

WEBSITE NAME

The 5th Asian Society of Arachnology Conference (ASA2018), November 19th-22nd
2018 in Bangkok, Thailand



The 5th

WELCOME

The Asian Society of Arachnology (ASA) invites you to join us at the 5th ASA conference at Chulalongkorn University (CU), Bangkok, Thailand.

The conference will be held during the 19th–22nd November 2018 in one of Thailand prestigious research institutions, Chulalongkorn University in the city of Bangkok—the capital and most populous metropolitan, which ranked among the world top tourist destinations.

The conference venue will be hosted at the Montein Hotel Bangkok located near CU beautiful main campus with accessibility to major public transports connecting to most main tourist attractions, accommodations, and food venues in Bangkok. Two plenary prominent speakers will be giving lectures on their works and findings—Dr. Robert J. Raven from Queensland Museum, Australia (mygalomorph spiders) and Dr. Deborah R. Smith from University of Kansas, USA (social spiders).

A one-day excursion will bring you to King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT), Ratchaburi campus with a landscape that covered with primary and secondary dipterocarp forest and adjacent to the border of Myanmar.

We look forward to welcoming you in November 2018 in Bangkok!

Best Regards,

Conference Organizers: Chaowalit Songsangchote, Wimolwan Chotwong, Prapun Traiyasut and Natapot Warrit

International Scientific Committee: Ono Hirotsugu, Peter Jaeger, Joseph Koh, Peter Schwendinger, Emma Shaw, and Li Shuiqian



PLENARY SPEAKERS

ROBERT JOHN RAVEN-Queensland Museum, Australia



Robert Raven is currently Head and Senior Curator of Chelicerata at the Queensland Museum, Australia. He completed his PhD from University of Queensland in 1981. Robert Raven's research focuses on the systematics of Theraphosidae, Ctenizidae, Idiopidae, Nemesiidae, Corinnidae and many more! Throughout his active career, he has described at least 351 new spider species and 42 genera from Australia, New Caledonia, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Colombia, Peru, Panama, Mexico, India, Southeast Asia, and New Guinea. His current projects involve Spider Catalogue of the World (as Chairman with the American Museum of Natural History, USA), Taxonomic Source for Spider Venom database, and Taxonomy of Australian Theraphosidae. Robert Raven is also the founder of the Australasian Arachnology Society and editor of Zootaxa (Infraorder Mygalomorphae).

DEBORAH RUTH ROAN SMITH-University of Kansas, USA



Deb Smith is Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Kansas, USA. She completed her PhD from Cornell University in 1982 working with Dr. Ruth Buskirk, one of the first modern biologists to study social behavior in spiders. Deb Smith's research focuses on the population genetics, behavior and evolution of group-living and sociality in spiders (*Anelosimus* & *Stegodyphus*). She has conducted research in the American southwest, South America (Suriname and Trinidad), Africa (Gabon and South Africa), the Middle East (Israel), and Asia, including India and Thailand. Her work on spiders and mites has been supported by grants from the US National Science Foundation, the US Department of Agriculture,

the National Geographic Society and the US-Israel Binational Science Foundation. During 19982–2016, Deb Smith served as Chair of the proposal review committee for the American Arachnological Society Research Fund and recently in 2017 has become the Editor-in-Chief of Journal of Arachnology.

CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY

Chulalongkorn University (CU; <http://www.chula.ac.th/en/>) was established in March 1917 by King Vajiravudh (Rama VI) and named after his father, King Chulalongkorn (Rama V), who had laid the foundations for modern education in Thailand.

CU is a comprehensive and research-intensive university. It is also ranked as the number one university in Thailand (according to QS world university ranking). The university composed of 19 faculties (schools), 23 colleges, and research institutions with over 37,000 students including 24,000 undergraduates and 13,000 graduate students (8,000 in Master programs and 5,000 in PhD programs), and over 2,800 faculty members.

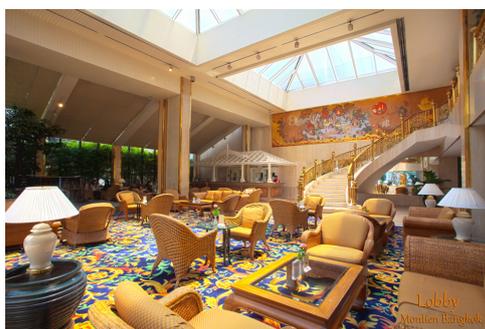
CU campus area located conveniently in the heart of Bangkok city. The sky train (BTS http://www.bts.co.th/customer/en/02-route-current_new.aspx) and underground (MRT <http://www.bangkokmetro.co.th/map.aspx?Lang=En&Menu=8>) stations circulate the campus area, which takes visitors to almost every major Bangkok tourist attractions. CU also provides numerous commercial centers, recreational parks, and sport complexes for students, faculties, and campus visitors.



