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ANONG ANANTARIYAVECH : FACULTY PARTICIPATION IN THAI UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE : A

HISTORICAL STUDY. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSO. PROF. PAITON SINLARAT, Ph. D. THESIS COADVISOR

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The objective of this study was to analyze and synthesize faculty participation in Thai universities since the first university was founded (1916) until the present (1996) in terms of functional areas, level of organization and forms of participation. The study was divided into 3 periods: 1) the period under the supervision of the Ministries (1916-1959); 2) the period under the supervision of the Prime Minister Office (1959-1972) and 3) the period under the supervision of the Ministry of University Affairs (1972-1996). The results revealed that faculty members had shared authority in university governance since the first period. During the third period, faculty members in Thai university had shared authority in all functional areas: planning, academic administration and personnel administration; in all levels: departmental level, faculty level and institutional level; and in two forms of participation: by law and by mission.

Factors effecting faculty participation in Thai university governance were both intrinsic and extrinsic. Intrinsic factors included complexity of university structure, numbers and qualification of faculty members, western concept of shared authority in Thai university governance and revised university charters. Extrinsic factors were national higher education policy and the liberalization of economics, social affairs and politics.

In order to improve shared authority in Thai university governance, university charter and statute need to be revised. University administrators should have positive perspective in shared authority on campus. Faculty members should be concerned about self-discipline, responsibility and management skill. Finally, administrators and faculty members should have common concerns regarding faculty participation in university governance.

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