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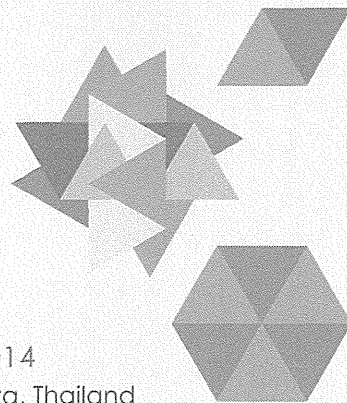
PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARD CONFERENCE

# REPORT

on the 2014 Conference on

# TRANSFORMATIVE LEARNING FOR HEALTH EQUITY

PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARD CONFERENCE 2014



27-31 JANUARY 2014  
Royal Cliff Grand Hotel, Pattaya, Thailand

True success is not in the learning, but  
in its application to the benefit of mankind

*Abraham Lincoln M.D.*

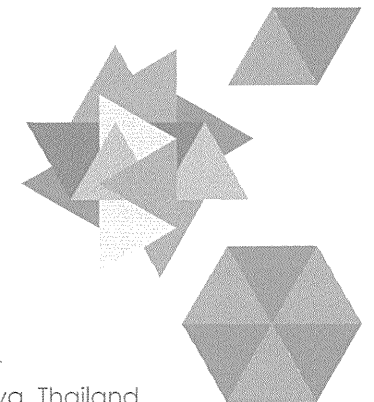


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## BACKGROUND OF PRINCE MAHIDOL AWARD

The Prince Mahidol Award was established in 1992 to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary of Prince Mahidol of Songkla, who is recognized by the Thais as 'The Father of Modern Medicine and Public Health of Thailand'.

His Royal Highness Prince Mahidol of Songkla was born on January 1, 1892, a royal son of Their Majesties King Rama V and Queen Savang Vadhana of Siam. He received his education in England and Germany and earned a commission as a lieutenant in the Imperial German Navy in 1912. In that same year, His Majesty King Rama VI also commissioned him as a lieutenant in the Royal Thai Navy.

Prince Mahidol of Songkla had noted, while serving in the Royal Thai Navy, the serious need for improvement in the standards of medical practitioners and public health in Thailand. In undertaking such mission, he decided to study public health at M.I.T. and medicine at Harvard University, U.S.A. Prince Mahidol set in motion a whole range of activities in accordance with his conviction that human resources development at the national level was of utmost importance and his belief that improvement

of public health constituted an essential factor in national development. During the first period of his residence at Harvard, Prince Mahidol negotiated and concluded, on behalf of the Royal Thai Government, an agreement with the Rockefeller Foundation on assistance for medical and nursing education in Thailand. One of his primary tasks was to lay a solid foundation for teaching basic sciences which Prince Mahidol pursued through all necessary measures. These included the provision of a considerable sum of his own money as scholarships for talented students to study abroad.

After he returned home with his well-earned M.D. and C.P.H. in 1928, Prince Mahidol taught preventive and social medicine to final year medical students at Siriraj Medical School. He also worked as a resident doctor at McCormick Hospital in Chiang Mai and performed operations alongside Dr. E.C. Cord, Director of the hospital. As ever, Prince Mahidol did much more than was required in attending his patients, taking care of needy patients at all hours of the day and night, and even, according to records, donating his own blood for them.

Prince Mahidol's initiatives and efforts produced a most remarkable and lasting impact on the advancement of modern medicine and public health in Thailand such that he was subsequently honoured with the title of "Father of Modern Medicine and Public Health of Thailand".

In commemoration of the Centenary of the Birthday of His Royal Highness Prince Mahidol of Songkla on January 1, 1992, the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation was established under the Royal Patronage of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej to bestow international awards -Prince Mahidol Awards, upon individuals or institutions that have made outstanding and exemplary contributions to the advancement of medical, and public health and human services in the world.

The Prince Mahidol Award will be conferred on an annual basis with prizes worth a total of approximately USD 100,000. A Committee, consisting of world-renowned scientists and public health experts, will recommend selection of laureates whose nominations should be submitted to the Secretary-General of the Foundation before May 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. The committee will also decide on the number of prizes to be awarded annually, which shall not exceed two in anyone year. The prizes will be given to outstanding performance and/or research in the field of medicine for the benefit of mankind and for outstanding contribution in the field of health for the sake of the well-being of the people. These two categories were established in commemoration of His Royal Highness Mahidol's graduation with Doctor of Medicine (Cum Laude) and Certificate of Public Health and in respect to his speech that:

***“True success is not in the learning,  
but in its application to the benefit of mankind.”***

The Prince Mahidol Award ceremony will be held in Bangkok in January each year and presided over by His Majesty the King of Thailand.

**For more information see:**

[www.princemahidolaward.org/index.en.php](http://www.princemahidolaward.org/index.en.php)



On Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> January 2014,

Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, as the representative of His Majesty the King, presented the Prince Mahidol Awards for the year 2013 in the field of Medicine to Professor Dr. David D. Ho, USA, and Dr. Anthony Fauci, USA; in the field of Public Health to Prof. Peter Piot, Kingdom of Belgium, and Dr. Jim Yong Kim, USA; at the Chakri Throne Hall, Grand Palace.





## PROF. DR. DAVID D. HO

The Prince Mahidol Award Laureate 2013  
In the field of Medicine

**Director and CEO of The Aaron Diamond AIDS  
Research Center, New York**  
The United States of America

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Dr. David D. Ho is a leader in HIV/AIDS research who pioneered the highly active anti-retroviral therapy (HAART) treatment for HIV-infected patients. His work is based on the study of the dynamics of HIV replication which is active even during the asymptomatic phase, leading to better understanding of the mechanisms of HIV infection and a new method of applying HAART treatment at an early stage of infection by applying the maximum level of viral suppression to effectively control viral replication.

## DR. ANTHONY FAUCI

The Prince Mahidol Award Laureate 2013  
In the field of Medicine

**Director of the National Institute of Allergy  
and Infectious Diseases (NIAID),  
National Institutes of Health**  
The United States of America

.....

Dr. Anthony Fauci has made influential contributions to the understanding of how HIV destroys the body's defenses, leading to the progression to AIDS. His discovery demonstrated that HIV replicates extensively in lymph nodes during the early asymptomatic phase and continuously destroys CD4+ T lymphocytes, which leads to the deterioration of the immune system. Dr. Fauci showed that early treatment by using highly active anti-retroviral therapy (HAART) will effectively control HIV replication, demonstrated by the reduction of the HIV viral load and number of CD4+ T lymphocytes.

The approach taken by Prof. Dr. David D. Ho and Dr. Anthony Fauci has been widely embraced and set a new standard for HIV/AIDS patient treatment – changing AIDS from a lethal, untreatable disease to a chronic one, and saving millions of lives throughout the world.

