

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On behalf of Dr. Michael Minehan, Editor-in-Chief of the UC Occasional Paper Series, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, Founder and President of The University of Cambodia, for his great leadership, advice, guidance, and support, without which this Occasional Paper Series would not have been possible.

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Moreover, my gratitude also goes specifically to Dean Keo Chhea, Dean of Techo Sen School of Government and International Relations, and Professor Din Merican, Special Assistant to the President of The University of Cambodia on Policy and Strategy and Associate Dean of Techo Sen School of Government and International Relations, for their encouragement, efforts and contributions to the publication of the Occasional Paper Series.

Finally, I would like express my thanks to the contributors who have submitted their manuscripts to be considered for publication in the UC Occasional Paper Series, although some of them were not successful. I wish them success in their endeavors to have their papers published in quality journals.

Heng Kimkong
Lead Editorial Assistant
UC Occasional Paper Series

FOREWORD

The publication of the UC Occasional Paper Series is a major initiative by The University of Cambodia to help contribute to the development of a research culture at an institutional level, in particular, and at a national level, in general. The launching of the first issue of this Occasional Paper Series, therefore, marks the beginning of an exciting project aimed at providing a platform for students who have completed or are currently pursuing their Master's or Doctoral degrees at The University of Cambodia or elsewhere, either in Cambodia or overseas, to publish their book reviews, research papers, or critical and analytical discussions which make original contributions to the body of knowledge in the area of their specialization and interests.

The UC Occasional Paper Series, although intended to showcase and publish students' work, is peer-reviewed and has a professional in-house team of editors and reviewers who are committed to high quality standards, ensuring the high quality and consistency of papers published. The Editorial Board of the UC Occasional Paper Series strongly believes that all students have the potential to reach the top of their academic performance and deserve the opportunity and support necessary for them to succeed personally and academically. Thus, the Occasional Paper Series is designed to live up to this proposition.

In this first issue, four articles and a book review were accepted for publication. Three articles were contributed by PhD students at the Techo Sen School of Government and International Relations (TSS), while another was submitted by a student who has completed his graduate studies overseas. The diversity of the contributions to this publication reflects the diversity and wide range of topics the UC Occasional Paper Series covers.

I would like to congratulate the contributors, reviewers, editors, and those involved in making this publication possible. Let this not only be the beginning of a major institutional project, but a lifelong endeavor to disseminate ideas, stimulate research and debate, enhance research publications, and ultimately instill a reading culture in Cambodia.

Keo Chhea
Chief Review Editor
UC Occasional Paper Series