

Scholarships for Thai Students

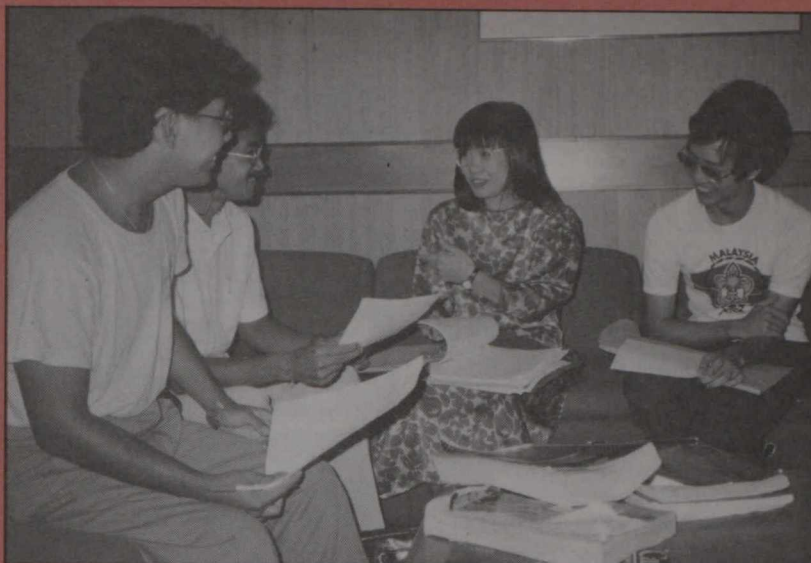
In May Canada's Ambassador to Thailand, H.E. Lawrence Smith, hosted a cocktail hour and buffet dinner to honor the 25 recipients of the Canada-Thailand Rattanakosin Scholarships. The scholarship winners were selected in a national competition from 291 applications. They are scheduled to leave for Canada this summer, where they will pursue graduate and post-graduate studies at various Canadian universities in the fall.

In his remarks at the dinner, the Ambassador stated that the Canadian Government shares with the Royal Thai Government an interest in programs like Rattanakosin because they provide a means of establishing enduring human links between the two countries. He also noted that the recipients have a valuable opportunity, through their studies, to contribute both to the development of Thailand, and to Canada's understanding and knowledge of Thailand.

The Canada-Thailand Rattanakosin Scholarship program was initiated by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in 1982 to commemorate the bicentennial celebration of Bangkok. The program provides funding for a maximum of 82 scholarships to be awarded to Thai scholars for graduate studies in Canada. Their fields of study must correspond with the Royal Thai Government's needs and priorities, and those of the CIDA Thailand program.

Twelve scholars were awarded the scholarships in 1983-84 and 25 more scholarships were awarded this year. It is anticipated that an additional 25 scholarships will be awarded for the 1989-90 academic, with the final 20 to be awarded for 1990-91.

Ambassador Smith (far left) with a group of Rattanakosin scholarship winners and members of the selection committee.



Student counselling at Canadian High Commission in Kuala Lumpur.

STUDENT COUNSELLING IN K.L.

Students from the ASEAN countries are becoming increasingly prominent in Canada's overseas student community. However, making that initial step towards study in Canada can be difficult. The Canadian High Commission in Kuala Lumpur has moved to make the process easier.

Miss Pit Sow Fun, a Canadian university graduate, has been appointed Education Counsellor at the High Commission. In addition to providing a full range of counselling services at the High Commission, she also travels throughout the country to meet students and teachers who are investigating education opportunities in Canada.

In the longer term, the High Commission plans to establish a comprehensive education resource centre. This centre will feature counselling amongst its services and have in its data base detailed information on the programs offered by Canadian secondary and post-secondary education institutions.

