

Darwin Initiative students – enhancing taxonomic capacity in SE Asia

PhD students

Pipat Soisook (Thai)

Web: <http://harrison-institute.org/research/PipatSoisook.html>

Email: pipat66@hotmail.com

PhD: Registered at Prince of Songkla University, Thailand

PhD status: successfully examined on 14 December, 2013

Subject: bat taxonomy

Publications: 4 as first author and 9 as a co-author

Publications in preparation: 3 as first author, 6 as co-author

Highlights: described 2 new species of bat – *Murina balaensis* (Bala tube-nosed bat) and *Murina guillensis* (Guillen's tube-nosed bat) – one new subspecies *M. g. nicobarensis* (Guillen's Nicobar tube-nosed bat)

Applied work: outreach, explaining, as a staff member of the PSU Natural History Museum, about biodiversity to school children and members of the public; outreach, explaining to National Park staff and visitors to National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries how to identify biodiversity and the importance of biodiversity; participation in surveys to provide information about biodiversity for local councils planning tourism development; participation in surveys of bats linked to diseases transmitted by bats to man. Current employment: Researcher, Curator in charge of mammal collection at Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Natural History Museum, Prince of Songkla University.



Ms Ariya Dejtardol (Thai)

<http://www.harrison-institute.org/research/AriyaDejtardol.html>

PhD: registered at University of Ulm, Germany

PhD status: completion date target, 31 March 2014

Subject: bird taxonomy and phylogeography

Publications: 0 as first author, 0 as co-author

Publications in preparation: 4 as first author, 1 as co-author

Highlights: winning a scholarship to study at the University of Ulm, Germany and contributing to the phylogeographical knowledge of bird distributions in Thailand (see pdf of first paper, about to be submitted).

Applied work: helped co-organise the First International Ornithological Congress of Southeast Asia (November, 2012), which provided a forum for five Thai National Park staff and numerous national and international delegates (South/SE Asia, China, Europe and USA) to learn about bird conservation in SE Asia.

Employment on completion of PhD: Lecturer, Department of Biology, Prince of Songkla University



Bounsavane Douangboubpha (Lao)

<http://www.harrison-institute.org/research/BounsavaneDouangboubpha.html>

PhD: Registered at Prince of Songkla University, Thailand

PhD status: successfully completed his PhD examination in May, 2014

Subject: bat taxonomy

Publications: 4 as first author, 3 as co-author



Publications in preparation: 6 as first author, 5 as co-author

Highlights: described one new species of bat – *Hipposideros einnaythu* (Myanmar house-dwelling bat) – 2 species promoted from synonymy to species status – *Hipposideros atrox* (Lesser bicoloured leaf-nose bat) and *H. nicobarulae* (Nicobar leaf-nosed bat); awarded a grant towards for developing the zoological collection's of the National University of Laos by the Systematics Association London

Applied work: participated in a programme researching the biodiversity of the forest canopy of Lao PDR

<http://www.harrison->

[institute.org/www/research/Biodiversity%20of%20Forest%20Canopies%20in%20Laos.pdf](http://www.harrison-institute.org/www/research/Biodiversity%20of%20Forest%20Canopies%20in%20Laos.pdf)

Employment on completion of PhD: Lecturer at Faculty of Environmental Sciences, National University of Laos, Lao PDR.

Ith Saveng (Cambodian)

<http://www.harrison-institute.org/research/IthSaveng.html>

PhD: Registered at Prince of Songkla University, Thailand

PhD status: completion date target, summer 2014

Subject: bat taxonomy

Publications: 2 as first author, 3 as co-author

Publications in preparation: 2 as first author, 2 as co-author

Highlights: selected to participate in a number of international biodiversity surveys in Cambodia (see below)

Applied work: participated in multi-national teams to assess the importance for biodiversity conservation in Cambodia of (1) Bokor National Park,

Kampot Province, (2) Veun Sai Protected Forest, Ratanakiri Province and (3) Kulen Prumtep National Park, Preah Vihear Province. Demonstrated to Cambodian students field survey techniques in Samkoh Wildlife Sanctuary, Porsat Province.

Employment on completion of PhD: Lecturer in Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Royal University of Phnom Penh, Cambodia.