CONVENTION VENUE AND HOW TO GET THERE

All parts of the scientific program will be hosted at the Montien Hotel Bangkok (<http://www.montien.com>) located near CU main campus. The Montien Hotel Bangkok has been a landmark of Bangkok for more than 50 years. International conferences have been held in this facility affiliated with CU since its was erected. Besides conference room, the Montien Hotel Bangkok is reputedly known for their authentic and critic-acclaimed Thai food for both locals and tourists. Participants of the conference will enjoy two coffee breaks and a lunch on everyday of the conference.

The main auditorium conference room will be held in Rajmontein Grand room (700+ m²) with a maximum capacity of holding 200 guests will be used for oral and poster presentations.



To get to the conference venue, participants should arrive in one of the two Thailand international airports available: Don Mueang and Suvarnabhumi airports.

From Don Mueang Airport (<https://www.donmueangairport.com>): there are couple of routes that you can explore depending on whether how adventurous you are and if you want to save some money.

- *Route 1*: at the arrival terminal there is a free airport shuttle bus number A1 that will take you to Mo Chit (the largest bus terminal in Bangkok). As you arrive at Mo Chit, which is near a sky train (BTS http://www.bts.co.th/customer/en/02-route-current_new.aspx) station, you can take the sky train to arrive at Saladaeng station (you will need to switch to Silom route at Siam station). Departing the station, it will take you couples of minutes to arrive at the convention venue by walking.

Alternatively, you can get a taxi from the airport to arrive at Mo Chit.

- *Route 2*: there is a taxi station in Don Mueang Airport, you have to wait for a cue and pay addition 50 Baht surcharge on top of what the meter says when you arrive at the conference venue.

From Suvarnabhumi Airport (<https://airportthai.co.th/en/>): Suvarnabhumi airport provide more convenient way of traveling to our convention venue. There are such options:

- *Route 1*: the lowest floor of Suvarnabhumi airport, there is an access to the Airport Rail Link (ARL <http://www.srtet.co.th/index.php/en/>), a train connecting from the airport to the inner city of Bangkok. The last stop for the ARL is your destination (Phaya Thai station). From the station, take the BTS sky train to Saladaeng station (you will need to switch to Silom route at Siam station). Departing the station, it will take you couples of minutes to arrive at the convention venue by walking.
- *Route 2*: a taxi service is available in level xx of the airport. You have to wait for a cue and pay addition 50 Baht surcharge on top of what the meter say when you arrive at the convention venue.
- *Route 3*: airport limousine (<https://www.aot-limousine.com/serviceclient.html>). This is the most convenient way to arrive at the conference venue though the most expensive. You can book your reservation online and have the service pick you up at the airport.

PROGRAM

Sunday November 11 th	
Time	Activities
12:00–18:00	Registration

Monday November 12 th	
Time	Activities
8:00–8:30	Registration (cont.)
8:30–9:00	Welcoming address
9:00–10:00	Plenary 1 – Robert J. Raven
10:00–10:30	Coffee break
10:30–12:30	Oral session
12:30–14:00	Lunch
14:00–16:00	Oral session
16:00–16:30	Coffee break
16:30–17:30	Poster session
18:30	Welcoming banquet in meeting hall floor 20

Tuesday November 13 th	
Time	Activities
8:00–9:00	Registration (cont.)
9:00–10:00	Plenary 2 – Deborah R. R. Smith
10:00–10:30	Coffee break
10:30–12:30	Oral session
12:30–14:00	Lunch

14:00–16:00	Oral session
16:00–16:30	Coffee break
16:30–17:30	Oral session
17:30–18:30	Poster session

Wednesday November 14 th	
Time	Activities
7:00–9:00	Bus to KMUTT, Ratchaburi campus
9:00–17:00	Excursion
17:00–19:0	Bus to CU

Thursday November 15 th	
Time	Activities
9:00–10:00	Oral session
10:00–10:30	Coffee break
10:30–12:30	Oral session
12:30–14:00	Lunch
14:00–16:00	Oral session
16:00–16:30	Coffee break
16:30–18:30	Poster award and closing session

REGISTRATION

When: the registration will be open on-line on the 1st of August 2018

Fees: all fees are quoted in US dollars (USD). Registration made after the 27th of October 2018 must be made onsite at the conference. Payment of fees must accompany all complete registrations. Registration will not be confirmed until full payment is received. Fee rate for delegate is \$300 USD and student \$200 USD

Payment: payment can be made through PayPal, implemented in this registration procedure <http://paypal.com> or wire-transfer to Bangkok Bank account xxxx (additional transfer fee may applied)

- Only account-to-account deposits will be accepted, no cash or cheque deposits.
- For question regarding monetary payment please contact Mr. Sirat Lertjintanakit (email: s.lertjintanakit@gmail.com)

Perks: including in the registration

- Attendance to the conference
- Lunch and two coffee break services for four days at the conference
- 5th ASA conference t-shirt and name badge
- Conference tote and program booklet
- Thumb drive containing abstracts
- Excursion pass
- Welcoming banquet

Banquet: welcoming banquet will be held at in the convention venue from 6:30 pm on the 19th of November 2018. Allergy to certain type of ingredients or specialized food should be notified to us when register.

