

The NARIT Astronomical Teacher Training and Workshop

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NARIT has organised “The Astronomical Teacher Training and Workshop” to train teachers teaching in school, especially who teach in science and astronomy. Astronomy is the subject included in Thai Basic Education Core Curriculum in 2008. The ultimate goal of this particular training is that teachers are able to use astronomy to inspire students on their interests in science, as well as to have a good scientific procedures, and search for more knowledge. The training is divided into 3 levels, each with different objectives. The Basic level; inspiring teachers to get the basic knowledge, use astronomical activities to teach students in astronomy and science. The Intermediate level; teachers can get more skills for astronomical observing and some idea to create projects and basic research in astronomy. The Advance level; teachers try to create the astronomical projects with their students, with NARIT close supervision to completion. The trainings are organised by the Public Outreach Department at NARIT, with cooperation from IPST (the Institute for the Promotion of Teacher Science and Technology of Thailand). The Basic level took place in 2010, with up to 4,200 teachers. The Intermediate level began in 2011, with over 210 teachers. The Advance level began in 2012, with 14 teachers, and initiated over 90 astronomical projects.

NARIT has another project to support students and teachers who passed the advance level. We create the conference for astronomy project presentation, it's called “Thai Astronomical Conference (Student Session)” or TACs, where students and teachers can present their projects and exchange the knowledge in astronomy. TACs kicked off in 2014, with over 40 projects presented in a year. NARIT tries to promote TACs to be the grand conference in astronomy for Thai students.