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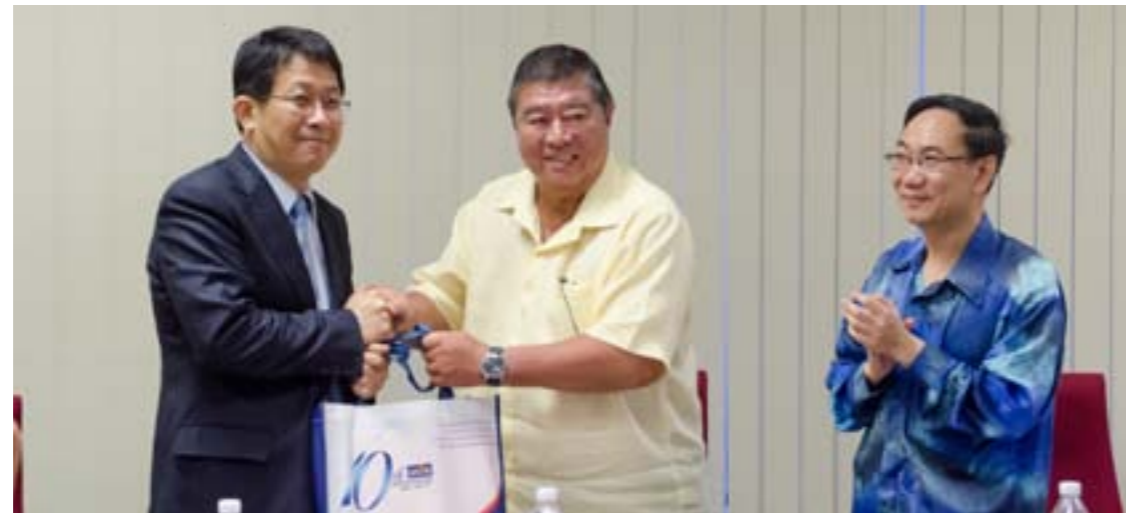
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Taiwan minister and 12 universities call on UTAR



UTAR Council Chairman Tun Dr Ling Liang Sik (centre) presenting souvenirs to Dr Chang, while Prof Chuah looks on

It was a convivial day at UTAR Perak Campus as Taiwan Minister of Education Dr Chiang Wei-ling led delegates including presidents and vice presidents from 12 Taiwan universities to make an unprecedented visit to the award-winning campus on 27 July 2013.

The visiting universities were Fo Guang University, Taiwan University of Education, National Pingtung University of Science and Technology, National Taipei University of Technology, National Kaohsiung University of Hospitality and Tourism, Lunghwa University of Science and Technology, TransWorld University, University System of Taiwan, National Taichung University of Education, I-Shou University, Yu Da University and Fu-Jen University. Accompanying the delegates were Taiwan Ministry of Education Section Chief Liu Su-Miao and Director of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Malaysia Chu To-Ming.

"We are truly honoured that despite your hectic schedule, Dr

Chiang and all of you are able to pay us a visit," said UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, adding that staff and students from both countries could pool their expertise and resources together for future collaborative

projects.

Dr Chiang shared that Taiwan had a total of 162 higher learning institutions and that there is plenty of room for collaborations between Malaysia and Taiwan. He added, "Some of the universities here may have

initiated projects with UTAR, while some are here for the first time. I hope that this first contact between UTAR and all the universities here will lead to a second, third or fourth contact which will subsequently spark some joint ventures."

RM30,000 for EBN research



Mock cheque presentation (from left): Dr Lim, Prof Dr Cheong, Dato' Seri Dr Abdullah Fadzil, Loke and Tan

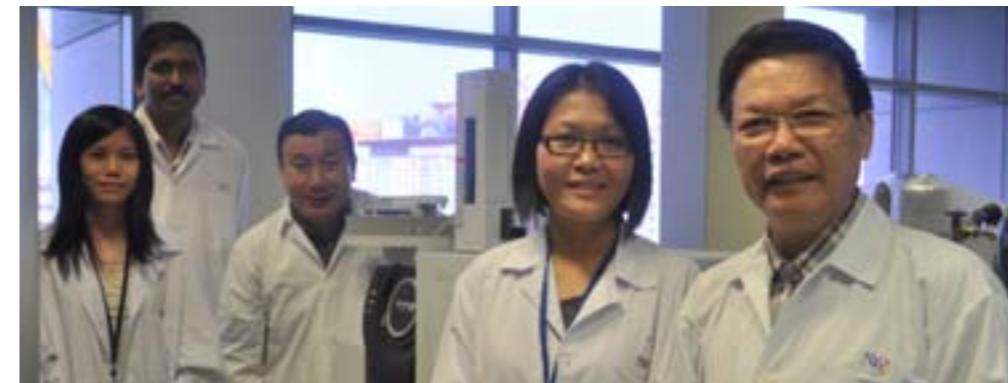
UTAR officially received a RM30,000 grant for research in edible bird's nest (EBN) from its corporate partner Royal Bird's Nest Sdn Bhd (RBN), the research arm of Swiftlet Eco Park Group of Companies, at a ceremony on 23 June 2013.

The research project under the RM30,000 grant is one of the collaborative activities of the two parties who signed a memorandum of understanding for collaboration on 3 December 2012. UTAR will use the grant to conduct research on the effects of EBN on the global gene expression and differentially expressed proteins in stem cells. The principal members of the research team are Tan Chee Hong, Group Executive Director and CEO of Swiftlet

Eco Park Group of Companies, UTAR Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Dean Emeritus Professor Dr Cheong Soon Keng and UTAR Centre for Cancer Research Chairperson Dr Lim Yang Mooi.

At the ceremony for RBN Global and Investors' Day, Swiftlet Eco Park Group Executive Chairman Dato' Seri Dr Abdullah Fadzil bin Che Wan handed over a mock cheque of RM30,000 to Prof Cheong. Also present at the ceremony were Dr Lim, Tan and RBN Group Managing Director Loke Yeu Loong. During the ceremony the group launched its new product Royal Bird's Nest 4-in-1 White Coffee. Dr Lim was an invited guest speaker and she shared about the nutritional values and medicinal properties of EBN.

Short stint in NYP spurs further collaboration



At NYP (from left): Le, Dr Subramaniam, Dr Lee, Dr Lim and Prof Dr Loh

A five-day research work of two partners, UTAR and Eu Yan Sang International Limited, at Nanyang Polytechnic (NYP), Singapore from 10 to 14 June 2013 led to UTAR and NYP working towards collaboration in future research projects.

UTAR and Eu Yan Sang group has long been research partners. The UTAR-EYS team's short-term working visit to NYP was initiated by UTAR adjunct professor and chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of Eu Yan Sang International Limited Prof Dr Patrick HM Loh, who is also a member of Life Sciences Advisory Committee of NYP School of Chemical and Life Sciences.

Prof Loh, UTAR Centre for Cancer Research Chairperson Dr Lim Yang Mooi and her research assistant Le Tian Xin were the members of UTAR-EYS team involved in

the short stint in NYP.

Prior to the visit to NYP, the team had successfully extracted borneol from a local plant in Malaysia. At NYP, with full support from NYP School of Chemical and Life Sciences Director Dr Joel Lee and NYP's plant chemistry expert Dr Subramaniam Gurusamy, the team was able to identify the type of borneol isomer they had isolated and compared it to that of the standard borneol, and to upscale or further purify their partially pure borneol extract through fractional distillation using NYP's advanced facilities.

