



## The 25th ASA-Congress in Bangkok, Thailand: A Memorable International Gathering 8 to 12 September 2023

ASA congresses play a pivotal role in fostering collaboration, knowledge sharing, and the cultivation of enduring relationships among administrative professionals in an increasingly interconnected world. The 25<sup>th</sup> ASA-Congress, hosted in Bangkok, Thailand, provided a unique opportunity for more than 300 delegates from 11 member countries, including nine (9) members from the **SAAP**, to come together and engage in a mutually enriching experience.



### Pre-congress: Arrival in Bangkok (7 September 2023)

Upon touching down at Suvarnabhumi Airport, we were greeted by the bustling energy of the airport, a heartwarming sight after a prolonged period of lockdown. The 25th ASA-Congress held immense significance for regional administrative professionals, evident from the warm welcome extended by APSAT Thailand's representatives.

The congress venue, The Berkeley Hotel, was strategically located in the heart of Bangkok, offering convenient access to the city's iconic landmarks. After a seamless check-in process, we completed our event registration and received delegate badges and event materials, which would become our constant companions for the ensuing five days.



From left to right, Evelyn Ng, Maria Zulueta, P Sumathi, Advisor - Sim Siew Gek, Advisor and ASA Coordinator - Margaret Chan Wee, Ruth Ooi, President - Josephine Kwan, Patsy Tan and Diana Koh



## Day 1: Registration and Opening Night (8 September 2023)

This day marked the beginning of an engaging few days of knowledge sharing and networking.



## Day 2: Opening Day (9 September 2023)

The congress commenced with a grand blessing ceremony, led by esteemed guests from the Rama IX Golden Jubilee Temple. It was truly inspiring to witness delegates from various nations gathered in a spacious ballroom, bound by a common passion for their profession. The opening speeches underscored the contemporary importance of international collaboration and knowledge exchange.

Throughout the day, experts from various fields delivered enlightening presentations covering the latest developments and trends. The interactions with colleagues from diverse backgrounds, each offering a unique perspective on shared challenges, proved invaluable. Additionally, we gained insights into our counterparts' initiatives and research projects in other member countries.



**Council of Presidents**





**SAAP's Delegates in SAAP's Corporate T shirts**

A significant highlight of the day was the ASA Bazaar held in the afternoon. Each member country was provided with a space to display products and facilitate sales. We had an opportunity to showcase a variety of items, all contributed by some SAAP members. The sales proceeds from these items were donated to a charitable cause through APSAT. SAAP managed to collect Thai Baht 11,260, equivalent to approximately S\$424.

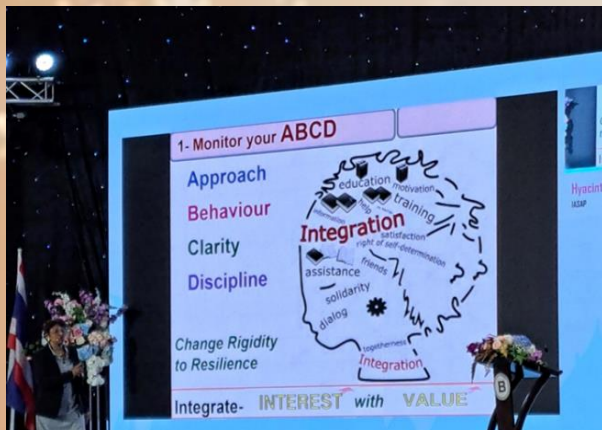
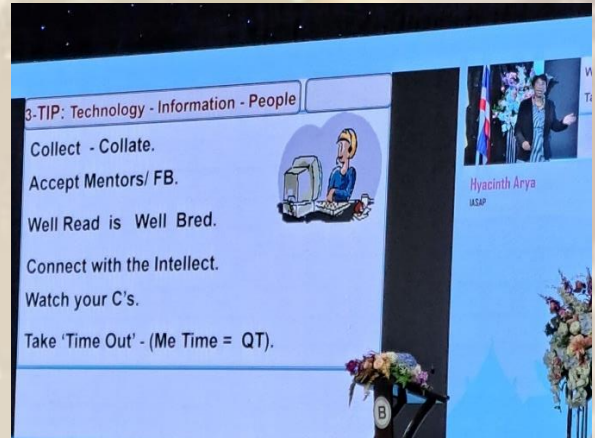


The fellowship dinner was marked by warm camaraderie, as delegates from various countries expressed keen interest in our work and shared their valuable insights.



### Day 3: A Memorable River Cruise (10 September 2023)

The day featured a lineup of esteemed speakers hailing from diverse member countries. The depth of research and effort invested in their presentations for the ASA Congress was evident. The topics covered included Work-Life Integration, Preparation for the Wean Off, Essentials of Educating Beyond, Art of Transition at Work, and Being an Actionary.



In the early evening, a highly anticipated river cruise along the Chao Phraya River provided a refreshing break from formal sessions. As the sun began to set, the rain unexpectedly fell, casting a golden hue over the water. Despite the weather, the traditional Thai and pop music aboard added to the ambiance. While sailing past iconic landmarks such as the Grand Palace and Wat Arun, we marvelled at the city's rich cultural heritage.



Laughter and lively conversations were abundant during this memorable interlude, serving as a reminder that the congress, while primarily an intellectual endeavour, also offered opportunities for cultural exchange and the establishment of lasting friendships.



## Day 4: ASA Projects Contest and Closing Night (11 September 2023)

As the congress draws to the end, the focus shifted towards the exchange of knowledge and ideas. Panitta Srisa-ard from APSAT presented "Art & Part of Living – The Sky Has No Limit," which was received with great enthusiasm.

The day also included a contest where Sri Lanka SLAAPS emerged as the winning participant in the ASA Projects Contest Presentation & Awarding.



In the evening, cultural immersion was further enriched through food, singing, and dance performances. All nine members of SAAP were ready to take the stage, performing five songs in five different languages, showcasing the hard work that had gone into loads of preparation in music arrangement and choreography.

The congress concluded with a closing ceremony, recognizing, and awarding outstanding contributions in the field. Witnessing professionals' hard work and dedication being acknowledged was truly heartening.





## Day 5 - Conclusion and Farewell: (12 September 2023)

As we bid farewell to our newfound friends, there was a palpable sense of accomplishment. We departed with a broader global network, a wealth of knowledge, and a profound appreciation for the role of ASA Congresses. The 25th ASA-Congress brought together delegates from diverse backgrounds, united by a common purpose, creating an unforgettable and invaluable experience.

In retrospect, the Congress was a journey marked by learning, networking, and cultural immersion. This congress underscored the significance of fostering connections and celebrating diversity in our shared professional field.

We look forward to participating in the upcoming 26th ASA Congress in 2025 at Sri-Lanka.

**Margaret Chan Wee**  
Advisor & ASA Co-ordinator



Advisor and ASA Co-ordinator - Margaret Chan Wee and current ASA President, APSAT (Thailand) - Sukanya Nimmanheminda

### Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

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இலங்கை சனநாயக சோசலிசக் குடியரசு (Tamil)

**Sinhala:** Śrī Laṅkā Prajātāntrika Samājavādī Janarajaya

**Tamil:** Ilaṅkai Jaṇaṇāyaka Sōsalisak Kuṭiyarasu



Flag



Emblem

Upcoming 26th ASA Congress in 2025  
at Sri-Lanka

## AFFILIATIONS

