



## **Message from H.E. the Minister of Science and Technology**

The Sloan Consortium which is the international organization to promote excellence in online education or eLearning has been issuing results from surveys of eLearning. One of the important results is that over 90% of large universities in the US are offering eLearning. The state of Michigan in the US has passed a law requiring that every highschool graduate must have taken at least one eLearning course. In the year 2008, more than half of students in the state of Florida in the US have taken at least one eLearning course. All countries in the world are offering or in the process of offering eLearning.

From [www.google.com](http://www.google.com), I am delighted to learn that Thailand is the first and only country in the world offering Ph.D. in eLearning Methodology and that is at the College of Internet Distance Education of Assumption University. The First Bachelor Degree Program in Business Computer in Thailand was established at Assumption University. That program was authored by myself, Prof. Dr. Srisakdi Charmonman and Dr. Choop Karnjanaprakorn who was also the first Minister of Science and Technology. I am very pleased to know that Prof. Dr. Srisakdi Charmonman has also served as the Chairman of the Organizing Committees of the five International Conferences on eLearning for Knowledge-Based Society from the year 2004-2008.

In my capacity as the Minister of Science and Technology, I am sure that papers to be published in the Proceedings of the Fifth International Conference on eLearning for Knowledge-Based Society which is the Special Issue of the International Journal of the Computer, the Internet and Management, Volume 16. Number SP3, 31 December 2008, will be beneficial to all concerned. I would like to see this series of conferences going on the next year and several more years to come.

**(Dr. Khunying Kalaya Sophonpanich)**  
**Minister of Science and Technology**