While at NYP, the UTAR staff scoured the facilities available and exchanged ideas with researchers in the School of Chemical and Life Sciences. It was agreed that UTAR and NYP would work towards collaboration in future research projects.

UTAR Department of Alumni Relations and Placement held career fairs at the three UTAR campuses consecutively in July 2013 and attracted 94 prospective employers and employment agencies to participate. Twenty-eight companies participated in Sungai Long Campus on 1 July, 45 companies in Kuala Lumpur Campus on 2 July and 54 companies in Perak Campus on 3 July.

These companies included Ambank, Aeon, 99 Speedmart, APM Springs, Axa Affin General Insurance, Bata, Brunnsfield, Carrier, JobStreet.com, Kuala Lumpur Kepong, Mah Sing, Maybank, Mitsubishi Elevator, Murata Electronics, OYL Manufacturing, Public Mutual, The Store, Top Glove, United Overseas Bank, Western Digital, and Zuellig Pharma.

"It's good that the University organises such a career fair that connects us to the potential employers," said second-year Accounting student Saraeniyya Karunakaran who was among the huge turnout of UTAR students and alumni who braved the earlier

Three career days attract 94 companies

heavy downpour and arrived at Perak Campus as early as 9.00am. She added, "I'm excited to see some big names such as Maybank and Ambank."

"I'm mainly looking for internship opportunities at some companies," said third-year Accounting student Lau Hong Yong, adding that through the career fair he had a better understanding of the job market and was better prepared for employment.

"We are delighted to see quite a number of applications," said Ambank Kampar branch manager J. Jayasilan, who was looking for fresh graduates to fill vacancies such as wealth specialist, personal banker, and customer service representative. He added, "We are also receiving a lot of applications

for internships."

"We are a fast expanding sundry shop which aims to have branches nationwide," said 99 Speedmart assistant training manager Lim Ray Hoon. She added, "This career fair serves as a platform for us to look for fresh graduates who want to be part of our team."



Huge turnout at UTAR Perak Campus Heritage Hall despite a heavy downpour earlier

“This science fair aims to create a science-based culture that inspires students, especially school students, to be innovative and more inclined towards science,” said UTAR Vice President (R&D and Commercialisation) Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei, the organising chairman of the Science Fair held at the Heritage Hall of UTAR Perak Campus on 11 and 12 July 2013.

He added, “The fair is also in line with government policy to encourage more students to take up science subjects to increase science stream students from 20 to 60 percent.”

The two-day science fair showcasing researches of UTAR faculty members, talks, games, video presentations, hands-on programming and demonstrations, was a joint effort by UTAR Institute of Postgraduate Studies and

Research, Department of Consultancy and Commercialisation, faculties, research centres, and UTAR Microalgae Sdn Bhd, with strong support from corporate partners such as Agilent Technologies and DreamCatcher. It attracted hundreds of UTAR students, public members and students from 11 secondary schools in Ipoh, Kampar and Tapah. They thronged the exhibition hall as early as 8.30am.

“This is a good opportunity for our school students to sharpen their scientific knowledge and to cultivate their science-based interest,” said SMK Changkat Lada guidance and counselling teacher Jasni bin Montah, adding that the fair provided his students the inspiring experience of trying out science experiments hands-on.

Science Fair @ UTAR



UTAR assistant lecturer Lee Chee Heong explaining the Ruben's tube experiment

“The fair is very informative and it caters to students from both the science and arts streams,” said form-four student Seervina Kaur Virk from SM Wesley Methodist, Ipoh, adding

that the fair had provided her with a good overview of the fields of study available.

UTAR and NPUST strengthen ties

“We signed a memorandum of understanding two years ago and it is time for us to work something out together,” said Vice President (Internationalisation and Academic Development) Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat at the meeting with three delegates from National Pingtung University of Science and Technology (NPUST), Taiwan, President Prof Mike Guu, Office of International Affairs Dean Dr Henry Chen and Malaysian NPUST Alumni Association President Lee Mon Peng, who visited UTAR Petaling Jaya Campus on 25 July 2013.

Prof Ewe also proposed

further collaborations on student exchange, internship, dual master's programme, student tour and training. Also at the meeting were UTAR Vice President (R&D and Commercialisation) Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei, and Faculty of Science Dean Dr Lim Tuck Meng.

“NPUST has been enjoying the reputation of being a national-park university,” said Prof Guu, adding that the campus is as beautiful as a natural park as it has a countryside setting with expansive picturesque scenery and peaceful atmosphere. He encouraged UTAR staff and students to visit the 285-hectare



Prof Guu (left) receiving a UTAR pennant from Prof Ewe while Dr Lim looks on.

hillside NPUST campus which is the largest and most beautiful in Taiwan.

“Academic staff from both universities should meet up to discuss further about the dual master programme,” said Dr Chen, in response to Prof Ewe's presentation. NPUST delegates had earlier indicated that it

would be possible to offer twinning master programme in Food Science and Biological Science and Technology. Dr Chen added that NPUST cooperates with many companies and therefore many internship opportunities would be available.

UTAR welcomes I-Shou delegates



Hosts and guests (from left): Dr Tan, Sakunthala, Tee, Lim, Dr Huang, Prof Ewe, Dr Wei, Wang and Dr Yeh

Four delegates from I-Shou University, Taiwan, Development Vice President and Chair Professor Dr Huang Yung-Sheng, International Affairs Dean Dr Michael Wei Yung-Chung, International Affairs Deputy Dean Dr Jerry Yeh, Research and International Cooperation Section Deputy Director Jolin Wang visited UTAR at Petaling Jaya Campus on 16 July 2013.

On hand to welcome them from UTAR were Vice President (Internationalisation and Academic Development) Prof Dr Ewe

Hong Tat, Division of Community and International Networking Director Dr Tan Sin Leng, Centre for Extension Education Director Lim Guat Yen and Tee Sock Sing from counselling unit.

“Further collaborations will improve the current ties between the two universities,” said Prof Ewe who chaired the meeting, adding that UTAR would like to continue the current student exchange programme. He proposed further collaborative projects on research and student training.

Representatives of both universities also mentioned the possibility of offering joint and dual degree programmes, and credit transfer. For UTAR Medicine, Life Science and Chemistry students, Dr Wei proposed a four-year PhD in Life Science postgraduate programme at I-Shou which would be partly taught by external lecturers from John Hopkins University, USA. The meeting ended with both universities agreeing to promote the student and staff exchange programme.

Carnival on crime prevention

“Local communities are the eyes and the ears of the police,” said Hilir Perak Police Chief ACP Goh Kok Liang at a talk in the inaugural Crime Prevention Carnival held at UTAR Perak Campus on 30 July 2013. He added, “Policing event like this is vital to improve the bond between students, residents and the police force so as to get greater public cooperation in crime prevention.”

The carnival, organised by Department of Safety and Security and Department of Student Affairs of UTAR in collaboration with Kampar District Police Headquarters, aimed to create greater awareness on crime prevention among the staff and students of the UTAR campus, the neighbouring Tunku Abdul Rahman University College, and local residents.

