (A.D., P.J.).

3.10 Cooperated with staff of the University Library in making
various decisions regarding the Library's Thai language
collection (A.D., P.J.).

3.11 Served as Thai translator for the University's Translation
Unit (P.J.).
3.12 Chaired a panel session at the Asian Studies Association of Australia biennial conference at Monash University (May, 1982). The panel was called 'Language, Gender and Society' (A.D.).

Presented a paper in this panel, with Achan Sutira Wacharaboworn, called 'Gender and Self-reference in Southern Thai' (A.O.; P.J. also attended and assisted in the paper's research in various ways).

3.13 Attended the annual meeting of the Australian Linguistic Society at the University of Sydney (August, 1982; A.D.).

3.14 Acted as chairman (in the absence of Dr H. Loofs-Wissowa) of the Indo-China Panel of the National Authority for the Accreditation of Translators and Interpreters (NAATI); responsible for Lao language testing and accreditation under the Authority (A.D., with assistance from P.J.).

(field research)

(3.15 Dr A. Diller's summer 1981-82 research activities are described in the 1981 Annual Report.)

3.16 For two months during the summer of 1982-83, Mr P. Juntanamalaga is to be in Thailand on a variety of tasks relating to research and pedagogical preparations.

(main research and writing projects in progress)

3.17 Mr P. Juntanamalaga and Dr A. Diller are collaborating in compiling a reference grammar of Thai.

3.18 Mr P. Juntanamalaga is completing a volume of his short stories to be published in Thailand.

3.19 Dr A. Diller is continuing work and supervision on a Southern Thai dictionary project, initially funded by the Ford Foundation through its Southeast Asia Fellowship Program. He is collaborating with staff at the Southern Thai Cultural Studies Institute of Sri Nakharinwirot University, Songkhla, Thailand.

(3.20 Other longer-term ongoing research has been mentioned in previous Annual Reports.)

other activities

4.1 Dr A. Diller served as a Resident Fellow of Bruce Hall during 1982, as he has since 1978. Five to ten hours per week were given serving the University in this capacity, with tutorial and pastoral duties in this case particularly concerned with the academic and personal welfare of foreign students.
4.2 The Thai staff have provided informal counselling and advice to Thai foreign students who have taken up studies at the A.N.U.

4.3 Various members of the A.N.U. community visiting Thailand for academic purposes have been provided with advice, academic contacts or translation/interpreter service as necessary (the latter supplied, e.g., to Dr M. Gore, Department of Physics, Faculty of Science).

4.4 The Thai staff organised two Thai video-cinema showings which were well attended by the local Thai and Indo-Chinese community.

4.5 Mr P. Juntanamalaga cooperated with staff of the Royal Thai Embassy in preparing representative Thai cuisine for the annual (October) cultural fair at Government House.

(vii) PUBLICATIONS

Diller, A.V.N.

(accepted 6-1980) Reflections on Tai diglossic mixing. Orbis (Louvain); approx. 20 pp.


Barz, R.K. and Diller, A.V.N.
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