

Speakers' Biography



Mr. Artur Taevere

*Founder,
Creative Generation*

Artur is the founder of Creative Generation, an organisation working with primary schools to support the development of critical thinking and problem solving skills. By participating in our innovative professional development programmes, teachers learn how to improve students' critical thinking skills through literacy and problem solving through mathematics. Our programmes are unique because they are highly practical, relevant and affordable.

Previously Artur worked at Teach For All, the global network for expanding educational opportunity, leading the team that supported the professional development of teachers and school leaders in 25 countries around the world. He has worked with a number of innovative schools in Europe, North America and Asia. He has also advised the Government of Estonia - already with one of the highest performing school systems in the world - on the national 2020 education strategy. His particular contribution included: what makes learning effective for children, and how to support teachers in implementing practices informed by research.

Artur grew up in Estonia, studied Philosophy, Politics and Economics at the University of Oxford, and has recently returned to live in Oxford with his wife.



Dr. Supoet Srinutapong

*Director,
Public Sector Programmes,
Microsoft (Thailand) Ltd.*

Supoet Srinutapong is Director for Public Sector Programs. He is responsible to strengthen Microsoft's relationships with major customers, build strong relationships with local governments, education and key IT partnerships. He also looks into the development of medium to long term expansion strategy for markets where there is a lack of Microsoft's direct presence.

Prior to this role, Supoet was Marketing Director for Thailand and Indochina at Cisco Systems (Thailand) Ltd. since October 2000 and had successfully run the Cisco Networking Academy Programme from its inception to reality. And prior to that, he was a Director of Bachelor of Science programme in Telecommunications Science at Assumption University and Senior Quality Engineer at Seagate Technology (Thailand) Limited.

Supoet joined Microsoft in 2003 as Manager for Academic Programmes in charge of the implementation budget and logistics for the Partners in Learning initiative. He is also responsible for evangelising the program to the education community.

Supoet holds a Doctor of Education degree in Administration and Leadership for Change, Master of Science degree with distinction in Telecommunications and Computer Network Engineering from South Bank University, London - UK and also earned Bachelor of Engineering degree in Electronics Engineering from Assumption University.



Dr. Benjalug Namfa

*Consultant,
Office of the Basic Education
Commission (OBEC)*

Dr. Benjalug Namfa, a consultant to the Office of the Basic Education Commission (OBEC), Ministry of Education, has a broad and profound understanding of education policy and practice. She has served Thailand in various positions, both at the high policy making and implementation practitioner levels. While she was an Inspector General, advising the Minister, her scope of work was widened. She overlooked three main types of education, including formal, non-formal, and informal, and at all levels, from early childhood education to higher education and continuing education for lifelong learning, bringing them up to quality standards. She employed her expertise in teacher development and learning processes. Throughout her career, it has been a great honor to serve many educational programs of the Royal Development Projects.

She is a pioneer in education reform introducing the "student-centered learning" approach as outlined in the National Education Act 1999 and the Basic Education Curriculum of Thailand, overseeing its implementation in classrooms throughout country. While she was the Deputy Secretary-General of OBEC, she faced the challenge of implementing the national Literacy, Numeracy, and Reasoning Ability Program. This program involved literacy scanning methods, tools and materials, online follow up and monitoring, reporting, and evaluation. The program has raised public awareness of the importance of literacy and promoted reading nationwide. Meanwhile, Dr. Benjalug has also contributed to the design of 15-year free education policy since 2009, which is based on the principles of a rights-based education.

She envisages Thai society in 2015 as being a part of the ASEAN Community in the 21st century and has translated this vision into school practice. The programs have given rise to several international cooperation initiatives including the establishment of the ASEAN Studies Center in every province, ASEAN language courses, and the ASEAN Youth Leadership Camp. She also participates in developing the ASEAN Curriculum Source Book with other ASEAN countries, which is implemented by integrating the national curriculum of each of the countries.

Dr. Benjalug is also a country representative for various conferences organized by international educational organizations, including UNESCO and UNICEF, SEAMEO, ASCD, and the World Bank. She works as a consultant to and adviser on education development policy and as a lecturer for both the public and private sectors in Thailand and abroad.

Dr. Benjalug holds a doctorate degree in Curriculum, Teaching & Educational Policy and a master's degree in Elementary Education from Michigan State University, USA.



Ms. Felicia Brown

*Asia Pacific Education
Programmes Director,
Microsoft*

Felicia Brown began her career as an English and History teacher in Australia. As technology began to become more pervasive in business Felicia leveraged her education and teaching background in the financial sector to create staff professional development and user manuals for the integration of personal computers into banking processes.

