



Students relaxing at the University Garden

10th Malaysia Festival of the Mind

The 10th Malaysia Festival of the Mind was held at Tunku Abdul Rahman University College (TAR UC) in Setapak, Kuala Lumpur from 14 to 15 June 2014 and at UTAR Perak Campus from 21 to 22 June 2014. Jointly organised by the Malaysian Mental Literacy Movement (MMLM), UTAR and TAR UC, the Festival aimed to promote mental literacy.

UTAR Council Chairman-cum-Chairman of Malaysia Mental Literacy Movement Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik officiated the launch at UTAR Perak Campus on 21 June 2014. He was accompanied by UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Director for TAR UC Perak Campus Assoc Prof Dr Choy Siew Chee, UTAR Planning and Development Committee Advisor Tan Sri Hew See Tong and MMLM committee members.

In his opening speech, Tun Ling said, "If you want to enhance your memory, picture the subject, give colour to it and you will remember better." He also thanked the MMLM organisers, sponsors and supporters who have worked hard to ensure the success of the two-day event.

The opening ceremony at TAR UC in Setapak, Kuala Lumpur on 14 June was attended by MMLM Deputy Chairman Dr Milton Lum Siew Wah representing MMLM Chairman



Prof Chuah presenting a memento to Tun Ling while Dr Choy looks on

Tun Ling, UTAR President Prof Chuah and TAR UC Centre for Continuing and Professional Education Director Dr Oo Pou San representing TAR UC President. The guest of honour at the launch was the Group Chairman of Naga DDB Sdn Bhd Tan Sri Vincent Lee Fook Long.

Delivering the welcome speech on behalf of Tun Ling, Dr Lum said that the launch was extra special as it marked the milestone achievement of organising the festival for the tenth time which was a significant number that denoted strong purpose and commitment. Tan Sri Vincent Lee, in his address talked



The crowd at the opening ceremony at TAR UC Setapak Campus

about the roles of the festival's informative talks, and workshops in stimulating the human brain and harnessing its full potential.

The highlights of the launches at both the campuses were the demonstrations on the amazing mental feats by West Wong and six-year-old Djarkriel Antonius Gomez. Wong, nicknamed "human calculator", wooed the audience with his quick mental arithmetic skills. Djarkriel Gomez proved that age is no deterrent to memory work when he showed that he could remember over 200 countries and their capital cities.

Both the events at the said campuses each featured 14 public talks, seven workshops and numerous exhibition booths. The topics for the talks

and workshops included brain exercise, math tricks, photo-reading, memory skills, mental visualisation and many more. The exhibition booths showcased various mental literacy products such as puzzles, mind games, MENSA admission test and books.

Some of the attractions in the talks and workshops included Dato' Joey Yap's talk on "When Destiny Calls", Dr Peter Shephard's elaboration on "The Learning Brain" and Lim Teck Guan's explanation on the "Tool of 1Sudoku in developing higher order thinking skills".

Admission to the talks, workshops and exhibitions was free and the festival attracted a total of over 3,500 visitors.



Six year-old Djarkriel Gomez demonstrating his impressive memory on stage, flanked by West Wong on his right and his father on the left.

UTAR-UEC Scholarship Awards



First batch of scholarship recipients

The inaugural UTAR-UEC Scholarship Presentation Ceremony was held in Sungai Long Campus on 11 August 2014 to 61 Unified Examination Certificate (UEC) students from 24 Independent Chinese High Schools in Malaysia. It marked UTAR's active role in providing students with more opportunities for higher education and a brighter future.

The Minister of Transport and President of Malaysian Chinese Association YB Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai was the guest of honour at the presentation ceremony. In his speech, Dato' Sri Liow expressed great satisfaction at UTAR's relentless pursuit of educational excellence for all Malaysians regardless of age, race and background. He added, "Today's scholarship award is exemplary of the vision and spirit of UTAR's founding principles to widen the reach of higher education to the community." He further commended on UTAR's quality graduates who meet the human capital needs for nation building and advised the award recipients to give back to society to help those who are in need and be part of the nation's development.