Invited to officially open the carnival was former Deputy Minister of Home Affairs Dato' Lee Chee Leong, who, in his speech, stressed on the need for certain laws to enable the police to combat crime more effectively and called on more Chinese youth to join the force. Also invited to the event were UTAR Council Member Hew Fen Yee and UTAR Vice President (Student Development & Alumni Relations) Dr Teh



Demonstration by K9 Unit at UTAR Perak Campus

Chee Seng.

The carnival started with a 'sewang' dance performance by a group of aborigines, which was followed by crime prevention demonstrations by the Malaysia Crime Prevention Foundation and martial arts demonstrations by UTAR students. Ipoh

Police Chief ACP Sum Chang Keong and Kampar Police Chief Supt Ng Kong Soon presented their talks in the afternoon. The K9 Unit demonstrated the use of canines in policing and Federal Reserve Unit demonstrated the use of water cannon.



First moderator Prof Goh (left) introducing the keynote speakers while (sitting front row, right) Prof Lee, Prof Ooi (front row, third from left) and others look on.

Insights into integrated farming systems

“Shine like a diamond and that is what is expected of a successful entrepreneur” was the opening line of Dato’ Tony Looi Chee Hong (picture), chairman of Ban Lee Hin Group of Companies, in his talk on ‘The Secrets to Success’ at UTAR Perak Campus on 26 June 2013.

To shine like diamonds



Ban Lee Hin Group of Companies is involved in construction, media advertising, education, publishing, furniture, machinery, logistics, hardware photography and food and beverage. Among the awards received by the group included the Best Brand in Engineering and Construction of the Brand Laureate SMEs Best Brands Signature Awards, Global Leadership Awards 2013 – Engineering Sector, Prestigious Entrepreneur Award of the 21st Century Prestigious Brands, Asia Pacific Entrepreneur Awards 2012 and the Golden Bull Award 2012.

The talk was part of the UTAR Entrepreneurial Talk Series organised by UTAR Department of Consultancy and Commercialisation to promote the spirit of entrepreneurship and the concept of commercialisation among students.

“Success is often disguised as something called positive attitude,” said Dato’ Looi, adding besides positive attitude, positive attributes were equally important. He further said, “I believe positive attributes such as hard work, sincerity, integrity, innovation, creativity and persistence are among the key elements of success.

“Desire is also an important element to success. The problem with most people is that they do not have the burning desire and persistence to realise their capabilities and dreams as they feel it is easier to just be average.”

“I am glad that the seminar has been organised continuously and has since received more and more support from the industry [leaders] such as Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad (KLK) and others,” said UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei in the welcome address at the seventh seminar in the UTAR Agriculture Technology Seminar Series titled ‘Integrated Farming Systems’.

The one-and-a-half-day seminar, held at UTAR Perak Campus from 28 to 29 June 2013, was organised by UTAR Faculty of Science and UTAR Centre for Biodiversity Research (CBR) and sponsored by KLK. Also present were seminar organising chairman UTAR Department of Agricultural and Food Science Head Prof Dr Ooi Aun Chuan, moderators Prof Dr Goh Swee Hock, Dr Chee Kheng Hoy and Dr Tan Swee Lian, and CBR Chairman Dr Tee Chong Siang.

“I aspire to inspire you before I expire,” quipped IJM Plantation Berhad CEO Joseph Tek Choon Yee before the first keynote speaker started his talk titled

‘Oil Palm: The Holy Grail of Malaysian Plantation Agriculture - Timeline and Appraisal.’ He proceeded to highlight the current challenges and future opportunities of the oil palm industry.

“Since our research is on livestock and somewhat interrelated with agriculture, this seminar gave us the opportunity to learn from speakers who are conversant with the agriculture sector,” said participant Julie Marzlinda Mohd Razek, a member of the delegation from Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI) National Animal Embryo Center, which was led by its head Dr Habsah Bidin.

Soft skills needed for career development

“Malaysia has a high graduate population. However, many [graduates] lack the soft skills considered necessary for many high-competency job positions,” said one of the panellists, William Yap Kok Lin, Human Resource Director of Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad at the forum held at Heritage Hall, UTAR Perak Campus on 23 June 2013.



Moderator Dr Yeoh (second from left) with panellists (from left) Chak, Lim and Yap

The forum titled “Employers’ Expectation on Graduates’ Soft Skills”, organised by the Department of Soft Skills Competency and Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) of UTAR, aimed to create greater awareness among students on the set of soft skills they should possess for career development.

Besides Yap, other forum panellists were Chartered Tax Institute of Malaysia Perak Branch Chairman Chak Kong Keong and

U-Need Wealth Planners Sdn Bhd Director Eddie Lim Weng Foo. The moderator was Dr Yeoh Suan Pow, former UTAR Vice President (Student Development and Alumni Relations).

The three panellists provided an insight on the importance of soft skills at today’s workplace. They addressed questions such as “What are the areas of soft skills currently in demand by employers?”, “What are

the working attitudes and behaviour of a graduate which employers are looking for?”, “How will the soft skills of an employee affect the performance of a company and the economy of a country?” and “What is the advice of employers to their potential employees with regard to acquisition of soft skills?”

How to make your first million in ICT



On stage (from left), Puan Azwin, Dr Yap, Lee, Dr Ong, Choong and Dr Low

“Innovation is very important. Develop yourself to be innovative first then money will come to you,” said Intel Microelectronics (M) Sdn Bhd senior microprocessor manager Dr Ong Sze Wei at the forum titled ‘Making Your First Million in ICT’ at UTAR Perak Campus on 3 July 2013.

He was among the five panellists of forum organised by UTAR Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT). The other panellists were CEEDTec Sdn Bhd engineering director Choong Lee Shyue, KEDA Limited managing director Lee Boon Kok, Iverson Associates Sdn Bhd managing director Dr Yap Chee Sing and Foundasoft

Technologies Sdn Bhd CEO Dr Janaka Low Chee Kong. The forum moderator was FICT lecturer Puan Azwin Hazrina.

The panellists shared their experience of working in a multi-million dollar international company, how their company sustained its business, and the tips and tricks to secure the millions in business. They also

provided views on the challenges of starting up a company and the difference between starting it up in Malaysia and abroad.

Dr Ong further advised the students and the audience, “The most important things are the right skills and attitude; you must possess them to ensure success will follow you.”

“That’s funny” more important than “eureka”

“The most important statement to make in research is not ‘eureka’; it is ‘that’s funny,’” said Professor Emeritus Tan Eng Meng (picture), because an out-of-the-norm discovery could lead to a major advancement. He said this at a seminar on autoimmune disorders held at UTAR Sungai Long Campus on 28 June 2013.

The seminar was organised by UTAR Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS), UTAR Centre for Extension Education, and College of Pathologists Malaysia. Prof Tan, an adjunct professor of FMHS, was invited to deliver the first lecture on ‘Overview on Systemic Lupus Erythematosus and Scleroderma’ and another lecture on ‘Autoantibodies, Autoimmune Disease, and the Birth of Immune Diagnostics’ in

the seminar.

“I read a lot of Professor Tan’s publications during my school days,” said FMHS Dean Prof Dr Cheong Soon Keng, when introducing Prof Tan in his opening remarks at the seminar. He added that seminar on autoimmune disorders was seldom held in Malaysia and he hoped that more such seminars would be organised in the future.