Cancellation: cancellation of registration must be made before the 1st of October 2018 by writing to Ms. Wimolwan Chotwong (wimolwanc@hotmail.com). Cancellations received prior to 1 October 2018 will receive a full refund minus \$50 USD administration fee. The conference committee will consider cancellations of registration under exceptional circumstances. Refunds will not be granted on failure of visa application.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Submission of abstract for the 5th ASA conference is invited for both oral and poster presentations. Before doing so, please carefully read all of the guidelines for a successful abstract submission. The organizers reserved the authority to accept or reject submission that do not meet with all of our guidelines. Revision of delegate abstract may be required based on decision of the organizing committee.

Guideline for oral presentation

- Abstract must be submitted online by 15th October 2018 Thailand time
- Abstract should be written in English
- Abstract cannot contain special symbols, diagrams, photographs or tables
- The abstract title should not exceed 20 words
- The abstract text should not exceed 2,000 characters (including space)
- Abstract submission must be exclusively done online through **xxxx**
- Notification for oral presentation will be confirmed after two weeks of abstract submission
- All presenters **MUST** register for the conference

Guideline for poster presentation

- Abstract must be submitted online by 15th October 2018 Thailand time
- Abstract should be written in English
- The abstract title should not exceed 20 words
- The abstract text should not exceed 2,000 characters (including space)
- Abstract submission must be exclusively done online through **xxxx**
- Language used in poster presentation is English
- The size of the poster is A0 (84.1 x 118.9 cm)
- All presenters **MUST** register for the conference

ACCOMODATIONS

The Montien Hotel Bangkok (<http://www.montien.com>)

Participants of the meeting can make a reservation for accommodation at the convention venue by making their reservation with us, the organizing committees. Rates for Superior room is 2,700 Baht / night for Single bed and 3,100 Baht / night for twins. Please let us know if you need this booking by contact Ms. Wimolwan Chotwong (wimolwanc@hotmail.com).

Contact Address: 54 Surawongse Road, Bangkok 10500, Thailand, Tel: +66 2233 7060-9, 2348 0607-9, Fax: +66 2236 5218-9, E-mail: bangkok@montien.com



CU iHouse (www.chula.ac.th/en/prospective-student/accommodation)

Participants of the meeting can choose to stay at the Chulalongkorn University International House, a 26 stories campus residence with 846 units of fully-furnished rooms and close (within 20–30 minutes walking distance) to the conference venue. Rate for a single person / room / night is 1000 Baht (with additional 1000 Baht deposit). All deposit will be return upon checking out.

Contact Address: 268 Chulalongkorn Soi 9, Charasmuang road, Wangmai, Pathumwan, Bangkok, Thailand, Tel: +66 2217 3188, Fax: +66 2217 3111, Email: cuh.remsthailand@thecuihouse.com



OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS NEAR CU

The following accommodations listed are in the vicinity of CU and easily commute between conference venue and hotel.

Pathumwan Princess Hotel (<https://www.pprincess.com>)

Contact Address: 444 MBK Center, Phayathai Road, Wangmai, Pathumwan, Bangkok 10330, Thailand, Tel: +66 2216 3700, Fax: +66 2216 3730, Email: ppb@pprincess.com



Siam@Siam Design Hotel Bangkok (<https://www.siamatsiam.com>)

Contact Address: 865 Rama 1 Road, Opposite National Stadium, Wang Mai, Pathumwan, Bangkok 10330, Thailand, Tel: +66 2217 3000, Fax: +66 2217 3030, Email: rsvn@siamatsiam.com





Novotel Bangkok on Siam Square (<https://www.novotelbkk.com>)

Contact Address: 392/44 Siam Square Soi 6, Rama I Road, 10330 Pathumwan
Thailand, Tel: +66 2209 8888, Fax: +66 2255 1824, Email: h1031@accor.com



EXCURSION

A one-day excursion on the 21st November will bring you to King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi (KMUTT), Ratchaburi campus. The landscape of the excursion area covers primary dipterocarp forest along with secondary and tertiary succession zones of over 20+ hectares. KMUTT, Ratchaburi campus is adjacent (less than 50 km) to the border of Myanmar, where pristine nature is still preserved. You will have the experience of encountering spiders and other arachnids in seasonal rain forest of Southeast Asia.

