

Mandatory annual dedicated training on social aspects of Sustainability

Assumption University is committed to fostering and promoting the social aspects of sustainability among students and staff through various training programs.

For Staff :

1. Article: Advancing the Social Aspects of Sustainability through Student Pathways Development (AU Annual Faculty Seminar 2025)

The AU Annual Faculty Seminar 2025, titled *“From High Schools to Assumption University: Building a Stronger Pathway for Student Success,”* highlighted the critical role of higher education in advancing the **social aspects of sustainability**. The seminar emphasized human development, educational equity, and the cultivation of socially responsible graduates.

Ethical Leadership and Human-Centered Development

The university president underscored the importance of ethical leadership, describing the university as a “holy place” where faculty and administrators must uphold strong moral values. A key shift was proposed—from being instructors to becoming true “teachers” who inspire, mentor, and guide students, particularly during their transition from high school to university.

This approach aligns with social sustainability by focusing on developing graduates who are not only professionally competent but also ethical, socially aware, and responsible citizens.

Structural Challenges and Educational Equity

The seminar addressed major external challenges, including declining birth rates and increasing competition among higher education institutions. These challenges highlight the need to ensure **equitable access to education** while maintaining institutional sustainability.

Balancing financial stability with inclusive education is essential to ensuring that opportunities remain accessible to diverse student populations.

Strengthening Educational Pathways and Lifelong Learning

A key strategy discussed was the development of strong educational pathways linking high schools and universities. Initiatives include partnerships with feeder schools, the implementation of credit bank systems, and international collaborations.

These efforts support lifelong learning, reduce educational inequality, and provide students with flexible opportunities to advance their academic journeys.

Inclusive Student Support Systems

The university also emphasized the importance of comprehensive student support to ensure that “no one is left behind.” This includes improving academic systems, resolving course registration issues, and strengthening advising and counseling services.

Such measures contribute to social sustainability by promoting inclusion, reducing dropout rates, and supporting student success.

Future Trends and Sustainable Education

The seminar highlighted emerging trends in education, such as the use of CEFR standards, the adoption of vocational and project-based curricula like BTEC, and the integration of technologies such as AI and blockchain.

These innovations enhance flexibility, accessibility, and relevance in education, ensuring that institutions can meet the evolving needs of learners.

Conclusion

The AU Annual Faculty Seminar 2025 demonstrated that building strong student pathways is a key mechanism for advancing social sustainability. By focusing on ethical development, equitable access, and inclusive support systems, Assumption University is contributing to the creation of a more just, inclusive, and sustainable society.



The image shows a slide titled "Agenda" for the "AU Annual Faculty Seminar 2025". The slide includes the following text: "FROM HIGH SCHOOLS TO ASSUMPTION UNIVERSITY: BUILDING A STRONGER PATHWAY FOR STUDENT SUCCESS", "John XXIII Conference Center", and "Assumption University, Suvarnabhumi Campus". Below this is a table with two columns: "Time" and "Activity".

Time	Activity
7:15 - 7:30	Coaches depart from Huamak campus to Suvarnabhumi campus
8:30 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 9:15	Welcome address
9:15 - 10:30	Speech by the President on the topic "FROM HIGH SCHOOLS TO ASSUMPTION UNIVERSITY: BUILDING A STRONGER PATHWAY FOR STUDENT SUCCESS"
10:30 - 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 - 12:00	'Student Engagement' by Dr. Meechoke Thongsawai, Head of Business Unit, Academic Development & International Business, SE-EDUCATION PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch at John XXIII Conference Center
13:30 - 16:00	Workshop on 'Student Engagement'
16:00	Coaches depart from Suvarnabhumi campus to Huamak campus

2. “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Student Development Workshop.” for Student Affairs by Institute for Research and Academic Services (IRAS),

On April 4, 2025, the Student Affairs Division of Assumption University organized the **SA Forum 2025** at the *UNESCO Hall of Fame*, Suvarnabhumi Campus. This annual forum served as a dedicated training platform focusing on the social dimensions of sustainability, particularly the integration of the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** into student development practices.

The program featured a workshop and training session under the theme: “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Student Development.” Expert speakers from the Institute for Research and Academic Services (IRAS) of Assumption University were invited to deliver comprehensive lectures. The sessions covered the background, principles, and significance of the SDGs, including detailed explanations of each goal and the methodologies used for measurement and evaluation.

In addition to the theoretical components, the training incorporated an interactive workshop designed to enhance practical understanding. Participants engaged in group activities aimed at mapping and aligning existing projects and initiatives within the Student Affairs Division to relevant SDGs. This hands-on approach enabled participants to critically assess their current operations and identify opportunities for integrating sustainability principles into their daily work.

The forum also provided an open platform for participants to present their ideas, exchange perspectives, and raise questions, fostering a collaborative learning environment. The primary objective of this training was to strengthen awareness and understanding of the SDGs among Student Affairs personnel, while promoting the practical application of sustainability concepts in organizational practices.