Born in Seremban, Prof Dr Tan had his tertiary education in



the USA in the 1950s. Currently, he works at the Scripps Research Institute, where he conducts research on antibodies involving autoimmune diseases such as systemic lupus erythematosus and scleroderma. He characterises the intracellular antigens of these antibodies and study the relationship of the autoimmune response to disease mechanisms.

Nine lectures were delivered at the seminar. The other seven

speakers were Prof Dr Shelly Soo, Prof Dr M. Parameshvara Deva and Prof Dr Jenny P. Deva from UTAR FMHS, Dr Shahrir Said and Dr Wong Chieh Lee from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre, Dr Ng Chin Teck from Universiti Malaya Medical Centre and Dr Masita Arip from Institute for Medical Research.



Winchester:

It’s all in the mind

“Do you notice that people who have been together for many years tend to mirror their partner in looks and in actions?” asked Terry Winchester (picture) much to the amusement of the crowd, who turned up in volume for his talk titled ‘Photographic Memory: How Can You Train Your Mind To Improve Your Memory Instantly’ which was held at Heritage Block in UTAR Perak Campus on 17 June 2013.

“Never blame your parents for the genetic endowment because you can modify what is in your genetic code by visualising something promising. It is all in the power of the mind!” he contended. While the notion of altering one’s genetic make-up by controlling how one feels and thinks sounds absurd to the general mass, it is merely a stroll in the park for Winchester, the winner of the 2012 Brand Laureate Personality Award for Hypnoterapy.

Winchester has dedicated 40 years of his life to the pursuits of the secret of happiness, which he eventually found after globetrotting around the world with no money, knelt at the feet of Himalayan savants and dwelled in a cave on the bank of the Ganges. The harsh conditions he survived were also augmented by his bizarre abilities to pacify African killer bees with telepathic rapport. Does his unique calling require further elaboration?

Ever the skilled orator, Terry also

paused in between stamping his points to address any enigma that was brewing in the audience’s mind. Those with a flair for reading in between the lines would detect that his ultimatum to the crowd was, “Do not impose pre-judgment, relinquish detrimental thoughts, relax and you can or will attain peace of mind—uninterrupted.” This way, one can accelerate his or her mental capacity to fine-tune learning, thinking and memorising skills.

Healthy lifestyle to prevent cancer

“A little fish just told me, just keep swimming, just keep swimming,” said Talia Joy Castellano in a recent interview. Thirteen-year-old Talia, from Orlando, USA suffered from terminal cancer.

Cancer causes certain cells in the body to grow uncontrollably; consequently, damaging other cells and often resulting in death. The World Health Organisation has indicated that deaths due to cancer will continue to increase to 13.1 million in 2030. The causes of cancer are only partially understood but it known that unhealthy lifestyle increases the risks. As there is no effective cure for cancer, prevention is the best medicine.

To shed more light on this topic, UTAR Centre for Extension Education held a talk by Jayanthi Marimuthu (picture) on Healthy Lifestyle to Prevent Cancer in

UTAR Perak Campus on 27 July 2013. Jayanthi, a registered nurse and member of Malaysian Nurses Association, Infection and Chemotherapy Association and Diabetes Association of Malaysia, has almost 20 years of clinical experience in various fields of nursing, both locally and abroad.

“A healthy lifestyle is the key to cancer prevention. Proper diets and physical activities will definitely help,” said Jayanthi, adding that the guidelines for exercise were F-I-T, ‘F’ for frequency, ‘I’ for intensity, and ‘T’ for time or type. Apart from that, she said stress management also played a crucial role, before sharing a few tips with the participants on handling stress positively. She also highlighted that early detection of cancer reduced mortality and mentioned some of the symptoms of cancer for early detection.



TCM is the way

“Traditional Chinese Medicine or TCM is developed based on Chinese practice of more than 5,000 years,” said Ng Foong Ling (picture), adding that TCM uses various treatments such as acupuncture, massage, exercise, dietary therapy and non-invasive treatments.



Ng, a lecturer from the Department of Chinese Medicine, UTAR Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, was invited by UTAR Centre for Extension Education to give a talk on TCM at UTAR Petaling Jaya Campus on 20 July 2013.

Ng, who chose to be a TCM practitioner because she believes health is more important than wealth, attributed the main factors to the rapid increase in diseases among people, including coronary diseases, to the high levels of cholesterol, blood pressure and sugar in the blood. She

said TCM is usually solely applied only during the early stage of a disease, while it is applied together with Western medicine at the middle and late stages for better results. She also explained some of the TCM treatments used at the different stages of disease.

Ng’s talk attracted many questions from the participants, who were obviously interested in the subject. In response to some of the questions, she recommended various TCM treatments to certain diseases.

1,955 graduate in UTAR 17th Convocation



Convocation in progress in Dewan Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik



The guests-of-honour (from left): Gabriel Teo, Tan Sri Dato' Dr Sak Cheng Lum, Dato' Seri DiRaja Tajol Rosli and Dato' Sri Dr Ng Yen Yen

Master's graduate Datin Paduka Chew Mei Fun (left) receiving her scroll from Tan Sri Dato' Dr Sak



A very proud moment for UTAR graduates

A total of 1,955 students graduated from 13 Master's and 48 Bachelor's (Honours) programmes in the 17th UTAR Convocation held at the stately Dewan Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik of UTAR Perak Campus in Kampar from 23 to 25 August 2013.

The Convocation, which was held over four sessions, also saw the pioneer batch of graduates from four new programmes: Bachelor of Science (Hons) Financial Mathematics, Bachelor of Science (Hons) Software Engineering, Bachelor of Science (Hons) Microbiology, and Bachelor of Science (Hons) Statistical Computing and Operations Research.

The colossal hall, teemed with ebullient faces and ear-splitting applause, morphed into an irresistible congregation citadel for graduands, their parents, relatives, friends and guests of the University. The hall was deluged in an entrancing aroma of auspice. Camera lights flickered at every cranny of the spectacular structure before, during and after each convocation session.



UTAR graduate (in graduation gown) poses with her family members and wheelchair-bound grandmother



Graduates in joyous mood at the convocation

At the end of session four, as lights were dimmed and the hall enveloped in silence, one thing remained clear though; UTAR has successfully hosted its 17th Convocation. UTAR endeavours to continue to grow on an upward trajectory and proliferates the number of its alumni which currently stands at 32,370.

The convocation was declared open by UTAR Council Chairman Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik. Presiding at the convocation ceremonies were Chairman of Board of Trustees, UTAR Education Foundation, Tan Sri Dato' Dr Sak Cheng Lum, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik and other UTAR Council and Board of Trustees members. UTAR Vice President (Internationalisation and Academic Development) Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, who served as Acting President, presided at Session Four when Prof Chuah was away for his conferment of an honorary doctorate degree by Multimedia University.

Invited guests-of-honour for the four sessions of the convocation were Founding Trustee of Tana River Life Foundation, Kenya, Mr Gabriel Teo (Session 1), Tan Sri Dato' Dr Sak Cheng Lum (Session 2), Chairman of Pengurusan Aset Air Berhad Dato' Seri DiRaja Tajol Rosli Ghazali (Session 3) and Chairman of Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board Dato' Sri Dr Ng Yen Yen (Session 4).

Tun Dr Ling congratulated the graduating students and he advised, "Do remember that this ceremony marks your transition to a new chapter of your life. It will be an exciting journey as you go forward in your pursuit of success in career and in life, but don't forget your duty to your family, society and nation."

