

**Session B2: Landscape Education – Research & Journal**  
**“New Learning Environment” a strategy to win back campus green,**  
**case study of KMUTT Thailand**

Apinya Limpai boon<sup>1</sup>, Ekawat Opartpong sakorn<sup>2</sup>  
King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi, Thailand

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<sup>1</sup> Assistant Professor, School of Architecture and Design, KingMongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi, 49 Soi Tientale25, Bang Khun Tien Chai Tale road, Thakham, Bang Khun Tien, Bangkok Thailand 10150  
Email: alimpaiboon@gamil.com

<sup>2</sup> Lecturer, School of Architecture and Design, KingMongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi, 49 Soi Tientale25, Bang Khun Tien Chai Tale road, Thakham, Bang Khun Tien, Bangkok Thailand 10150

## Abstract

King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT) was initiated in 1960 as vocational education to train technicians, technical instructors, and technologists. After 55 years, KMUTT has developed its role in Thai society from technical school to the leading institutions in science and technology. The University has expanded its members from 21 students to 17,000 students and provides educational level from undergraduate to the doctoral degree, which requires learning facilities, classrooms, lab spaces, and workshops. By the year 2000, most of campus area were occupied by buildings and roads, left only 30% for green space of ponds and sports field. As a result, School of Architecture and Design has done the study to propose KMUTT 2002 Master plan with the concept of "Walk and Bike society", to clarify campus zoning and circulation. Roads as well as some functions were to be reduced, rerouted and relocated in order to improve the infrastructure and open space quality. However, the 2002 Master plan was difficult to be realized due to the custom of commuting by cars and norm of occupying conventional space.

Nevertheless, on the educational side, KMUTT's role in society keeps changing according to the expectation of industries and its society, so as to the teaching and learning pedagogy. Its direction is to be a multidisciplinary university which collaborate among science, technology and creativity, and to be a leader in green innovative research with its focus on environmental technology contributes to the society. Recently, KMUTT has developed the learning model called KMUTT3.0 in order to encourage new approach of learning to achieve 21<sup>st</sup> C skill, which requires a support of new learning environment. Therefore, in 2011 the Landscape team has integrated Creative Learning Space concept into KMUTT 2002 Master plan to assign the role of the new learning environment for each zone. According to the 2011 Landscape Masterplan, the entire 52-acre ground space of KMUTT area will be knowledge sharing space linked to central green called

Learning Garden. By pursuing the understanding of Creative Learning Space among its members, KMUTT could move towards green university by demolishing some buildings for park and make progress in developing the entire campus following the Master plan. In conclusion, this paper will present how the concept of New Learning Environment could be seen as a strategy to win back public space for KMUTT's green.

*Keywords:* New Learning Environment, Green campus, learning space, winning back public space