Felicia joined Microsoft in 1992 and following successful roles in marketing and operations returned to her passion: education. In her current role as Asia Pacific Education Programmes Manager, Felicia manages Microsoft's professional development programmes for both K-12 and higher education to help drive the use of technology in the classroom and deliver the 21st century learning to students. In this role, she has developed many strategic partnerships with Ministries of Education, NGOs, school leaders and educators across the Asia Pacific region to help deliver the potential of technology to improve learning outcomes and transform education.

Felicia has a Masters' Degree in English Language from the University of New South Wales, a Bachelor of Arts in Education from the University of Sydney and Graduate Diploma in Marketing Management from Sydney TAFE.



Mr. Mark Windale

*Principal Lecturer,
Science Education at the
Centre for Science Education,
Sheffield Hallam University*

Mark Windale is a Principal Lecturer in Science Education at the Centre for Science Education, Sheffield Hallam University. Before taking up his post at the university 20 years ago he was a biology and science teacher in 5 secondary schools, holding posts of increasing management responsibility, culminating in a senior management post. Mark is an expert in Inquiry-based, Problem-based and Active Teaching and Learning. He has been responsible for running national continuing professional development (CPD) and curriculum development projects in the UK, South and South East Asia, the Middle East, and former Soviet Union countries, to support pedagogical change, the move towards student-centred teaching and learning, inquiry-based teaching and learning, and the teaching of science through the medium of English. He has been involved in more than 35 national and international CPD, curriculum development and research projects focussing on the development of active teaching and learning; problem solving and thinking skills; personal capabilities and key skills; scientific investigation and enquiry; STEM education; the use of ICT in teaching and learning; 'How Science Works'; leadership; the development of Science Teacher and Leadership standards; and the retention of teachers as a project director, writer, CPD provider, and researcher. Mark is currently working in partnership with OBEC, the British Council, and BG Thailand on the Inspiring Science project in Thailand; the British Council and Ministry of Education, Malaysia on the HEBAT Sains project; and the Ministry of Education, Brunei on the IBSE Brunei project.



Ms. Siriporn Pajharawat

Director Developer Experience & Platform Evangelism Group, Microsoft (Thailand) Ltd.

Siriporn Pajharawat is the Director of Microsoft's Developer Experience & Platform Evangelism (DX) Group. Having assumed this role since 2008, Pajharawat manages a team of technical evangelists and audience marketers who run and drive programmes and activities to strengthen Thailand's local software and digital economy.

Prior to leading the DX team, Pajharawat was a Senior Business Planning Manager in the Business Management & Operation Group at Microsoft Thailand, where she managed the alignment of cross-subsiary business & marketing, and spending discipline across the operations. She facilitated the cross-subsiary top-down and bottom-up annual and semi-annual planning, as well as provided business & marketing insights, resulting in cohesive, strategic and growth-oriented business plans for seamless execution.

Pajharawat joined Microsoft Corporation in December 1993 to set up the operations and sales of Microsoft Press, the book and e-Learning publishing division at Microsoft, in Southeast Asia. Pajharawat relocated to Microsoft's headquarter in Redmond, Washington in 1997, to set up the support system for Microsoft Press' foreign licensing business. The next nine years saw Pajharawat growing rapidly in various disciplines including sales, marketing, business development and product management, as well as overseeing the businesses in IndoChina, India and the Sub Continent, Greater China (People's Republic of China, Taiwan and Hong Kong), Asia Pacific plus Japan, and North America.

Pajharawat also has a successful track record in Microsoft Learning (MSL), a training and skills development division at Microsoft. Pajharawat played a key role in the setup of new business operations for MSL in India and the Sub -Continent, drove worldwide pricing strategy for Microsoft Learning products, recommended 'make or buy' decision for innovative learning components, and drove pricing and licensing negotiation directly with licensors within the USA and abroad. Pajharawat holds a Master's degree in business administration from Suffolk University, Boston, MA, USA.



Dr. Kanchulee Punyain

Science Educator, Bureau of Academic Affairs and Educational Standards, OBEC, Ministry of Education

Kanchulee Punyain is the science educator at Bureau of Academic Affairs and Education Standards, Office of the Basic Education Commission, Ministry of Education, Thailand. She graduated in Science Education from Srinakharinwirot University, Thailand in 2007. Since then she has been working in the field of Science Education.

Kanchulee Punyain is an expert in the planning and management of professional development and curriculum development projects focusing in particular on the areas of science education and gifted-talented education.

So far Kanchulee Punyain has been involved as a project planner and manager in the Inspiring Science Project funded by Office of the Basic Education Commission, British Council, Thailand and British Gas Company. She has coordinated partnerships with Mr. Mark Windale, Principal Lecturer in Science Education, Centre for Science Education (CSE), Sheffield Hallam University in the Inspiring Science project. Kanchulee Punyain is also the core trainer in the Little Scientist House, Thailand and the trainer for the professional development for science teachers in Thailand.



