

# The Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science

## NEWSLETTER

Vol. III, No. 1 October 2007



### The Academy

The Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science was constituted on 16 August 1999 with 717 members and an executive committee comprising 24 members headed by a president, three vice presidents, and a secretariat of secretary and three joint secretaries. Members of the Academy are mostly professors, associate professors, researchers and Ph.D. degree holders who once served or are now serving in the various universities, colleges and institutions of the Ministry of Education.

### Mission

The primary mission of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science is to participate and contribute to the changes and reforms that are needed to prepare future generations to meet and overcome the challenges of the new millennium.

### Commitment

The establishment of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science underlines the crucial role assigned to academicians, experts and technocrats by the State in its endeavours to build a new and modern developed nation. The Academy is fully committed to this undertaking, and the entire membership of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science is firmly resolved to do everything within its power to help fulfill the national aspirations of the State and the people.



Minister's Speech at Best Paper Award Ceremony of Research Conference

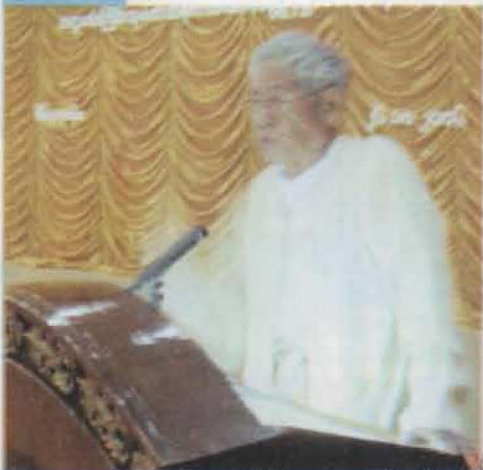


Audience at Best Paper Award Ceremony

#### Aims and Objectives

1. To help in the building of a peaceful, modern and developed nation with the expertise and knowledge of the members of the Academy.
2. To undertake research which will be of benefit to the nation as well as to provide guidelines for research.
3. To inspire and motivate new generations of scholars and technocrats who will serve the nation.
4. To lay down firm foundations for the pursuit of the arts and sciences which are essential for the development of the nation, and,
5. To pursue programmes and measures for improving the educational aspirations, training and proficiency of all those citizens who are actively involved in the development of the nation.





President of MAAS gives speech at Opening Ceremony of Sixth Research Conference



Director-General U Zaw Htay gives speech at Sixth Research Conference



Audience at Opening Ceremony

### Committees

- ❖ A committee for the dissemination of modern methods and techniques of teaching and learning
- ❖ A committee for the promotion of research and providing guidelines for research programmes and projects
- ❖ A committee for the dissemination and propagation of knowledge and expertise among the general public
- ❖ A committee for the promotion of measures aimed at the generation and proliferation of competent researchers, academicians and technocrats.

Each of these committees draws up and implements programmes in accordance with the specific aims and objectives of the Academy.

## Conferences and Seminars



### The Sixth Research Conference

To inspire and motivate new generations of scholars which is one of the important objectives of the MAAS, an annual research conference has been held since the year 2001, and since 2005, The Best Paper Award has been given for academic excellence and significant research contributions in each subject. The papers are judged by respective selection committees comprising of scholars in each field.

The opening ceremony of the 2006 Annual Research Conference was held at the Yangon University Diamond Jubilee Hall. Director General U Zaw Htay of the Directorate of Higher Education (Lower Myanmar) gave the opening speech. The keynote address by U Thaw Kaung, member of the Myanmar Historical Commission was then presented on his behalf by Professor of History Dr. Kyaw Win. At the close of the opening ceremony the audience dispersed to the various venues of the University of Yangon and the Institute of Economics where the papers were to be presented for the duration of the conference. Altogether 296 papers were submitted.