Also present were UTAR Council Chairman Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik, UTAR Council Member Tan Sri Fong Chan Onn, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, UTAR Planning and Development Committee Advisor Tan Sri Hew See Tong, Deputy Chairman of United Chinese School Committees' Association of Malaysia (Dong Zong) Chow Siew Hon, Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia (ACCCIM) President Dato' Lim Kok Cheong, Datuk Ir Hong Lee Pee, headmasters, teachers and

students.

Prof Chuah in his welcome speech expressed his appreciation to Dato' Sri Liow and Tun Ling for their presence and thanked ACCCIM, Dong Jiao Zong, Hua Zong, the headmasters and teachers of independent Chinese Schools for the close co-operation in making the UTAR-UEC scholarship award possible. He said, "UTAR has stepped up its outreach in financial assistance to include the UTAR-UEC Scholarship Scheme which is specially tailored for UEC students. We hope that with this financial assistance scheme, more UEC students will have the opportunity for a quality tertiary education." He also congratulated all the pioneer scholarship recipients and advised them to continue to work hard and participate in campus activities and sports events.



Dato' Sri Liow presenting scholarship to Kam (second from right) while Tun Ling (left) and Prof Chuah look on

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Edward Kam Jin Chong from Jit Sin Independent High School, Bukit Mertajam, felt elated on his successful selection as one of the scholarship recipients. His parents were grateful to UTAR as the scholarship would help relieve their financial burden.

Leong Fong Yi from Tsung Wah Private Secondary School was excited to receive the scholarship and said "The scholarship will motivate me to study harder to achieve my goals and to contribute to the betterment of our community."

UTAR hosts 2nd ICBSSR 2014



From Left: Dato' Mah, Prof Chuah, Datuk Wee, Dr Cheah and Dr Teh officiating at the opening ceremony



UTAR Music Club Chinese Orchestra Unit members rendering some classical Chinese songs at the opening ceremony

UTAR Faculty of Arts and Social Science (FAS) successfully co-organised the second International Conference on Behavioural and Social Science Research (ICBSSR 2014) with the Western Social Science Association (WSSA) from 5 to 8 August 2014. WSSA is a renowned and well-distinguished association committed to advancing social science research and promoting social science education.

Held at the Kinta Riverfront Hotel, Ipoh, the ICBSSR 2014

received about 160 abstract submissions from academics, researchers, postgraduates and practitioners from 20 countries such as India, China, USA, Australia and Germany among others. The four-day conference was aimed to highlight the diverse works of academics and researchers to raise the visibility and dissemination of high quality research.

Distinguished Prof Datuk Dr Shamsul Amri Baharuddin, Founding Director of Institute of Ethnic Studies in Universiti

Kebangsaan Malaysia presented the keynote address titled "The Challenge for Social Science Research in Malaysia: Recent Developments". His address enlightened the participants on the history and development of social sciences in Malaysia. Meanwhile, WSSA President Professor N. Prabha Unnithan presented a full-day pre-conference workshop on "An introduction and overview of the publication process" in UTAR Perak Campus.

The Minister in Prime Minister's Department YB Datuk Ir Dr Wee Ka Siong officiated the opening of ICBSSR 2014. Also present at the opening ceremony were Perak State Executive Council Member YB Dato' Dr Mah Hang Soon, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Organising Chairperson Assistant Professor Dr Cheah Phaik Kin, deans, staff and students.

In his address, Datuk Wee

said, "Research is a process in which all orders of thinking skills are required to produce sound results and it is an especially important component in tertiary education. Research does not stop after one obtains a degree - it is part of lifelong learning. Through conferences like the 2nd ICBSSR, a platform is created for new and experienced researchers alike to share their works and ideas and it might even lead to fruitful collaborations."

Prof Chuah in his opening speech added that through this conference, the participants would hopefully gain insights on the common topics of relevance to our society. He also said, "UTAR is privileged to be in partnership with WSSA and to have WSSA President Prof Prabha and his team of reviewers be part of the ICBSSR team."