Prof Chuah was unequivocal in his advice to the graduating students. He remarked, "Global literacy is an important graduate attribute. You can read and gather knowledge from books but the most important attribute of all is your own attitude and tolerance towards intercultural understanding and competencies that will make you adaptable and better prepared." Prof Chuah also urged the graduating students to be prepared to face a more borderless society and workplace.

Honour of carrying the Mace

It was a great honour for four students who carried the ceremonial mace leading the Council Chairman and the Guest of Honour procession to the stage during the convocation. These four student representatives in their ceremonial attire did UTAR proud with their composure and confidence in holding the mace.

"As the mace-bearer in Session One of the convocation, I had to set the right example for the remaining mace-bearers to emulate my steps. I was nervous but I knew I had to follow the proceedings with perfection and with the appropriate ceremonial stance to depict the pride and the significance that the mace brings to the convocation ceremony. I am glad all went well for all the mace-bearers", says Melvyn Choong Ern Yoong.



Melvyn Choong (Session 1)



Law Kar Weng (Session 2)



R. Satheesh (Session 3)



Reagen Lee Hon Leong (Session 4)

Waltz into a Malaysian record



The record-breaking waltz

As night fell, 234 pairs waltzed their way into the Malaysia Book of Records for registering the highest number of waltz couples in a single occasion during the Waltz with Love II event held at Student Pavillion II at UTAR Perak Campus on 27 July 2013. The night full of happenings was surely memorable to all the couples.



Side entertainment: a bartender performing a fire-breathing act



Emcee Wong (with microphone) asking a best-dressed nominee to introduce himself



Lau, on bended knees, proposing to his touched sweetheart

International students get together at Kampar

To foster closer relationships among the international students, the Department of International Student Services held a gathering for them at UTAR Perak Campus on 6 July 2013.

During the get-together, the students were taken for a campus tour at the award-winning campus. The students also shared their reasons for choosing UTAR as their destinations for higher education.



UTAR international students at the exterior of Dewan Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik

"Initially, I wanted to go to Europe but the visa application process, which is lengthy and complicated for Syrian students, was a sheer turnoff for me," said Foundation student Mansour Ayman from Syria. On why he had chosen UTAR, he said, "I wanted to take up Biomedical Engineering, and UTAR became my first choice after reading good reviews about it on the internet."



International students sharing a light moment at Student Pavilion I



"UTAR is great!" International students with UTAR Vice-President Dr Teh Chee Seng (second row, in black T-shirt)

"I want to broaden my horizons and improve on my English language proficiency, and Malaysia offers a cheaper alternative compared to most English-speaking regions," said third-year Business Administration student Miyazaki Yuuya from Japan. He was approached by a UTAR representative in an exhibition at the American University of Japan where he was studying Liberal Arts.

"My uncle is living and working in Kuala Lumpur, and I was in Malaysia for holidays before making up my mind to enrol in UTAR," said first-year Journalism student Tam Man Wai.

Fifteen on study tour to Wuhan

Fifteen UTAR students gained an experience of their lifetime learning about China's economy, history and culture, visiting interesting places, and making friends from China and overseas in a 10-day study tour to Wuhan University (WHU) in Hubei province, China from 12 to 22 May 2013.

"The Chinese economy classes were insightful," said Lee Kang Lei, a participant of the study tour. She added that she knew more about the booming economy in China after three lectures on China's economy delivered in eight hours by Dr Gerald White from WHU Foreign Languages Department.

"The Wuhan study tour left a lasting impression because I made many friends who are not only

Chinese students but also foreign students," said another participant Chin Swee Ying, adding that the campus with many buildings of Chinese traditional style was beautiful. "The food in Wuhan is cheap and delicious," she said.



UTAR students with a friend from WHU



UTAR and other foreign students practising Chinese calligraphy

"During the study tour, I learned a lot about Chinese culture and economy," said Chow Hon Win, adding that he understood China's history better after visiting the historical places in Wuhan. He said, "It is interesting to see these places in person." He also said that the lectures on China's economy were insightful and he had learnt more about the recent Chinese economic boom. He concluded, "It has been a wonderful experience for me."

Interestingly, the survey revealed that influence from parents, peers, media, and pre-university results are the least relevant to the respondents in their enrolment decisions.

How school leavers make education choices

To have an insight into how school leavers choose their degree courses, the UTAR Opinion Poll has conducted a survey on 700 respondents of whom about 20 percent were working adults and the rest were students who were mostly studying in private higher education institutions. Among them, 401 preferred to pursue Social Science degrees, 282, Physical Science degrees, and 17 had no plan pursuing a degree. About 70 percent of them were studying in the applied fields of physical and social sciences, while the rest in the more theoretical basic physical and social sciences.

Interestingly, the survey revealed that influence from parents, peers, media, and pre-university results are the least relevant to the respondents in their enrolment decisions. Instead, the influential factors are students' own interest in the type of degree programme, job prospects, affordability and their future career choices.

The survey shows that where parents' role matters, for Social Science students, the factors most likely to influence their parents' decision are future employment prospects,

affordability and the respondents' feelings about the course. Physical Science students share the same opinion but also believe that parents also consider their interest in the discipline. Where media matters, its most influential message is on the prospects of employment and an exciting career the course offers.

Physical Science students believe that all aspects (applied technical knowledge, academic theoretical knowledge, fundamental knowledge and technical knowledge of the field, research and development skills, critical thinking, entrepreneurship, communication, and leadership skills) of the course are equally important to prospective employers and the industry. While the aspects most important to Social Science students are applied technical knowledge and the top three people skills they believe employers look for when hiring, which are communication, leadership, and critical thinking. Social Science students perceive that their courses are most capable in developing their critical thinking and communication skills, followed

by academic theoretical knowledge, but Physical Science students perceive that their courses are least capable of developing entrepreneurship, communication and leadership skills.

Over two-thirds of the respondents have disagreed that Basic Social Science and Basic Physical Science courses are uninteresting, only suitable for students with poor entry results, and are too basic, producing too many graduates and offer poor career prospects. Respondents from basic physical and social science categories think that courses which integrate fundamental and applied aspects of knowledge that lead to clearer career paths, and provide opportunities to learn market-driven skills will attract more students. But current basic physical and social science graduates and students are neutral about whether their courses are providing the benefits of fundamental-applied knowledge integration and market-driven skills learning opportunities, and producing too many graduates.

Two P&G ASEAN champs from UTAR

UTAR students Pua Jia Jiun and Loh Hong Khai were part of the six-member Malaysian team that emerged as champion after beating teams from Indonesia, Vietnam and the Philippines in the Procter and Gamble (P&G) ASEAN Business Challenge (ABC) for the first time since the challenge started five years ago.

Through the annual competition ABC which is open to undergraduates in penultimate and final year of studies, P&G aims to discover employable talents in the ASEAN countries. This year's fifth P&G ABC was held in Singapore from 12 to 14 June 2013.

The two UTAR compatriots only befriended each other during the finals of Malaysian-level of the competition held at P&G corporate office in Petaling Jaya from 10 to 13 April 2013. Both of them were among the

200 applicants registered for the challenge in Malaysia.

In Singapore, the Malaysian team competed with teams from Indonesia, Vietnam and the Philippines. The four national teams were each given a case study three weeks before they departed for Singapore. Each national team was required to come up with a holistic proposal to attract the next generation of talent for P&G tailored to the demographics and career scene in that country.