The ceremony for the Best Paper Awards was held on 31<sup>st</sup> October at





the Institute of Economics. Minister for Education Dr. Chan Nyein honoured the ceremony with his presence and gave a speech. Then prizes were awarded by the Education Minister Dr. Chan Nyein, President of the MAAS U Than Oo, Director General U Zaw Htay of the Department of Higher Education (Lower Myanmar) and Vice-President of the MAAS Dr. Thein Myint and Professor of Psychology Dr. Kyaw Sein.

### Bi-monthly Talks

Since the formation of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science scholars from various fields have given bi-monthly talks on a wide variety of topics, open to all interested. The talks are usually held in the Conference Hall of the University of Yangon due to the good offices of the acting Rector Dr. Tun Khin.

The talks given from February 2006 to date are:

- ★ On Bioethics – Dr. Kyi Kyi Thin
- ★ The Nature of Pure Fact – Dr. Thein Zan
- ★ The Compilation of the Anthology of Myanmar Literature (မြန်မာစာညွန့်ပေါင်းကျမ်းများဖော်ထုတ်ပြုစုမှု) – U Soe Nyunt (Dr. Htilar Sitt Thu)
- ★ Copyright in Literature and Art (စာပေအနုပညာဆိုင်ရာ နှုတ်ခွင့်) – U Myo Thant (Maung Hsu Shin)
- ★ Scientific Methods in Behavioural Sciences – Dr. Kyaw Sein
- ★ Biodiesel: An Alternative to Fossil Fuel – Dr. Maung Kyaw
- ★ The Science of Climate Change and Global Warming – Dr. Tun Lwin
- ★ National Security Measures of Myanmar Monarchs (မြန်မာမင်းတို့၏ လုံခြုံရေးအစီအမံများ) – Dr. Toe Hla

## A Significant Step Forward

### The Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science Award

This year 2007, will be put on record as the year in which the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science took a giant step forward in achieving its aims and objectives. With the help and support and of the Government and the encouragement of the Ministry of Education, approval has been obtained for the Academy to confer a national award to the best research project leading to a doctoral dissertation in the Arts, Sciences and the Humanities beginning from the year 2006. There will be three awards titled:

The Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science Award (Arts)

The Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science Award (Science)

The Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science Award (Humanities)

The awards will be conferred in October 2007 after the Annual Research Conference.

This was undertaken after much discussion and deliberations, first within the executive committee of the MAAS and in consultation with the authorities of the Ministry of Education headed by the Minister of Education. Then discussions were held with professors and heads of departments of post-graduate studies of the Universities of Yangon and Mandalay.

Preliminary selection committees were formed for each subject with 9 members at professor level, both in service and retired, the majority of whom are members of the MAAS.

Criteria for selection and a marking scheme were also drawn up and

## Meetings

- ♦ The executive committee of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science holds regular monthly meetings on the first Wednesday of every month and informal meetings on the last day of month to discuss future plans and make suggestions for items to be included in the monthly agenda. These informal gatherings sometimes turn into brainstorming sessions on academic topics.
- ♦ Additional meetings are held by the committees of the MAAS as and when required.
- ♦ Coordination meetings are held with members of the MAAS in Upper Myanmar by a team headed by the President and some EC members twice a year. Vice President Dr. Thein Myint who permanently resides in Mandalay is



responsible for coordination with members from Upper Myanmar.

- ♦ On 19 March 2007, President of the MAAS U Than Oo, Vice-



» prescribed for the selection committees.

A Central Committee for final selection has also been formed.

Then information was given through the departments concerned



that all who had been granted doctorate degrees in their field in 2006 were eligible to submit their dissertations for competition if they so wished.

To date the preliminary selection committees have met the prescribed number of times and have made their decisions which they have submitted to the Central Selection Committee.

The Central Selection Committee has already held its first meeting and is in the process of deliberations.