Dr Cheah expressed her gratitude to conference participants, WSSA Executive Council and sponsors; Spritzer, the Perak State Government, Nirvana Memorial Park, Kinta Riverfront Hotel, Yeo Hiap Seng (Malaysia) Berhad and World Magazine Services Sdn Bhd for their support.

Gheeta Chandran's abstract "Linguistic sexism in Malaysian folktales: A corpus-based approach" and Lai Wai Yoong's abstract "The silent sufferers: A study of schizophrenia caregivers in Perak state, Malaysia" both won the Best Abstract Award.

UTAR consistently reaches out to schools to provide more opportunities for students for further education. UTAR Council Chairman Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik led a team comprising senior management staff from UTAR and Tunku Abdul Rahman University College (TAR UC) and Buzan licensed instructor S. Jeyaraman to visit SMK Pendamaran Jaya, Klang on 21 July 2014.

The school visit was also to support the Teach for Malaysia (TFM) mission to help students in the rural schools with better opportunities for higher education.

SMK Pendamaran Jaya's Principal Puan Jawariah and teachers warmly welcomed Tun Ling and the accompanying delegates, and gave an introduction on the school. She also expressed her gratitude to the visitors.

At the discussion, Tun Ling said, "Try to discover students' talents and interests so that we can encourage them to develop

Council Chairman visits SMK Pendamaran Jaya, Klang

their interests and guide them to succeed." He added that both UTAR and TAR UC offer scholarships to outstanding students and that vocational education might suit some students' talents and interests.

SMK Pendamaran Jaya, which is classified as a "high needs" school, currently have five TFM fellows, namely Gabriel Samson a/l Thamil Salvan, Elizabeth Wong Jia-Le, Loh Chee Hoo, Muhamad Kamil Hakime and Joyce Ching Su Ping. Loh presented on the school's strengths, its challenges and needs which included more ICT facilities and a multipurpose hall.

There was also a surprise treat for students on practical memorisation techniques and study skills by S. Jeyaraman.



Tun Ling (left) and Puan Jawariah

Visit from Chong Hwa Independent High School, KL

A 12-member team from Chong Hwa Independent High School, KL visited UTAR Petaling Jaya Campus on 4 July 2014.

The delegates, led by its Principal Chia Song Choy were welcomed by UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Vice President (Internationalisation and Academic Development) Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Vice President (R&D and Commercialisation) Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei and UTAR staff.

A lively discussion followed after the UTAR corporate video presentation. The focus of the discussion was on opportunities for mutual collaboration especially in areas promoting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), English Language enhancement and community service projects.

Prof Chuah elaborated on UTAR scholarship offers



Prof Chuah receiving a souvenir from Chia (left)

to Chinese Independent High Schools in Malaysia including the Choong Hwa Independent High School in KL. Prof Lee then mentioned the UTAR-led Kuala Lumpur Engineering Science Fair (KLESF) and the school mentorship programme to promote STEM.

Chia said that the students need more guidance and mentorship to further grasp the STEM fundamentals and highlighted the school's English speaking zone in the hostel to encourage the language proficiency. He also commended UTAR for doing a very good job in community services and suggested that UTAR organises a Chinese enhancement camp for Chinese independent high school teachers.

Second place in Young Entrepreneur Knowledge Hunt

A team comprising five UTAR students from the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology clinched the second spot in the Young Entrepreneur Knowledge Hunt held during the Perak State Entrepreneur Carnival in conjunction with the SME Week 2014 at the Rural Transformation Centre (RTC) Perak, Gopeng on 22 June 2014.

The competition, organised by the CyberSecurity, Malaysia in collaboration with Universiti Teknologi Petronas and SME Corporation Malaysia, aimed to support the Malaysian government's aspiration and plans in its continuous strategy of acculturation and creation of new entrepreneurs amongst youths in Malaysia. The event also provided



The winning team with their lecturer Mobashar Rehman (first right)

an alternative access to updated information and knowledge on entrepreneurship programmes from SME Corp.

