

The Asian Research Institute for International Social Work (ARIISW),
Shukutoku University

Report: The PhD Degree Celebration Lectures

The ARIISW held the PhD degree celebration lectures and related events on 22 September and we invited the three graduates of the Visiting Researcher (VR) Fellowship ROMPAKU Program leading to Ph.D. Six years have passed since the start of this program, and this event was the first time that the graduates to gather.

After the opening address by Professor Noriko Totsuka, Director of the ARIISW, congratulatory speeches were given by Professor Mina Yonemura, Dean of the Graduate School, and Dr Wanwadee Poonpoksin¹ (1st VR; Thammasat University, Thailand). Dr Dechen Doma² (2nd VR; the Royal University of Bhutan) and Rev. Dr Omalpe Somananda³ (4th VR; the Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka) gave the lectures based on their experiences throughout the program. They emphasized the significance of the process in the program, their gratitude to those involved in their research activities and their aspirations for future education, research and academic exchange.

This event strongly indicates the impact and the potential for development of this program and the importance of network-building. The ARIISW will continue to contribute to meeting the needs of social work educational and research institutions in Asia and other regions, in corporation with other stakeholders around the world.



◆News from the ARIISW can be found on the following website.

<https://www.shukutoku.ac.jp/en/about/facilities/asiancenter.html>

¹ The title of the PhD thesis: ‘Social well-being situations of unskilled Myanmar migrant workers in Thailand : a data-driven study of Bangkok metropolitan region’.

² The title of the PhD thesis: ‘At the interface of Buddhism and western approaches to youth substance abuse in Bhutan: a comparison of client and agency understanding of treatment and effectiveness’.

³ The title of the PhD thesis: ‘An analytical study on applicability of teachings in Buddhism for the development of Buddhist social work education’.