The winners will be awarded a cash prize, a certificate to the effect and a commemorative plaque by the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science. (See insert for design of the plaque)





President Dr. Hla Wai, Joint Secretary Dr. Soe Yin and executive members Dr. Myo Than Tyn, Daw Kyi Kyi Hla and Daw Yi Yi Myint held discussions with two World International Property Organization (WIPO) representatives Mr. Ang Kwee Tiang and Mr. Candra Darumen, Myanmar IP representatives U Mya Than, U Myo Thant, U Kyaw Zaw Naing, U Myo Aung and Daw Tin Tin Win on the ***Feasibility Study for Collective Management for Copyright and Related Rights.***

- ♦ A briefing took place between representatives of the MAAS executive committee members headed by President U Than Oo and presidents and secretaries of the of the preliminary Award Selection Committees on criteria and the marking scheme for choosing the best dissertation for each subject at the preliminary level. Discussions took place after the briefing and members of the various selection committees were given the opportunity to ask questions and also give their views.
- ♦ The Central Committee for Selection of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science Award met on 11 July 2007.
- ♦ The Central Selection Committee held a meeting on 28th September 2007 to finalize the selection of the award winners.

### New Publications

1. ***Journal of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science – Volume V/Nos.1-10.*** This is a publication of the papers presented at the Sixth Annual Research Conference.
2. ***Studies on Relativity*** by Professor of Physics Dr. Sein Tun, member of MAAS.

### Miscellany

- ❖ EC members of the MAAS give lectures to students working for their doctorate and masters degrees and supervise doctoral dissertations. They are also invited as external examiners in *viva voce* examinations.
- ❖ Internet communications was installed by the Myanmar Post and Telecommunications Department at the Office of the Myanmar Academy of Arts and Science on 15 June 2007.

## Member of Executive Committee of the MAAS

No.	Name	Degree	Subject	Duties
1.	U Than Oo (D.G., Retd. DBE)	M.Ed.	Education	President
2.	Dr. Hla Way (Prof., Retd.)	Ph.D.	Chemistry	Vice-President
3.	Dr. Thein Myint (D.G., Retd.)	Ph.D.	Mathematics	Vice-President
4.	U Zaw Htay	MBA	Commerce	Secretary
5.	Dr. Myo Myint (Rector, U.F.L.)	Ph.D.	English	Jt.Sec.(Arts)
6.	Dr. U Win	Ph.D.	Botany	Jt.Sec.(Science)
7.	Dr. Kan Zaw (Rector, Y.I.E.)	M.Eco. D.Litt.	Economics	Jt.Sec.(Social Sciences)
8.	U Myine Thant (Prof. Retd.)	M.A.	Myanmar	Member
9.	U Thi Ha (Prof. Retd.)	M.A.	English	Member
10.	U Hla Tun Aung (Rector, Retd.)	M.A.	Geography	Member
11.	Daw Kyi Kyi Hla (Prof. Retd.)	M.A.	Philosophy	Member
12.	Dr. Soe Yin (Rector, Ret.)	Ph.D.	Physics	Jt.Sec.(Science)
13.	Daw Tin Tin Myint (Prof.Retd.)	M.A.	Oriental Studies	Member
14.	Daw Sein Sein (Dir.,Retd. D.H.E)	M.A.	Anthropology	Member
15.	U Sein Min (Prof. Retd.)	M.Sc.	Mathematics	Member
16.	U Soe Thu (Prof. Retd.)	M.Sc	Zoology	Member
17.	Dr. Myo Thant Tyn (Dir., Retd.)	Ph.D.	Chem. Engg.	Member
18.	Dr. Thet Lwin (Prof. Retd.)	Ph.D.	Statistics	Member
19.	Daw Yi Yi Myint (Prof. Retd.)	M.B.A	Business Admn.	Member
20.	Dr. Daw Than Nwè	LLM., D.Litt.	Law	Member
21.	U Tin Nyo (D.G., D.B.E. No.1)	M.Ed.	Education	Member
22.	U Shway Thwin (Prof. Retd.)	M.A.	Linguistics	Member
23.	U Myint Han (D.G., Ret.)	B.Sc., B.Ed.	Education	Member

As of 18 September 2007

### Information

#### Location of the Office of the MAAS

Ohndaw Hall, Hlaing Campus, Hlaing Township, Yangon  
Telephone: 01-664435, 09-661752