

Russell Currie Memorial Fund Awards

Encouraging education in work study and productivity improvement overseas is one of the aims of the Russell Currie Memorial Fund (RCMF), which has now been in existence for 55 years.

As reported in *Management Services Journal (MSJ)* Winter 2018, the Trust Fund was established on 1 March 1968, following the death of Russell Mackenzie Currie CBE, to mark and continue the outstanding contribution he had made in the field of work study and productivity improvement. Currie was a former President of the Institute of Management Services and for many years worked overseas.

The Institute of Management Services launched an appeal for funds under the patronage of Earl Mountbatten of Burma. This proved successful and has funded the activity of the Russell Currie Memorial Trust ever since, ensuring that the Trust could fulfil its education objectives.

In recent years the RCMF awards have been made to students as far afield as Uganda, Botswana and India.

Which brings us to the present day and the continuation of the RCMF in the world of productivity.

Not Just One Award, But Two for Both Students!

Suteethorn Saengmanee in Thailand and Dinas Haranditya in Indonesia were nominated among the top five students in 2022 and declared runners-up to the IMS Student of the Year, as reported in the Spring 2023 issue of *MSJ*. In a subsequent online presentation to the students from ECCO Shoes, there was justification for added celebration. David Blanchflower, as Chairman of the RCMF, announced that Dinas and Suteethorn were also joint winners of the RCMF award in 2022 for students on the four week IMS course who live and work overseas.

Scott-Grant arranged for David Blanchflower to meet Suteethorn and Dinas online, along with their respective managers Gitsada Boonchirt, Managing Director ECCO Thailand (ETH) and Dining Irma Djaliri, Senior Manager and Global Advisor Work Study for PT ECCO Indonesia. They were delighted that President Director PTEI, Gary Smale was also able to be at the online presentation.

Suteethorn and Dinas were each presented with a specially



During the online presentation (made by Ian Winstanley, David Blanchflower and Richard Taylor) Suteethorn (left) was delighted to accept his gifts and certificate, with Gary Smale alongside in Thailand. And in Indonesia, Dinas (left) accepted hers with equal delight, joined by Dining.



engraved silver salver to recognise their achievement – and a special commemorative certificate. These RCMF gifts, along with their framed certificates for being runners-up to the Student of the Year Award for 2022 were later sent to them in their respective countries.

Asked about the benefits of the IMS Productivity Analyst course to ECCO, Gary Smale said, “By having mutual fundamental concepts of productivity across our units, we are able to ensure that standard practices are implemented. The Industrial Engineers can apply the right standard of methods and knowledge when they do their work, like creating Standard Minutes, sequence of processes, layouts and so on. Having a standardised implementation makes it easier to conduct observations, analyse and propose effective improvements in our operations.”

Principal Course Tutor Ian Winstanley who delivered the training to both students said, “You were each a great representative of ECCO and we are all delighted that your excellent achievements have been recognised jointly with these international awards.”

Sincere congratulations to Suteethorn and Dinas and well done indeed!