The event was attended by approximately 30 participants, including key university leadership and staff members. Distinguished attendees included:

- Rev. Bro. Dr. Sirichai Fonseka, President of Assumption University
- Acting Sub Lt. Dr. Yuthana Suwannatharn, Vice President for Student Affairs
- Student Affairs executives and staff members from the Student Affairs Division

This initiative reflects the university’s strong commitment to embedding sustainability into its institutional framework, particularly in fostering socially responsible student development and enhancing the capacity of staff to contribute to sustainable outcomes.



3. Planning Today for a Prosperous Tomorrow: AU Empowered Attendees at Retirement Seminar

The MSME Business School at Assumption University of Thailand hosted the seminar “Retirement Planning for a Happy, Secure, and Prosperous Future” on May 8, 2025, led by financial expert Dr. Sarina Preechalert, CFP, to help participants prepare for a stable and fulfilling retirement amid Thailand’s transition to an aged society. The session covered key topics including societal implications, available support systems, retirement readiness for private-sector employees, adequacy of current benefits, and strategies to address financial gaps. Emphasizing the importance of early planning, the seminar encouraged attendees to build financial security for long-term well-being, reflecting AU’s commitment to promoting practical knowledge and a future-ready, financially literate community.



4. Workshop: “Understanding MBTI for Your Mental Well-being”

On September 17, 2025, at Hua Mak Campus, Assumption University (AU) organized a training workshop on the *Social Aspects of Sustainability*, bringing together students, faculty, and staff to explore how personality awareness supports well-being and personal growth. The session highlighted the Myers–Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI), a widely used framework based on Carl Jung’s theory, which identifies 16 personality types and serves as a useful tool for self-reflection, teamwork, and communication despite ongoing academic debates. Led by Ms. Sally Tan from Brighton Academy, Singapore, the workshop combined theory with practical applications, helping participants relate their MBTI preferences to real-life challenges such as stress management, effective communication, and resilience. Participants appreciated the engaging approach, which encouraged them to embrace their strengths and value personality diversity as a foundation for stronger communities. The event also reflected AU’s commitment to holistic education by promoting mental well-being and emotional intelligence alongside academic achievement, inspiring the university community to prioritize self-awareness, respect differences, and support sustainable social development.



For students:

1. Inspired Learning in Action: Human Sciences students dive into the 2030 SDGs Game

Thirty graduate students from the Graduate School of Human Sciences participated in an experiential learning session using the 2030 SDGs Game on December 9, 2025, where they explored sustainable development through strategy, negotiation, and reflection. The session received a high rating of 4.76/5, with all participants expressing interest in further learning about SDGs and ESG, noting improved understanding of trade-offs, negotiation skills, and real-world application of theory. The engaging and collaborative environment highlighted effective facilitation, while requests for more rounds showed strong enthusiasm. The event demonstrated the value of experiential learning in deepening understanding and fostering collaboration, aligned with AU Library's commitment to innovative education, with special thanks to Mr. Kaung Myat Aung (River) for his essential behind-the-scenes support.



2. Understanding Yourself Better: TMSA AU Hosts MBTI Workshop for Mental Well-Being

The Theodore Maria School of Arts at Assumption University of Thailand hosted a half-day workshop titled “Understanding MBTI for Your Mental Health” on November 27, 2025, led by Sally Tan and her certified team from Brighton Academy Singapore. The session introduced the Myers–Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI), a widely recognized personality framework based on Carl Jung’s theories, to help participants better understand themselves, enhance communication, and support mental well-being. Through interactive activities, attendees explored how personality types influence study habits, stress management, workplace behavior, and relationships, while gaining practical strategies for personal growth, teamwork, and emotional resilience in a supportive learning environment.



3. International Nursing Seminar Promotes Gender Equality and Inclusivity in Healthcare

Assumption University of Thailand (AU) hosted an international nursing seminar titled “*Breaking the Mold: Promoting Gender Equality and Inclusivity in Nursing*” on March 1, 2025, as part of its commitment to advancing the social dimensions of sustainability. Organized by senior nursing students and supported by faculty members, the seminar aimed to address gender-related challenges in the nursing profession and promote a more inclusive healthcare environment.

The event opened with remarks from the Dean of the Faculty of Nursing Science, who emphasized the importance of understanding gender disparities in nursing and fostering a profession that reflects diversity, equity, and inclusivity. The keynote session highlighted how gender stereotypes and societal expectations continue to influence career advancement and leadership opportunities in nursing, despite the field becoming more diverse.

A panel discussion featuring experts from Thailand and the United States further explored key issues such as gender neutrality in healthcare settings, the need for gender-sensitive education, and the challenges faced by men entering a traditionally female-dominated profession. The discussion combined professional insights, research evidence, and personal experiences, encouraging participants to rethink existing norms and advocate for institutional and policy-level changes.

Beyond raising awareness, the seminar underscored the importance of translating dialogue into action. Participants gained a clearer understanding of how gender biases affect professional opportunities and were encouraged to support the implementation of inclusive practices within healthcare systems.

The seminar also reinforced the university’s alignment with Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities). By engaging both onsite and online audiences, the event extended its impact beyond the university, contributing to a broader conversation within Thailand’s healthcare community.

Overall, the seminar conveyed a strong message that inclusivity is essential to the future of nursing. Promoting gender equality not only ensures fairness but also enhances the quality of patient care, strengthens leadership, and supports a more sustainable and equitable healthcare system.

