The Association of Universities of Asia and the Pacific (AUAP) was established on the 28th of July 1995, at Suranaree University of Technology, Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand. It is an aggregation of university chief executives from higher education institutions in Asia, Pacific and around the world – presidents, rectors or vice-chancellors at regionally accredited colleges or universities, or private sectors and international organizations.

AUAP is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), holding the highest formal consultation rights with UNESCO. Its primary purpose is to be the main platform for interaction and collaboration among members and the voice of universities in Asia and the Pacific. AUAP offers regular conferences and workshops for higher education leaders and institutions, to recognize and discuss important issues and challenges facing higher education today. It is an association that enhances mutual cooperation among institutions, and always at the service of its members.

The leader of each university has the same vision as the organization in promoting the image of his or her institution; through the cooperation of all these leaders, AUAP has the capability to shape the outlook of higher education globally. Member presidents, rectors, vice-chancellors and chancellors enjoy global network of colleagues, and also the ability to obtain AUAP support for individual ambitions.

The purposes of the Association are:

- To promote a culture of quality and innovation in higher education, research and service to community.
- To preserve and enhance the values and cultural diversity of Asia Pacific towards better understanding and cooperation for socio economic development and (universal) peace.
- To engage with stakeholders of the higher educations and other organizations to further the objectives of AUAP.
- To promote universal peace and international understanding through education.

ACTIVITIES OF THE AUAP

AUAP Advisory Council Meeting
The AUAP Advisory Council meets once a year in the international location and at the General Conference on matters that concern the Association (which Accredited Observers approved by the Chairperson, may be admitted to meetings of the Advisory Council and, with the agreement of the Chairperson, be permitted to address the meetings).

AUAP Executive Board Meeting
The AUAP Executive Board meets twice each year in the international locations (which all AUAP members may attend as observers).

AUAP Country Chapter Chairs Committee Meeting
The AUAP Country Chapter Chair Committee meets twice each year in the international locations (which all AUAP members may attend as observers).

AUAP Conferences
The AUAP Conferences are held twice a year; Conferences are hosted with members (co-host). Members are encouraged to submit proposals (expressing their intentions) to host AUAP Conferences.

AUAP General Conference
The AUAP General Conference is held biannually. Members are invited to co-host with AUAP.

AUAP General Assembly Meeting
The AUAP General Assembly Meeting is held biannually, or could be called for by the President on urgent matters.

AUAP Global Leadership Program (AUAP-GLP)
The purpose of this program is to enhance students in leadership, relationship, academics, and cultural activities etc. The program started in Year 2014, and the host university is expected to be responsible for all local expenses. Members are encouraged to host this program.

AUAP Learning and Sharing Forum
The AUAP Secretariat will host this program with members (co-host) biannually.

UNESCO Interaction
AUAP is an accredited NGO with the UN Educational, Social and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris and Bangkok. AUAP members have an opportunity to participate in activities carried out through the Division of Higher Education as well as present proposals for funding, through the Participation Program of UNESCO especially to assist higher education institutions in developing countries.

AUAP GENERAL CONFERENCES:
I 1995 Suranaree University of Technology, Thailand
II 1997 Tasmania University, Australia
III 1999 Angeles University, Philippines
IV 2001 Guizhou University, China
V 2003 Kyunhee University, Korea
VI 2004 Surabaya University, Indonesia
VII 2006 University of Macao, China
VIII 2008 American International University of Bangladesh,
IX 2010 Suranaree University of Technology, Thailand
X 2012 Universiti Kebangsan, Malaysia
PREVIOUS AUAP PRESIDENTS

- 1995-1997: Professor Dr. Wichit Srisa-an, Rector, Suranaree University of Technology, Thailand
- 1997-1999: Professor Dr. Donald McNicol, President, University of Tasmania, Australia
- 1999-2001: Dr. Emmanuel Y. Angles, President Angle Foundation University, Philippines
- 2001-2002: Professor Dr. Li Jian Shi, President, Guizhou University, China
- 2002-2003: Professor Dr. Shuping Chen, President, Guizhou University, China.
- 2003-2004: Professor Dr. Chugwon Choue, President, Kyung Hee University, South Korea.
- 2004-2006: Professor Dr. Wibisono Hardjopranoto, Rector, Surabaya University, Indonesia.
- 2006-2008: Professor Dr. Iu Vai Pan, Rector, University of Macau, China.
- 2008-2010: Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna, Vice Chancellor, American International University of Bangladesh
- 2010-2012: Professor Dr. Prasart Suebka, Rector, Suranaree University of Technology, Thailand.
- 2012-2013: Professor Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Sharifah Hapsah Syed Hasan, Vice Chancellor, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Malaysia.
- 2013-2014: Professor Datuk Dr. Noor Azlan Ghazali, Vice Chancellor, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Malaysia.

AUAP LEADERSHIP

- Professor Datuk Dr. Noor Azlan Ghazali, Malaysia, AUAP President
- Dr. Shawn Chen, China, AUAP First Vice President
- Dr. Sung Hee Nam, South Korea, AUAP Second Vice President
- Professor Mohammad Dr. Bagher Ghahramani, Iran, AUAP Treasurer
- Professor Dr. Ruben C. Umalay, Philippines, AUAP Secretary General, AUAP Secretariat, Suranaree University of Technology, Thailand
- Professor Dr. Ricardo Pama, Philippines, AUAP Treasurer
- Dr. Carmen Lamagna, Bangladesh, AUAP Ex-Officio Vice-Chancellor, American International University of Bangladesh, Bangladesh

MEMBERSHIP

Those universities and other degree-conferring institutions which are dedicated to the advancement and transmission of knowledge at a level appropriate to university, as indicated by the nature and quality of their instruction, the participation of their staff in the advancement of knowledge, and the type of working equipment placed at the disposal of their staff, may be admitted to membership as Associate Members of the Association. Membership fee is $800 per year. Any national association which enables the chiefs or representatives of high level of international organizations (leaders from government sectors, business and social) who are invited by the Board to serve as members of the Council and advise on the association’s strategic goals.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Advisory Council shall comprise persons or representatives of high level of international organizations (leaders from government sectors, business and social) who are invited by the Board to serve as members of the Council and advise on the association’s strategic goals.