MSc students

Ms Uraiporn Pimsai (Thai)

<http://www.harrison-institute.org/research/UraipornPimsai.html>

MSc: Registered at Prince of Songkla University, Thailand

MSc status: successfully examined on 27 September, 2012

Subject: murid rodent taxonomy

Publications: 0 as first author, 0 as co-author

Publications in preparation: one as first author, one as co-author

Highlights: preparing a monograph on the 12 genera and 28 species of rodent currently known from peninsular Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore

Applied work: participation in rodents and human health programmes

<http://www.ceropath.org/>; outreach, working as a staff member of the PSU

Natural History Museum, explaining about the importance of biodiversity to

school children and members of the public; explaining to National Park staff and visitors to National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries how to identify biodiversity and the importance of conservation.



Current employment: Scientist at Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Natural History Museum, Prince of Songkla University.

Daosavanh Sanamxay (Lao)

<http://www.harrison-institute.org/research/Daosavanh%20Sanamxay.html>

MSc: Registered at Prince of Songkla University, Thailand

MSc status: successfully examined on 19 August 2013

Subject: flying squirrel taxonomy

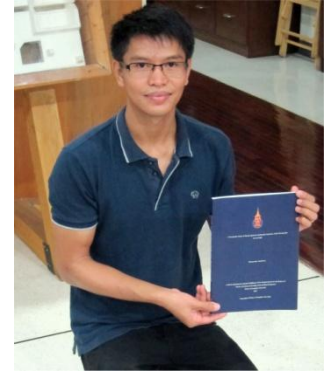
Publications: one as first author, one as co-author

Publications in preparation: 2 as first author, one as co-author

Highlights: described one new species of flying squirrel – *Biswamoyopterus laoensis* (Giant Lao flying squirrel)

Applied work: surveying food markets in Lao PDR for rare squirrels/flying squirrels to determine impact of human harvesting on biodiversity (led to discovery of new, endemic species to science and new records for Lao PDR)

Current employment: currently applying to Faculty of Environmental Sciences, National University of Laos, for the position of lecturer.



Imakando Christopher Imakando (Zambia)

<http://www.harrison-institute.org/research/Christopher%20Imakando.html>

MSc: Registered at Prince of Songkla University, Thailand

MSc status: successfully examined on 25 November, 2013

Subject: murid rodent taxonomy

Publications: 0 as first author, 0 as co-author

Publications in preparation: 2 as first author

Highlights: winning a scholarship from Copperbelt University, Zambia to study at the Prince of Songkla University

Applied work: training staff of Tarutao National Park in the identification of murid rodents and other small mammals; conducting a biodiversity survey of the National Park for rodents with the data submitted to the National Park authorities.

Current employment: lecturer at the School of Natural Resources, Copperbelt University, Kitwe, Zambia.



Ngagyel Tenzin (Bhutan)

MSc: Registered at Prince of Songkla University, Thailand

MSc status: successfully examined on May, 2013

Subject: squirrel taxonomy

Publications: one as first author

Publications in preparation: one as first author, one as co-author

Highlights: the first postgraduate student from Bhutan to study animal taxonomy in the Prince of Songkla University

Applied work: currently educating Bhutanese school children about the importance of biodiversity conservation

Current employment: Teacher in Biology (Department of Science) currently at Jampeling Higher Secondary School, Kanglung, Trashigang, Bhutan.



Tshering Nidup (Bhutan)

<http://www.harrison-institute.org/research/Tshering%20Nidup.html>

MSc: Registered at Prince of Songkla University, Thailand

MSc status: successfully completed his MSc examination in April, 2014

Subject: amphibian taxonomy

Publications: 0 as first author, 0 as co-author

Publications in preparation: one as first author

Highlights: being part of an international team that undertook research of amphibian diseases in Thailand

Applied work: together with his supervisor Dr Sansareeya Wangkulankul helped train staff in Tarutao National Park and Hala-Bala Wildlife Sanctuary in amphibian identification and conservation.

Employment on completion of MSc: Associate lecturer, School of Life Science, Zoology Department, Sherubtse College, Royal University of Bhutan, Bhutan