The winning team included Information Systems Engineering student Ng Soo Kean, Business Information Systems students

Desmond Wong Kah Hoe and Wahithatul Bashariah, and Computer Science students Khoo Jon Jun and Alvin Cham Yingjia.

The second place winners took home RM500 cash prize, a gift hamper, two pen drives and LEGO Multitool.

Our UTAR captain ball team made the university proud by winning the championship in the Captain Ball - Gospel Cup 2014 for the first time. The championship was held on 19 July 2014 at the REAL Sports Arena in Klang.

Our UTAR team clinched the victory in the final with a 3-2 score. They received an overall champion trophy and 13 individual gold medals.

Fellow teammates; Biotechnology final year student Julius Joshua, Foundation

Champion in captain ball tournament 2014

student Tham Yi Lin and Accounting student Wong Suk Yi all valued the honour to represent UTAR and to play alongside their supportive teammates. Tham added that the victory was sweet as the battle was

very tough due to the more experienced and skilful competing team. Wong quipped that participating in the championship was a great experience and it strengthened ties between teammates.

The winning UTAR team attributed their victory to regular practice, teamwork and support from the Department of Student Affairs, Sports and Recreation Unit Assistant Manager and coach Adrin Yeap Wai Kuan. "It's really amazing to see how UTAR students fell in love with this new sport, called captain ball. It all started when I first introduced this sport to UTAR students by organising the 1st UTAR Captain Ball League 2014. All participating students in the 1st UTAR Captain Ball League were taught how to play and learn the rules and regulations of this sport," said the proud coach, Yeap.

Jointly organised by Shah Alam Gospel Centre, Yi Sheng Resources Berhad and Life Soar Resources Berhad, the inaugural Captain Ball - Gospel Cup 2014 tournament attracted the participation of 38 teams from all over the country.



The champion UTAR Captain Ball team

UTAR Film Club's team, Independence Entertainment Group comprising UTAR alumni and students walked away with a whopping RM10,000 cash prize as winner of the recent Station One Micro Movie Competition.

The competition by Station One Leisure Café saw more than 20 entries, out of which 12 entries were then shortlisted and were judged based on popularity and number of views. Of all the competitive entries uploaded on YouTube channel, the entry

UTAR Film Club bags first prize

by Independence Entertainment Group garnered the most views and was thus announced the deserving winner.

Titled *Love in Mid Air*, the 10-minute short film written and directed by Biotechnology alumnus Allen Yeoh Ze Qing was about three good friends who were entangled in a love triangle. The cast were Advertising alumnus Chai Zhen Yan, Psychology student Cheah Ping Khoe, and the Assistant Director, Marketing student Chai Siew Ting. Zhen Yan won the subsidiary Best Actor Award.

Independence Entertainment Group crew members also included Banking and Finance student Chia Chee Yong and Marketing student Wai Kang Chuen as Videography Directors, Information Systems Engineering student Foong Wai Lap, Foundation in Arts student Yeong Yiong Yi and Public Relations student Tan Pei Chin as Art Directors. Journalism student Clifford Lee Chin Ee was the photographer and Business Administration student Lee Haw Hua was the music composer.

Love in Mid Air has garnered a total of 7,957 views at the time of writing and could be viewed through this link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5wAA45m9DEk>

UTAR students proved their prowess in sports by winning 10 medals in the Majlis Sukan IPTS Malaysia (MASISWA) Selangor Zone Sports Carnival 2014. The 10 medal tally achievement placed UTAR in fourth position in the overall ranking of the competition.

The annual tournament organised by MASISWA engaged athletes from private higher institutions in Selangor and aimed to promote a healthy and active lifestyle among youngsters. A total of 16 local and private universities/colleges in Selangor participated in the competition which took place from 20 to 22 June 2014 at University KL/British-Malaysia Institute (BMI) Sports Complex.

UTAR teams won two gold medals in volleyball and badminton (female), and four silver medals in table tennis (female), basketball, swimming and badminton (male). Another four bronze medals were garnered in different categories for badminton and table tennis. UTAR also took part in tenpin bowling, volleyball, and futsal.