Dr. Teerakiat Jareonesettasin

Vice Minister, Ministry of Education

A graduate in Medicine from Chulalongkorn University, Dr. Teerakiat Jareonesettasin did his training in Psychiatry and Child Psychiatry at the Institute of Psychiatry, University of London. He is a member of the Royal College of Psychiatrist ,UK.

At present, he is a Vice Minister, Ministry of Education and Director of Center for Educational Psychology at Foundation of Virtuous Youth. He has also trained in Cognitive Behaviour Therapy at the Back Institute and Harvard University.

A child psychiatrist practising in the UK, Dr. Teerakiat has been actively teaching ethics and human development for over twenty years. He is also sought after for his socratic style in teaching.



Associate Professor Naraporn Chan-o-cha

Vice-Chairman, Distance Learning Foundation

Associate Professor Naraporn Chan-o-cha is a retired professor of Chulalongkorn University. After graduating from Thammasart University with a Bachelor of Arts (English), and Mahidol University with a Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics. Associate Professor Naraporn Received her Teacher Education Certificate from Leeds University, United Kingdom. She also completed a course from National Defence College in 2003 and Justice Executives Training Course in 2010.

Associate Professor Naraporn's previous civil servant positions include Associate Professor (Class 9) and Deputy Director for Administration and Planning at Chulalongkorn University Language Institute.

Associate Professor Naraporn is passionate about linguistics and social work. Other prominent appointments include committee member of the International Association of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) between 1999 and 2005, President of Thailand TESOL Association under the Patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Galyani Vadhana between 2001 and 2003. Associate Professor Naraporn is currently holding many distinguished positions including Deputy Chairperson of Distance Learning Foundation, Sub-committee for Production of Documentaries to Honour the Royal family under the responsibility of the National Identity Office, Office of Permanent Secretary, Committee member of the Crown Property Bureau Foundation, Advisor of Federation of Thai Language and Culture Teachers in Europe, and Chairperson of the Committee in Support of Princess Galyani Vadhana Institute of Music' Activities.

For her valuable contributions to the Kingdom of Thailand, Associate Professor Naraporn has been awarded the Knight Grand Cross (First Class) of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand, the Knight Grand Cross (First Class) of the Most Exalted Order of the White Elephant, and most recently, in 2004, the Knight Grand Cordon of the Most Noble Order of the Crown of Thailand.

Associate Professor Naraporn is married to General Prayut Chan-o-cha and has 2 twin daughters. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, visiting museums, and learning about different traditions and cultures.



Dr. Kusalin Musikul

Director of Primary Science Division, The Institute for the Promotion of Teaching Science and Technology

She has been working at the Institute for the Promotion of Teaching Science and Technology (IPST). Her current position is the Director of the Primary Science Division. She earned her Ph.D. in Science Education, University of Missouri-Columbia, USA and master degree in Organic Chemistry from Chulalongkorn University. She has been working at IPST for 14 years, her responsibilities are to develop Science Education Standards, research and develop science learning material for 1st -6th grade students. Her research interests are Professional Development, Students' Learning, Pedagogical Content Knowledge, and Nature of Science.



Ms. Satoko Yano

Programme Specialist in Education Policy and Reform Unit (EPR), UNESCO

Satoko Yano is a Programme Specialist in the Education Policy and Reform Unit (EPR) at UNESCO Bangkok. At EPR, she leads a team working on education sector planning and management with a specific focus on equity, quality, and efficiency of education systems. She is also heavily involved in providing technical assistance to the UNESCO Member States in the areas of education sector planning and education simulation modeling. She also serves as a Head of the Secretariat of the Asia-Pacific Education Research Institutes Network (ERI-Net), a regional network of education policy research institutes. Through ERI-Net, Satoko leads a regional study on integration of transversal competencies (i.e., 21st century skills) in education policy and practice, a multi-phased policy study covering 10 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. She joined UNESCO in 2003 at its Headquarters in Paris as a member of a Unit dedicated to global coordination of EFA. Prior to joining UNESCO Bangkok in 2009, she also worked in UNESCO Beijing, where she managed UNESCO's education programmes in China, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, DPR Korea, and Japan. She holds a BA from University of Tokyo, Japan and a Master's Degree as well as a PhD from Columbia University, USA.



Mr. Nicholas Garrick

Founder and Director, Lighting up Learning

Nicholas is Founder and Director of Lighting up Learning. He is an energiser and passionate that learning should be a process; an experience to be explored and engaged with. He believes that connecting people and enabling collaboration will lead to sustainable change.

As associate Headteacher and Millpond Primary School, Bristol, he is dedicated to enhancing learners' experiences. As a trainer, he inspires people to 'get up and go'. As executive coach and consultant, he listens intently, seeks opportunity and develops potential in others in order to achieve feasible, real solutions. Over the past 13 years, Nicholas has taught Reception to Year Six; been an Advanced Skills Teachers and Deputy Head. He regularly works overseas, predominantly across Asia supporting governments and school leaders to implement change.