Bus transporting delegates to KMUTT, Ratchaburi campus will leave at 7:00 am from the Montein Hotel Bangkok (see ACCOMODATION) and will leave KMUTT at 17:00 pm. The traveling time from CU to KMUTT is approximately 2 hours.



VISA

Information regarding entering Thailand can be found in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand website:

www.mfa.go.th/main/en/services/4908/15405-General-information.html

However, the citizens of the following countries will be entitled for visa exemption and/or visa on arrival application. Please consult the following tables and the Thai consulate general in your home country for more information. Letter for attending the conference can be issued by the Department of Biology, Chulalongkorn University and/or ASA upon request.

GENERAL INFORMATION

BANGKOK

Bangkok is the capital and most populous city in Thailand (10⁺ Millions). There are historical attractions and temples with elaborate architecture and art through out this 200+ years old establishment. Famous temples (Wat) are Wat Phra Kaew, Wat Pho, Wat Arun, Wat Phu Khao Thong, Wat Ratchanadda, Wat Traimit, Wat Benchamabohit, Wat Bowon, and Wat Sutat.

The Gran Palaces, museums, parks and various arrays of shopping venues, from luxury malls to flea and street markets such as the famous Chatuchak weekend market, Sampeng Market, and Pahurat Textile Market, are main attractants for tourists who wish to experience unique Thailand atmosphere. Moreover, Bangkok nightlife is another highlight that has attracted many tourists from all over the world.



PRACTICAL

Thailand electrical voltage used is 220 volts. Electrical appliances from countries using 110 volts will need a transformer for properly used; however, most computer adaptors can be plugged in directly (pending that the adaptor has an intake capacity of 220/240 volts). Outlet and plug designs that can be used in Thailand are shown in the pictures below.



GETTING AROUND AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATIONS

There are several ways to travel around Bangkok, depends on your preference of time management and fees that you want to spend. The two major public transportation systems in Bangkok metropolitan are the sky train (BTS http://www.bts.co.th/customer/en/02-route-current_new.aspx) and the underground subway (MRT <http://www.bangkokmetro.co.th/map.aspx?Lang=En&Menu=8>). You can consult websites of both systems for their different stations and their adjacent tourist attractions. Nearest to the convention venue is the Saladaeng station (BTS), and Samyan Station (MRT). For CU, the closest BTS stations are the National Stadium and Siam stations.

Taxi is another convenient alternative to get around Bangkok. Thai taxi price is relatively cheaper than in many other countries. The fee starts from 35 Baht (around 1 USD) initially and then the meter rolls on. However, being a visitor to Thailand might not provide you with the best benefit since many taxi drivers will take advantage of not using the meter but will charge you with a total price. If this is the case, we recommend you not to use their service and flag down another taxi. Grab Taxi (<https://www.grab.com/th/taxi/>) can be a suitable alternative

Motorcycle for hire is also another economic option to get to places in a speedy fashion, however, we advice against people who never been on a motorcycle before to use this service. Many motorcyclists in Bangkok drive recklessly and dangerously. You can easily identify where the motorcycle service stall will be by observing group of servicemen wearing bright orange jackets on many Bangkok footpaths.

Buses and boats are available as well, though the systems are very confusing even for native residents. Only locals that travel frequent can explain to you about the route.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE

Thailand uses a currency called Baht for its monetary exchange. Money exchange can be made at most local Thai banks. The rate of different foreign currencies can be found in numerous banks websites, for example, <https://www.kasikornbank.com/en/rate/Pages/Foreign-Exchange.aspx>. However, we suggest foreign visitors to use services from two local exchange companies: Siam

Exchange (<http://www.siamexchange.co.th>) and Super Rich (<http://superrich.co.th>), which provide a slightly better rate, though the kiosks are not very common throughout Bangkok. Most if not all food and street vendors, taxi, and manual services in Thailand only accept cash. Only major vendors in shopping malls accept credit card payments, including Visa, Master Card, and JCB.

HOSPITALS AND CLINICS

CU has an affiliation with Chulalongkorn Hospital (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/King_Chulalongkorn_Memorial_Hospital), which is monitored through Thai Red Cross. For major accidents and long-term hospital stay the Chulalongkorn Hospital provides one of the best physician teams and health equipment, while the cost for going to private clinics in Bangkok is relatively affordable. All foreign visitors are urged to purchase travel insurance before arriving to Thailand.

STUDENT TRAVEL GRANT