In the finals, the four national teams gave their best in the 15-minute presentation of their proposals. A panel of judges, which included the Asia region talent management manager, judged the proposals based on criteria of analysis, assessment and insights; creativity of ideas; potential for success, effectiveness, and feasibility of the strategies;



The ASEAN champions (from left): Loh, Pua, Alphaeus Tan Win Syuen from Monash University, Tan Jing Yang from Nottingham University Malaysia, Nor Aslinda binti Abdul Rahman from Universiti Putra Malaysia, and Angela Lim Peik Shyuan from Brickfields Asia College

logical and strategic recruitment plan; and presentation skills and team work (10%). At last, the Malaysian team was announced the ASEAN champion, beating the other three national teams. Each Malaysian team member took home a new MacBook Air.

"The joy of triumph is overwhelming because it is the first time Malaysia has ever clinched this award since the competition started five years ago," said Pua, adding that the team felt honoured to have represented Malaysia

and thanked everyone who supported them along the way.

"I feel appreciative to P&G for giving me the chance to represent Malaysia," said Loh, who was singled out from another team to join Pua's team to form the six-member Malaysia national team for the ASEAN finals. Loh was also grateful that he was part of the team that brought home the P&G ASEAN champion title to Malaysia for the first time.

RSC accredits UTAR programme



Dr Lim (front, left) with RSC accreditation panel members (front, from left) Prof Dr Zanariah, Prof Dr Gareth Price, Toby Underwood and FSc staff (back, from left) Dr Sit Nam Weng, Dr Hnin Pwint Aung, Dr Tan Shu Min, Dr Sim Kooi Mow, Chemical Science Department Head Dr Neo Kian Eang, and Dr Wong Hann Ling

UTAR became the second university in Malaysia to have its programme accredited by the prestigious Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC), the United Kingdom, as revealed by UTAR Faculty of Science Dean Dr Lim Tuck Meng on 1 July 2013.

"This is a noteworthy milestone for UTAR and the faculty which is worth relishing," said Dr Lim, who earlier received a notification from RSC that the Bachelor of Science (Hons) Chemistry programme of his faculty had been accredited by the society. The accreditation confirms the quality of the programme and the faculty is proud that, despite barely four-year old, it is the second, after Universiti Malaya, the country's oldest university, to receive the much coveted RSC accreditation.

UTAR is MFPC national quiz champ



FBF Dean Prof Choong Chee Keong (standing, centre) flanked by Woo and Lim on his right and left respectively and the MFPC national quiz champions

A six-student UTAR team emerged as champion of the inaugural Malaysia Financial Planning Council (MFPC) National Financial Planning Quiz Tournament 2013 which was held at Universiti Utara Malaysia in Kedah on 1 and 2 July 2013.

The team, comprising UTAR Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) students Beh Kwang Teik, Ivan Lee Poo Chun, Khew Chien Xing, Lee Soon Siong, Teoh Kian Tat and Voon Soon Yoong, was mentored by UTAR lecturers Woo Kok Hoong and

Lim Chong Heng. They topped teams from 15 local public and private universities and walked away with a cash prize worth RM6,000, trophies and certificates of appreciation.

"There were many other teams who vied for the title, and I am glad that our efforts prevailed and we won in the end," said third-year Entrepreneurship student Beh, adding that their win would inspire more UTAR students to win more awards for UTAR.

"It was truly an eye-opener for us as we have learnt the power of teamwork

and purpose of competition," said third-year Financial Economics student Lee. He added, "We are grateful to our mentors because without their guidance, it would be impossible for us to secure this win."

The National Financial Planning Quiz Tournament 2013, which aimed to promote financial planning among undergraduates, was organised by the MFPC in collaboration with Universiti Utara Malaysia and the Securities Commission Malaysia.

UTAR Faculty of Engineering and Science (FES) students, Alvey Hau Lee Cheun, Nicoline Saw Ying Jie, and Chok Eu-Tjin won the third prize of the Innovate Malaysia Design Competition at its finals held in Penang on 4 July 2013.

Innovate Malaysia Design Competition is a yearly multi-discipline engineering design competition open to all final-year undergraduate Engineering or Computer Science students in Malaysia. The goal of the contest is to promote innovation culture and mindsets among university graduates. Technology leaders Agilent, Altera, Intel, National Instruments, and Silterra provided the platforms in the competition for competing students to apply their innovative design skills.

Nine teams from UTAR participated in four tracks (or platforms) of the competition. The winning UTAR trio won the third prize in the National

Trio wins third prize in Innovate Malaysia



Chok (left) explaining their design to Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Senator Dato' Sri Abdul Wahid bin Omar while Saw (right) and Hau look on.

Instrument track and brought home RM1,000 cash and gifts.

"We are thankful to have Mr Chua as our supervisor in this competition," said Hau,

the leader of the winning team, which was supervised by FES lecturer Chua Kein Huat. Ir Dr Lim Yun Seng and Dr Stella Morris from the same faculty

were also their advisors. Hau added, "His [Chua's] guidance, support and valuable insights throughout the competition have greatly motivated us."

"I'm impressed with our students' technical skills and ability to present their projects. UTAR students are always the best!" said Chua.

"We would like to thank the National Instrument support team for their assistance whenever we faced technical difficulties," said Saw on behalf of the team. She added, "We are grateful to have this opportunity to work together and we expect to perform better in future competitions."

WCWA community project continues



Matang – joss stick factory and hobby camp

into shapes, and had hands-on experience in painting giant joss sticks (left picture). The students had gained experience in working in team and broadened their entrepreneurial perspective.

To promote a range of healthy hobbies to schoolchildren of Khea Hwa Chinese primary school in Matang New Village, 29 UTAR students held a hobby camp at the school on 21 and 22 June 2013. Over the two days, the students conducted classes on dance, music, karate-do and handicrafts for 60 schoolchildren (right picture) of the school.



led by DSSC staff, 16 UTAR students went on a one-day trip to Matang New Village, Taiping on 31 March 2013 to understand the local community better. They visited the Hun Leng Heong Hag joss stick factory in the village to learn about the well-known local traditional trade. They were shown how the raw material was prepared and moulded

To create greater awareness among the schoolchildren of Kampung Timah Chinese primary school (right picture) in Tanjung Tualang on recycling, 42 UTAR students volunteered in a recycling awareness campaign at the school on 6 April 2013. Started as early as 8.00am, the day was a fun-filled day for the schoolchildren. The students put up a good show of drama



Kampung Timah – recycling and beautifying school



performance, video presentations, quizzes, recycling bin design competition, games, and treasure hunt.

Another 35 UTAR students went to the school on 22 June 2013. This time, the students led the schoolchildren in beautifying their school. The students and

schoolchildren together cleaned the school compound and painted certain walls. The students also taught the schoolchildren on drawing wall paintings and ways to beautify the school surroundings (left picture).

Kampung Pahang – environment friendliness

The camp had successfully served as a platform to create greater awareness among the schoolchildren about environment friendliness. An environmentalist was at the camp to give a talk on environment friendliness. The schoolchildren were enticed to learn by many fun-filled activities such as animal farm game, morning exercise, singing, dancing, treasure hunt, competitions, motivational talks and learning about recycling, enzyme making, and beautifying the neighbourhood (right picture).



