

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT

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Alumni Highlight 2026

From Student to A Senior Specialist : Natchanok Phewdang



As the International College celebrates its 12th anniversary, alumni stories reflect how the college has shaped graduates who thrive in global careers. One such story is that of Natchanok Phewdang, known to friends as “Looknam”, from the first cohort of the ITBL program. Her journey from university life to becoming a senior specialist in the automotive industry demonstrates how international education, practical exposure, and strong foundational skills can prepare students for the challenges of today’s interconnected business world.

Through her reflections, Natchanok shares how the experiences she gained during her time at the International College continue to influence her professional growth, her approach to work, and her outlook on global collaboration. After graduating, Natchanok began her career in one of the most globally integrated industries—the automotive sector. Her professional path quickly led her into the field of international trade and supply chain coordination, where precision, communication, and cross-border collaboration are essential.

“I began my career in the automotive industry right after graduation and have spent the past seven years specializing in import–export within my company’s Production Control Department. Currently, I work as a Senior Specialist at an automotive parts manufacturer, where I manage import–export privileges and coordinate customs clearance to ensure that the global supply of parts runs smoothly.”

“Studying at the International College was one of the most impactful decisions. It gave me a strong foundation in English and business communication, which have been extremely valuable in my career. During my studies, we constantly practiced listening, reading, writing, and presenting in English, and we became familiar with business terminology. This helped me communicate clearly at work and feel comfortable engaging in small talk with colleagues from different countries.”

“Another important experience was working on group projects and role-play activities in class. These activities taught me how to collaborate with others, when to take the lead, and when to support the team. The open discussions we had with classmates and professors also helped build my confidence to share ideas and listen to different perspectives. These are skills that I still use every day in a professional environment.”

“The program also gave me a broad understanding of logistics and supply chain processes, which are essential drivers of business operations. Although what we learn in the classroom is only the foundation compared to real-world practice, it provided me with a solid base that allows me to adapt and develop expertise in different areas within the industry.”

“Another experience that had a significant impact on me was the cooperative education internship. During the four-month program, I had the opportunity to work in a real professional environment, contribute to projects, and learn how organizations operate. It helped me adapt to workplace dynamics and allowed me to demonstrate both my skills and my mindset. That experience not only broadened my perspective, but also increased my chances of securing employment after graduation.”

Her reflections highlight how academic learning, when combined with practical opportunities such as cooperative education, can create a strong bridge between university life and the professional world. For Natchanok, the International College not only provided theoretical knowledge, but also nurtured the communication and collaboration skills that are critical in multinational industries. Interestingly, one of the most valuable skills she uses in her career today came from a course that initially seemed quite basic. This experience illustrates how even small lessons in the classroom can later become powerful tools in professional life.



“Surprisingly, I never imagined that the skill I’d use most in my career—database management—would come from a Basic Computer class taught by Professor Yok. Back then, I barely paid attention to the program’s functions during case studies because I couldn’t see how they would apply to real work and make me perform better. Fast forward to today: managing large databases and working extensively with Microsoft Office programs are a core part of my job. Those small shortcuts and functions I learned back then have become game-changers to minimize manual processes. They help me work more efficiently, reduce manual effort, and save hours every week to focus on higher-value tasks. Lesson learned: Never underestimate the power of foundational skills. What seems minor in the classroom can become your biggest advantage in the workplace.”

Her story serves as a reminder that foundational knowledge often reveals its true value only after entering the workforce. Skills that may appear simple during university studies can later become essential tools that increase efficiency, productivity, and professional confidence. Beyond technical knowledge, Natchanok emphasizes the importance of cultural awareness and adaptability—qualities that are increasingly vital in international workplaces. Studying in a multicultural environment helped her develop the ability to understand different perspectives and collaborate effectively with colleagues from diverse backgrounds.

“Studying alongside classmates from diverse cultural backgrounds taught me to embrace differences and adapt quickly. I learned about customs, etiquette, and the nuances of working with people from various countries. So, when I encounter cultural diversity in the workplace, I can navigate it with understanding and flexibility. These experiences make it easier to collaborate with colleagues from various backgrounds today.”

This international mindset, she explains, is not only valuable for communication, but also essential for building trust and maintaining smooth collaboration in global teams. Looking back on her university experience, Natchanok summarizes the three key elements that best prepared her for professional life.

“I would say the three most important things the International College gave me are strong English and communication skills, intercultural adaptability, and practical exposure through internships.”

These elements, she notes, form the foundation for graduates who wish to succeed in industries where global communication and international cooperation are part of everyday work. Reflecting on her own journey, Natchanok also offers encouragement to current and prospective students who are considering studying at the International College. She believes that the university years are not only a time for academic learning, but also an opportunity to explore interests, build networks, and develop personal confidence.

“From my own experience, I’d like to share a message with those who are still studying: Enjoy your student life and make the most of every opportunity. Every challenge you face today is shaping the foundation for your future career. Stay curious, don’t fear mistakes, and build connections inside and outside your faculty. Challenge yourself to participate in academic competitions. They sharpen your problem-solving skills and help you stand out. Explore hobbies and passions. They’re not just for stress relief but can even build professional relationships later.”

“For those considering KMUTNBIC: Go for it! It’s worth every investment! You’ll learn from experienced professors, connect with international friends from diverse cultures, join exciting activities, and even have opportunities for international field trips. No matter where you come from, the International College brings everyone together and creates a truly global learning experience.”

Her message highlights the importance of curiosity, resilience, and openness—qualities that often define successful professionals in an increasingly globalized world. Her story reflects not only personal success, but also the broader impact of the International College in nurturing graduates who are ready to engage with the global business community. As the alumni network continues to grow, stories like hers serve as inspiration for future generations of students who will carry the college’s international spirit into the world.

As the International College marks its 12th anniversary, Natchanok reflects on how much the institution has grown since her time as a student. As a member of the first generation of students, she witnessed its development firsthand and remains proud to see how the college continues to evolve.



“Congratulations to the International College on reaching this milestone! As one of the first-generation students, I’ve witnessed its growth from the early days—before the 95 Building was even completed—to its thriving today. I wish the college continued success in producing globally competitive graduates. Thank you to all professors, staff, and the student union for your dedication and teamwork. I truly believe that our alumni network will continue to grow into a strong, global community within the international business world—creating a solid foundation for future graduates to thrive.”