Department of Student Affairs, Sports and Recreation Unit Assistant General Manager Lim Gim Hock lauded the achievements of UTAR contingents in the

Wins in Sports Carnival 2014



UTAR Volleyball women's team with Prof Kamal and Prof Badri

event. "Our team played well. They were up against some of the best players in Selangor, including national players in their respective categories," said Lim who led the teams throughout the carnival.

The prize giving and closing ceremony was graced by MASISWA Chairman Prof Ir Dr Kamal Nasharuddin Bin Mustapha and UniKL Engineering Faculty Dean Prof Dr Badri Abu Bakar.



Yeoh (fourth from right) and his crew receiving the RM 10,000 mock cheque from Station One Leisure Café Executive Director Wilson Too (third from right)

Recipient of the Asian Graduate Student Fellowships 2014

Faculty of Arts and Social Science Language and Linguistic Department Lecturer Tan Swee Mee did UTAR proud when she was awarded the Asian Graduate Student Fellowships 2014.

Tan was among 25 graduate students from other Asian countries who were entitled to the one-and-a half month fellowship based in Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore (NUS) commencing 16 May until 31 August this year. This fellowship aims to enable scholars to make full use of the wide range of resources held in the libraries of NUS and also the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies.

Tan said, "This was a precious opportunity for me as attending the conference and preparing for the forums gave me the opportunity to see and admire presentations of scholars from Harvard University, Hong Kong University and Yenching Harvard Institute. The Q&A sessions were overwhelming with very responsive audiences. It was a grand feast of academic interactions."

By securing a seat in the Fellowship programme, Tan who is currently working on her PhD project, had the opportunity to have one to one coaching in crafting her thesis as well as consultations



Tan (left) with Dr Kay Mohlman, Director of NUS Asia Research Institute

from an assigned mentor. She also presented her research studies on women's Identity in Malay society in selected short stories at the 9th Singapore Graduate Forum on Southeast Asia Studies from 25 to 27 June 2014.

Honourable Mention Award for FBF trio

UTAR Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) academics Lee Voon Hsien, Leong Lai Ying and Alex Foo Tun Lee were the proud recipients of the Honourable Mention Award at the Technology Innovation and Industrial Management (TIIM) Conference 2014 held at Seoul National University of Science & Technology (SeoulTech), South Korea from 28 to 30 May 2014.

Out of 118 papers submitted by academicians from 26 economies such as Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Egypt, Finland, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Switzerland, the USA and others, the trio's research paper titled *Knowledge Management: A New Measure for Competitive Advantage*, was handpicked by the editorial panel and earned them the illustrious award.

The paper, also co-authored by Prof Dr Ooi Keng Boon from Linton University College, methodically researched on the tri-dimensional relationship of knowledge management approaches, technical innovation and competitive advantages.

According to principal researcher Lee, it was a great privilege to have their research work acknowledged by Dr Kongkiti Phusavat from Kasetsart University, Thailand. Dr Kongkiti was the Programme Chair of TIIM 2014-cum-Chief Editor of the *International Journal of Innovation and Learning*, a fully refereed authoritative journal



The elated trio winners (from left) Foo, Leong and Lee

published by Inderscience Publishers.

"It is truly an honour as well to receive the Honourable Mention Award from TIIM 2014 Conference Director, Prof Lin Binshan, who is also the BellSouth Corporation Professor at Louisiana State University, USA and Chief Editor of the international journal *Expert Systems with Applications* by established publisher Elsevier," enthused Lee who also thanked the co-authors Foo, Leong and Prof Ooi as well as Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) for supporting their research work through the CIMA Research Grant.

Lee, Leong, Foo and Prof Ooi received a certificate each.

Three UTAR students stole the limelight when their names were announced as the winners of 'The Youth Awards' at the YouthsToday.com inaugural award presentation ceremony held at the Chatime Galleria in Puchong, Selangor on 14 June 2014.

The winning trio comprising Heong Kian Kee, Lee Jia Ling and Kum Peng Han

Triple wins in Youth Awards

walked away with a trophy, certificate and cash prize worth RM5,000 each.