Another WCWA project was an environment friendliness awareness camp held at Kampung Pahang Chinese primary school in Tapah on 7 and 8 June 2013, where 30 UTAR students stayed overnight camping with the schoolchildren at the school.

The camp started on 7 July with an icebreaking session where schoolchildren involved get to know each other better. It was officiated by Chendriang state assemblyman Dato' Dr Mah Hang Soon which was followed by performances by UTAR students.

拉大視野

第廿五届中文系迎新会

第25届中文系迎新会于6月5日在金宝校园进行。迎新会上场面温馨，新生、旧生以及老师们共聚一堂，联系感情。

中华研究院黄文斌副院长致欢迎词时，滔滔不绝地大谈大学之道，“大学是一个生产知识的地方，因此需要培养‘独立思考’和‘客观分析’，基本上，这是大学应该培养学生的一种能力，一个人有否念过大学，最大的差别也就在这一点上”，为此给初来报道的新生们上了堂宝贵的课。最后，黄老师不忘叮嘱新生们“到大学读书，要学会生活。不仅要学习独

立，更要懂得照顾自己。”

此外，莫德厚系主任也在仪式上掏出其肺腑之言，并诚心祝福所有的学生们大学生生活愉快，中文研究学会主席余素桦同学致词时，除了欢迎新生们的加入，更不忘鼓励新生多多参与院系和中研会的活动。

随后是由中文系老师分别带领的小组交流时间，期间频频听见师生的笑声此起彼伏，场面愉悦且融洽。迎新会的尾声，由院系的行政秘书胡媛凌小姐主持行政资讯授课时间，为新生讲解各个重要的行政资讯与手续。



师生小组交流活动

NO TAKE 2 AGAIN

不可能重来重来

生命的无价在于清醒的可贵

当生命的困境降临时，当自杀的暗潮来袭时，让我们共同用爱心之钥，启开心中绝望之锁，全力给予支持，让我们一起努力，共同珍爱生命，为社会注入无限的希望及绵延不绝的生命力。

~台湾自杀防止学会



演员们精湛的演技，让观众为之动容。

由拉曼大学学生事务所辅导处联同般若学会及马鸣实验剧团主办的《不可能重来No Take 2 Again》舞台剧于6月27日在文遗堂上映。主办单位旨在透过富有教育性的剧团表演来传达珍惜生命及防止自杀的讯息。

剧情讲述内向敏感的青年德忠，因女友慧冰冷淡对待，胡思乱想下，萌起自杀念头。千钧一发之际，突然出现了两位怪人还引领着德忠进入一个诡异的境界里。兜兜转转，德忠终

领悟到自杀并不是解决生命困顿的唯一方法，而重新认真看待生命的意义与价值。马鸣实验剧团精湛的演技，让观众为之动容。

剧团演出后，本校辅导员吴恺彦小姐随即与来宾分享关于马来西亚的自杀现况、防范自杀的方式及自杀者可能有的想法。最后，辅导员何晓慧小姐送上纪念品于剧团总监作为这富有启发性与教育性的舞台剧画上美丽的句点。

辅导热线
 金宝拉曼大学学生辅导处
 热线与服务时间：05-4688888 (Ext 2283) (需预约面谈)
 (周一至周五早上8时30分至下午5时30分)



剧团演出后，本校辅导员吴恺彦与来宾分享马来西亚的自杀情况。

金宝会馆历史研究成果发表会 与金宝众会馆前辈携手考察会馆历史

金宝的原名为Mambang Di Awan (万邦刁湾)，意为“在云端之美女”，乃因雨后的金山山围绕着美丽的山岚与云气，如仙女般美丽。金宝市镇的开发，得追溯至19世纪80年代之际，锡苗于金宝被发现及开采。锡矿业振兴导致许多华人前来发展，以致金宝镇人口倍增。为了更好地照顾同乡的福利及引领同乡前来工作，同乡会或会馆相因而生。

由拉曼大学中华研究中心和文学与社会科学学院讲师携手合作，历时一年的金宝会馆研究计划成果发表会于6月22日在金宝校区进行。出席者包括拉曼大学中华研究院副院长黄文斌师、张晓威师、陈中和师、陈明彪师、杜忠全师，文学与社会科学学院吕玛莉师、林家乐师、石碧芬师、洪秀雯师以及各会馆代表。

拉曼大学中华研究院副院长兼会馆研究计划主持人黄文斌师在开幕致词时表示这项计划的动机源自于会馆对华社一直以来的贡献应该重新被研究和肯定。

随后，中华研究院何启良院长致词时表示，马来西亚华人文化传承最重要的三大支柱为学校、报章及会馆，会馆见证了大马华人百年来的风雨飘摇中如何茁壮成长。无奈会馆研究在马来西亚华人研究当中经常被忽略，因此在黄文斌师提出此项计划时，中华研究中心大力支持此项计划的进行。为此，中华研究院以金宝作为发源地，在未来计划将会馆研究的范围延伸至全国各地，寻找先辈们当初南来的历史记忆。何院长也提及学术人员应步入社会，参与民间社团，并针对社会会馆做深入研究和探讨。

发表会尾声，黄文斌师在闭幕礼上致谢辞时表达了其对出席者的谢意。这次的研究计划的队伍体现了“跨学科”状态，因为参与的成员基本上都来自不同的学术训练背景，对众员是个很好的尝试，去感受一个似曾相识但又不熟悉的领域带来的考验。此外，这场发表会也汇集了许多宝贵的意见，如张晓威师所提出的“金宝史建构”概念、陈明彪师的“地方史弥补国史”概念等。



成果发表会第一环节
主持人：郑文德师
发表人：黄文斌师《金宝增龙会馆研究》、吕玛莉师《金宝梅江会馆之特色》
评论者：张晓威师及陈中和师

成果发表会第二环节
主持人：张晓威师
发表人：林家乐师《金宝古庙华人联合会之常与变》、余厝雄师《金宝福建公会与闽人办学论略》(当天余缺席，由其硕士生黄汉源代读)
评论者：杜忠全师及陈中和师

成果发表会第三环节
主持人：陈明彪师
发表人：石碧芬师《金宝古冈州会馆：社会演变及其存在价值》、洪秀雯师《金宝清英莲花会馆：历史、发展与挑战》
评论者：郑文德师及梁家恩师



何启良院长赠送纪念品给各会馆代表，左上起依序为金宝增龙会馆赖自卫、金宝华人义山联合会代表杨炳辉及金宝梅江公会代表张观云；左下起金宝古冈州会馆代表邱佩珍、金宝福建会馆代表骆雪燕及金宝清英莲花会馆代表陈炎彬。

拉曼大学及国立清华大学志工团携手

忆起游务边嘉年华会

由拉曼大学中华研究院、台湾国立清华大学国际志工团及务边文物馆主办的“忆起游务边”嘉年华会，于8月3日与4日在务边广场盛大举行。为期一连两天的嘉年华会，让务边人潮云集，其中包括文化创意市集、古迹绘画讲座、文物馆及怀古楼导览等活动。

黄文斌师于开幕典礼致词上赞赏务边犹如马来西亚的缩影，是个美丽与独特的地方。务边古镇的各族与宗教都在这里生活超过了百年，反映了各族的友爱与和平相处。黄老师也表示，“拉曼大学与清华大学志工团在务边镇进行多元文化与宗教的历史考察，便是一种启蒙的学习。”

