

## *W*elcome Remarks from *the Dean of Ratchasuda College, Mahidol University*



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### **Honorable Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen**

On behalf of Ratchasuda College, it is our great honor and pleasure to warmly welcome you to the 6<sup>th</sup> *Ratchasuda International Conference on Disability 2019*. Ratchasuda College was established in accordance with the generous mercy of Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn who dedicates her life to enhance quality of life of persons with disabilities. The College has been providing education and services to the persons with disabilities, rehabilitation professional and educators for over 25 years since 1993.

Presently, its missions have moved forward to be the center of education, rehabilitation, and research on disabilities and special needs in order to sustainably promote their quality of life. To accomplish these missions, collaboration, sharing, and networking with national and international partners are keys to success.

Ratchasuda International Conference on Disability is one of important events which can bring our partners and experts from many countries to share the knowledge and experiences on various aspects of disabilities and special needs. This year conference is presented with the theme of “Creating the World of Opportunity for All”, where we can share and discuss on how people,

particularly people with disabilities who having some special needs, can access to equal rights through practical opportunities in responding to their needs and be able to meaningfully engage in the society. In this regard, educational opportunities might be the most critical basis for sustainable quality of life development.

In Thailand, many persons with disabilities succeed in their life when receiving appropriate education management that harmonize with their needs, interests, and potentials. However, more on the rest of persons with disabilities still have limited opportunity to access and complete the formal compulsory education. Dropping out and appropriate learning outcome according to level of education became considerable issues. It is challenging for more creative disability support services and education transition management in order to make education is the real life opportunity.

Post-college or continuing flexible education, in other words lifelong learning is calling for our interest in creating new alternative education platforms toward achieving in employment or earning a living goals. It aims to cover career development process and disability-inclusive business incubator which needs for multi-sectoral collaboration and knowledge of disability support services. We sincerely hope that this venue will allow us to learn and share knowledge and evidence-based practices which thereafter broaden horizons on how to create the world of opportunity for all.

This year conference, we are honored to have Asst. Prof. John-Ross (J.R.) Rizzo who will give a keynote speech, following by Mr. Monthian Buntan, Professor Phyllis Jones, and Assoc. Prof. Joseph Agbenyega who will share experiences on panel discussion. Finally, I would like to thank all of you for your participation, generously support and share on this learning platform.

May you enjoy the conference.