Organised by YouthsToday.com, the event aimed to recognise the potential of youths in Malaysia as well as to select its first

generation of Malaysian Youth Ambassadors.

Heong, a year-one Public Relations student also clinched the Outstanding Creativity Award. He added that being part of the competition was a positive transformative process as he had to tap on his potential to bring out the best.

Lee, a third-year Banking and Finance student hoped that her win would inspire other youths to step forward to help build a better society. Youth Ambassador Award winner Kum, said that through this award he hopes to be a symbol of inspiration for others to lead meaningful lives. These three winners also expressed appreciation to their lecturers, mentors, families and friends for guiding them throughout the competition.

The award presentation night celebrated the victory of up to 26 outstanding student leaders (21 youth ambassadors and five outstanding awards) from all over the country. The participants went through a three-month journey in which they had to complete a total of three stages, 'The Write-up', 'Your Ideal Product' and 'Video-fy Yourself'.



Proud winners (from left) Heong, Lee and Kum

UTAR stamped its mark in the Cisco Networking Academy NetRiders CCNA (Cisco Certified Network Associate) Malaysia 2014

Competition by winning second runner-up in the competition held at Terengganu Advanced Technical Institute University College, Kemaman, Terengganu on 10 May 2014.

Two teams from the UTAR Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT) Computer Science students, Chin Chee Yang and Koh Peng How (Team 1), and Chan Chou Yuen and Chan Li Juin (Team 2) participated in the Degree Category which had a total of 30 competing teams. The contestants were evaluated based on their speed and accuracy to complete 100 theoretical questions in 60 minutes and a 90-minute practical test requiring them to do network set-up.

UTAR Team 1, Chin and Koh, was second runner-up and received a trophy, certificate of achievement, RM300 cash with a Lenovo Pad each, and certificate of participation. The winning pair said that they had always wanted to participate in a national level competition to apply what they have learned.

Admitting that the competition was quite a challenge, both UTAR teams were grateful to UTAR for the motivation, training

Second runner-up in NetRiders CCNA National Competition



From left: Li Juin, Chou Yuen, Madhavan, Dr Gan, Chin and Koh

and support. They have benefitted much from the intensive training led by Madhavan a/l Balan Nair, a certified CCNA instructor and lecturer at UTAR Faculty of Engineering and Science, and Dr Gan Ming Lee from FICT.

The Cisco Networking Academy NetRiders Competition offers opportunities

for students and alumni in Asia Pacific to showcase their networking abilities, learn valuable IT skills, and gain visibility among talent recruiters. Students taking the Cisco CCNA Routing and Switching, CCNA Discovery or CCNA Exploration courses can participate in the Malaysian NetRiders National CCNA Competition.



Convocation in progress at Dewan Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik

UTAR held its 19th Convocation at the stately Dewan Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik in Perak Campus from 15 to 17 August 2014. A total of 1,941 graduands received their scrolls in four sessions held over a three-day period. They graduated from 72 programmes comprising 55 Bachelor (Honours) degree programmes, 15 Master's degree and two PhD degree programmes.

The convocation also included the pioneer batches of graduates from Doctor of Philosophy (Chinese Studies), Master of Engineering (Electronic Systems), Master of Medical Science, Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Game Design, Bachelor of Arts (Hons) Journalism in Chinese Media and Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) Industrial Engineering.



Graduates celebrating their graduation day



Doctor of Philosophy in Science graduate Dr Tee Shiau Foon (left) receiving the scroll from Tan Sri Dato' Dr Sak Cheng Lum

The Convocation was declared open by UTAR Council Chairman Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik. The 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