务边文物馆义务秘书彭西康在致欢迎词时表示，他非常感激拉曼大学和国立清华大学

的志工团为务边的史料搜集所付出的努力，志工们的表现让他很感动和感激。在黄老师的穿针引线下，这是清华大学志工团第二次到访务边，主要专注于务边的宗教文化历史。

清华大学志工团指导老师王丽兰表示，希望通过这次的“忆起游务边”嘉年华会能够把务边介绍给国内外的朋友，让大家“走进务边，爱上务边”。志工团更贴心地为怀古楼录制了影音导览，希望让前来参观的民众能够更深入地了解先辈们所留下的历史文物。不久前志工团更透过“青苗计划”，以有趣的活动让小学生们认识务边的历史及环保概念。此外，当天小学生们近三十幅的写生作品也在嘉年华会上展出。

其他出席的嘉宾包括务边



嘉宾于“忆起游务边”嘉年华会上主持开幕仪式。左一起为敦寿屏、王丽兰、彭西康、王坤祥、黄文斌、伊佳拉曼和卡迪星。

发展华小委员会主席郭寿屏、务边文物馆财政兼怀古楼楼主王坤祥、务边锡克庙代表卡乐迪、印度庙代表威嘉、行动党金宝区部财政邓启强等。

通过主办单位的精心安排，广场内所设的展览角落展出的务边的百年历史与景色照

片，让民众仿佛穿越时光隧道走进了这百年古镇。嘉年华会第二天，拉曼大学与清华大学志工团担任古迹行的小导游，带领了前来参与其盛的民众一同拜访务边的历史古迹及各宗教庙宇，感受这各族宗教与文化和谐交融的人文风光。



文化创意市集云集了来自各地的手工(D.I.Y)达人，图为手工香皂制造示范。《百年务边》展览角落让民众仿佛穿越时光隧道回到了百年前的古镇。清华大学志工团指导老师王丽兰(前排右四)与“忆起游务边”台前幕后的工作人员。

国立清华大学马来西亚国际志工团到访拉曼大学

拉曼大学中华研究中心和国立清华大学于2012年4月26日签订了《马来西亚华人社区历史建设合作计划(The Construction of the History of Malaysian Chinese Community)》备忘录。同年7月，首批来自国清大的国际志工团联同拉曼大学志工团到访务边进行了为期一个月的华人社区文史典藏计划，专注于记载务边镇华人会馆的历史。

今年，国清大志工团第二次到访务边，主要专注于务边的宗教文化历史。国清大志工团共分为6组，所到之处包括尼泊尔、坦桑尼亚、狮子山、贝



拉曼大学与国立清华大学志工团相见欢。

里斯、北印度和马来西亚。马来西亚的国清大志工团主要从事文化保存与文史调查，而其他地方的志工团则专注于进行资讯教育服务和卫生教育。

马来西亚是个多元种族与文化的国度，除了各族的生活习俗之外，各族的宗教场所也是表现多元文化最为明显的地方。为配合今年的考察主

题——“多元文化与宗教的特色”，拉曼大学的学生和国清大国际志工团在一个月时间内先后拜访了务边的回教堂、锡克庙、印度庙、天主堂、观音古庙、黄老仙师庙和佛爷庙，尽力地收集务边各宗教寺庙的历史、信仰特色以及与社区互动的历史。

两校的学生也于7月17日在拉曼大学举办了考察成果发表会，而学生们所拍摄的照片也于“忆起游”嘉年华会的现场展出，供民众观赏。

500 pelajar ikuti kem interaktif Bahasa Inggeris

Penguasaan bahasa Inggeris dalam kalangan pelajar sememangnya sentiasa menerima perhatian daripada semua pihak dan ini sejajar dengan aspirasi sistem pendidikan di Malaysia yang ingin melahirkan individu yang mampu menguasai bahasa Inggeris bagi membolehkan mereka berdaya saing di peringkat global. Bagi mendokong aspirasi tersebut, Pusat Pendidikan Lanjutan UTAR (CEE) telah menganjurkan Kem Bahasa Inggeris yang disertai oleh 500 pelajar sekolah menengah pada 29 Jun 2013 di

Kampus Petaling Jaya.

Selain mewujudkan kesedaran dalam kalangan pelajar tentang kepentingan penguasaan bahasa Inggeris, terutamanya dari segi kefasihan dalam pertuturan, kem bahasa Inggeris ini juga bertujuan untuk menggalakkan interaksi pelajar dari sekolah berlainan di samping memupuk sifat kepimpinan dalam kalangan



Sesi taklimat daripada penganjur sebelum kem bermula



Sesi suai kenal dengan para pelajar

mereka.

Aktiviti-aktiviti yang dijalankan telah memberi peluang dan ruang kepada para pelajar untuk menggunakan bahasa Inggeris dengan cara yang mudah dan menarik.

Kem yang telah dikendalikan oleh tenaga pengajar serta staf dari CEE tersebut telah

mendapat maklumbalas yang amat baik daripada para peserta dan mereka telah melahirkan rasa penuh kepuasan. Walaupun kem tersebut merupakan satu pengalaman pembelajaran yang singkat tetapi ianya berjaya memberi kesan positif kepada para peserta.

Pengalaman berharga di Universiti Soka, Jepun

Peluang untuk mengikuti satu program lawatan selama 12 hari di Universiti Soka di Tokyo, Jepun telah berjaya dimanfaatkan



Seorang pelajar UTAR mencuba *Kimono*, pakaian tradisi Jepun

sepenuhnya oleh 13 orang pelajar UTAR. Program lawatan yang dianjurkan oleh Jabatan Kompetensi Kemahiran Insaniah (DSSC) tersebut diketuai oleh Ketua Jabatan DSSC Kampus Perak, Lok Bee Lan dan pembantunya, Hee Chwen Yee.

Rombongan dari UTAR telah menerima sambutan yang amat baik daripada warga Universiti Soka. Pelbagai aktiviti yang menarik dan bermanfaat telah diadakan dan antaranya ialah sesi pembelajaran bahasa dan pengenalan budaya Jepun, lawatan ke pelbagai tempat menarik di Tokyo, sesi kuliah dan sebagainya.

Salah satu aktiviti kemuncak lawatan tersebut ialah pelancaran satu sesi kuliah khas yang bertajuk *'Humanistic Education*



Para peserta dari UTAR bergambar di Universiti Soka

in Soka University and Soka High Schools'. Kuliah tersebut telah disampaikan oleh Profesor Ichiro Sugimoto, yang juga merupakan Penolong Pengarah Jabatan Hal-Ehwal Antarabangsa.

Lawatan sambil belajar selama 12 hari yang penuh dengan pengalaman berharga tersebut telah diakhiri dengan satu majlis penyampaian sijil bagi kesemua peserta oleh Pengarah Pusat Pengajian Bahasa Jepun Universiti Soka, Profesor Isao Takagi.

UTAR CAMPUSES

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46200 Petaling Jaya
Selangor Darul Ehsan

Kuala Lumpur Campus

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Jalan Genting Kelang
53300 Kuala Lumpur

Sungai Long Campus

(KPT/JPS/DFT/US/B12)

Lot PT 21144
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Perak Campus

(KPT/JPS/DFT/US/A04)

Jalan Universiti
Bandar Barat
31900 Kampar