Smart Materials Research Center



General Information

- ◆ Approved in FY 2018
- ◆ Established in August 2018
- Established by the Institute for Integrated Cell-Material Sciences (iCeMS) and Kyoto University Institute for Advanced Study (KUIAS)
- Partner institution: Vidyasirimedhi Institute of Science and Technology (VISTEC), Thailand
- Location: Vidyasirimedhi Institute of Science and Technology (VISTEC), Rayong, Thailand (outbound)
- ◆ Functions: Research in materials science fields, and training of graduate students and early-career researchers for active roles in international academia

Positive ripple effects to the university's activities

- Development of international joint research including research with local companies
- Student recruitment
- Provision of education for local students and summer schools
- Development into international joint program (JD/DD)
- Establishment of venture companies
- > Recruitment of talented undergraduate students from top universities throughout Thailand through in-person visits or online recruitment activities.
- Utilize VISTEC's one- and two-year study abroad programs for PhD students, and strengthen collaboration and develop joint research with relevant top laboratories around the world through using VISTEC as a hub.
- > Continue to develop the research using the Thai research grants, and establish a new research consortium consisting of multiple research organizations.

Activity Overview



- Instructing PhD students and cultivating human resources for industry, government, and academia
- Establishment and management of a sustainable laboratory
- Launching projects and obtaining external funding



Smart Materials Research Center



Main Activities in FY 2023

1 Promoting materials science and chemistry research through collaboration between local lab members and others

- Research results are published through collaboration with research groups within VISTEC. As an example, during the period 4/1/2023-3/31/2024, a total of 17 papers (including 5 in Nature Index) were published.
- VISTEC's study abroad program and on-site lab expenses were utilized to dispatch students to major research groups, especially in Europe and the U.S., and to strengthen collaborative research systems.
 PhD students participated in and presented their research at overseas conferences throughout the year.
- Dr. Thidarat Imyen (iCeMS Junior Fellow), who has been working with us, was promoted to a faculty position at Kasetsart University, Thailand, in recognition of her achievements in the on-site lab.

Efforts to establish sustainable laboratory/launching new projects and acquiring external funding

- Dr Horike participated in the admissions process and was involved in the placement of students to establish an annual student intake system, and is on track to receive one new PhD student in FY2024.
- Received high evaluation at the mid-term review for two ongoing Program Management Unit (PMU-B) projects in Thailand. The organizers have asked us to continue and expand the PMU-B projects, and we plan to submit a new application in FY2024.



Participating institutions for the ongoing PMU-B project.