

The purposes of this investigation were threefold: firstly, to study development and changes in the field of library and information science in Thailand as well as abroad during B.E. 2521-2531 as documented in various publications; secondly, to arrange, according to its frequencies of occurrences in the documents, ideas and recommendations for the development and changes of the curricula; and to equate this arrangement with the resources possessed by the Department of Library Science, Srinakharinwirot University if it were to expand programs in library and information science and related fields. Two major techniques were applied for data collection. A documentary survey of the primary and secondary publications was comprehensively pursued in order to collect ideas and recommendations of various authors. This was supplemented by an interview with 3 administrators, a dean, a head department, and 20 faculty members of the Department of Library Science.

Major findings were as follows. Courses or areas which were mentioned and recommended to be included in the graduate curricula in library science were Collection Management and Organization, Administration/Management/Accounting, User or Reference Services, and Technology Applied to Library Process consecutively. While following areas were recommended for Library and Information Science program, namely, Database Design and Management, Communication, Computer Programming, Information Science, and Philosophy and Sociology of Information. With regard to Thailand, library and information science curricula were mostly influenced by western concepts at the very beginning. Founders of the curricula were both western experts and faculty members educated in western countries. These influences continued to bear fruit to

the present as reflected in the latest curricula which closely took western curricula as their prototypes.

Regarding the library and information science program launched by the Department of Library Science of Srinakharinwirot University at Prasarnmit, it was found that the structure of the program was much similar to other library science departments in Thailand. Considering various components, faculty qualifications as well as supporting facilities, the Department was self-sufficient in carrying out the current programs. In expanding into new program which no or few faculty members available, the Department needed to add few more to the list of its faculty members in the specialized area such as information technology and related fields.