Acknowledgement

On behalf of the research team, we would like to express our extremely thank to STOU Founding President, Professor Dr. Wichit Srisa-an, Associate Professor Dr. David Crookall, Management Institute, University de Nice Sophia Antipolis (UNSA), France, and Associate Professor Dr. Lim Swee Hia from Singapore General Hospital, including Associate Professor Dr. Suchitrra Luangamornlert, the first Vice President of Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council who has kindly provided useful advice and support for this research project. We are sincerely thankful to Associate Professor Dr.Tong-In Wongsothorn, Associate Professor Dr.Chailerd Pichitpornchai, Professor Dr. Wipada Kunaviktikul, Associate Professor Dr.Suchitra Luangamonlert, Professor Dr. Karen Francis, Dr. Png Hong Hock, Ms. Suwanna Suethanuwong, and Ms. Duangjai Chumprasit who were special lecturers producing very fruitful online modules.

The study received financial support from the National Budget for Thailand 2014 Fiscal Year. We would like to express our deeply thanks to Associate Professor Dr.Chailerd Pichitpornchai, the former President of Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University for his supervision and active support to the project implementation. His perceptive criticism kept us working harder to ensure the project meets its goal.

We wish to take this opportunity to express our profound gratitude and deep regard to Professor Emeritus Dr. Wichit Srisuphan, former President of Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council and Associate Professor (Dr) Lim Swee Hia for being our honored guest speakers for the face-to-face intensive seminar on STOU campus. We would like to give our sincere gratitude to all research members for their enthusiastic contribution, strenuousness, and mutual supports to optimize success and efficiency as much as possible. Also, we would like to extend our best wishes to the research assistants, Ms.Wacharee Limungkoon and Ms.Sukanya Phromphon, for their dedication and hard work throughout the project. The impact of our research team is obvious throughout this study.

We acknowledge with thanks all participants that are executive nurses from ASEAN countries (Thailand, Malaysia, Myanmar, Lao PDR, and Vietnam) and provided contributions in the online course, knowledge sharing session, and face-to-face intensive seminar, particularly in our course evaluation. Without their great participation, this research would be incompleted. We thank you for all your support throughout. Hopefully, you continue to extend your cooperation to the current leadership team and the succeeding executive nurses. Further, I sincerely thanks to 3 experts, Professor Dr.Chutima Sacchanand, Associate Professor Dr.Srinual Satitwitayanan and Air Vice Marshal Supit Prasopsil for verification the research tool. Lastly, we are deeply thankful to 3 readers Professor Dr.Karen Francis, Associate Professor Dr.Tong-In Wongsothorn, and Associate Professor Dr. Suchitrra Luangamornlertwho kindly gave some comments and suggestions to complete this research paper.

More importantly, the research was internationally published entitled "The Development of an Online Course on Leadership Development and Change Management for Nurse Executives in ASEAN Countries" in the book "Studies and Practices for Advancement in Open and Distance Education", year 2015. For Thailand, it was published in Thai Journal of Nursing, year 2015, entitled "Leadership Competencies for Nurse Executives in ASEAN Community". On top of this, lesson learned from the research was presented by chief of the research team entitled "Power of Distance Education to Improve Nursing Leadership Competencies for ASEAN Nurses: Lesson Learned from an STOU's Online Course" in International Conference on Scientific Research on "Roles of Distance Education in Human Resource Development" in 2015. It was published in the Proceedings as well.

Researchers Team
January 2016