19th UTAR Convocation



(From left): Tun Ling, Dato' Sri Liow, Dato' Seri Ong and Jay Yeunh at the convocation ceremony

members of the Board of Trustees were also present at the ceremony. The guests of honour for the convocation were Minister of Transport and President of Malaysian Chinese Association YB Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai for session one, Member of UTAR Council and Secretary General of Malaysian Chinese Association YB Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan for session two, and Member of UTAR Council and Managing Partner of DMP Architects Sdn Bhd Jay Yeunh Wee Tiong for session three. For session four, YB Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan represented YB Datuk Ir Dr Wee Ka Siong, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Deputy President of Malaysian Chinese Association and Member of UTAR Council. The scroll presenter for Session 1 was Tan Sri Dato' Dr Sak Cheng Lum, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of UTAR Education Foundation. Scrolls for the remaining sessions were presented by the guests of

honour. Tun Ling congratulated the graduating students and advised them to stay motivated in adapting to the rapid changes of globalisation and to work doggedly towards their own success in life. Emphasising on UTAR's comprehensive, outcome-based and internationalised education in preparing graduates for careers in the globalised world, Prof Chuah said, "With the expanding number of degree holders, it is only rational that potential employers choose the best. The best means a holistic excellence: intellectual prowess, good mastery of technical and IT skills, and acquisition of soft skills such as leadership, communication, creativity, management and intercultural understanding." Dato' Sri Liow advised the graduating students to be responsible leaders as every decision made would impact their lives. Meanwhile, Dato' Seri Ong encouraged the graduates to



Graduates in jubilant mood

make full use of their UTARian education coupled with their own talents and moral values to build a successful future. For session three, Jay Yeunh impressed upon the graduates to use their tertiary education to realise their potentials and overcome challenges. Dato' Seri Ong, representing Datuk Wee,

highlighted the significance of keeping the momentum in pursuit of success and knowledge after graduation. With the addition of 1,941 graduates from its 19th Convocation, the number of the University's alumni now stands at 35,898 since its inaugural convocation in 2005.



Chemical Engineering graduate Haraveen Kaur a/p Jogindar Singh with her family members



English Language graduate Suzira Erny binti Muhamad Saufian with her family members



Wong Chen Wai a Finance graduate (right) with his sister and mother

Talk on Malaysian Innovation Agenda

UTAR's Centre for Extension Education (CEE) organised a talk titled 'The Malaysian Innovation Agenda – Opportunities and Challenges' which was presented by Naser Jaafar, Chief Operating Officer of Agensi Inovasi Malaysia (AIM), at UTAR Perak Campus on 11 July 2014.

The talk aimed to shed light on Malaysia's innovation agenda on creating new wealth for the country and the roles of AIM in nurturing the culture of innovation and entrepreneurship. The two-hour talk attracted students, staff and others from the UTAR community.

"Malaysia has moved up one place from 25th to 24th in the Global Competitive Index between 2012 and 2013. However, we must not be complacent," said Naser. He elaborated on the key initiatives of AIM to spur innovation and entrepreneurship via delivery channels which included open bidding of new technology sources from local universities and public research institutes, direct equity investment by AIM and also the matching of entrepreneurs, promoters with academicians and researchers.

He explained about the Intellectual Capital Future Check (ICFC) which collaborates with organisations and banks to provide investment advice and funding to help start-ups projects and the role of Jawatan Kuasa Pelaburan Dana Awam (JKPDA) in regulating



CEE Head Mohd Faizul bin Ahmad (left) presenting a memento to Naser

all applications for research grants by government ministries and agencies.

Naser also explained on AIM's action plans to improve youths' skills on critical thinking, communication and intercultural understanding through initiatives such as i-THINK, Genovasi, and introducing the International Baccalaureate.

A Q&A session followed the talk and the questions touched on issues such as challenges faced in implementing the innovation agendas, and ways to address the declining number of students interested in Science stream.

Talk on NST and Its Development

UTAR Centre for Sustainable Development and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSDCSR) in collaboration with the Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) organised the "NST and Its Development" talk on 21 July at Sungai Long Campus. The talk was presented by the New Straits Times Press (M) Berhad (NSTP) Group Managing Editor Datuk Abdul Jalil Abdul Hamid.

FAM senior lecturer Shamini

Kandasamy added that the talk was mainly for FAM students who are doing the integrated case study subject on evaluating the real issues faced by industry players. It

was also to create more awareness on print media vis-a-vis social media.

The talk attracted over 320 participants including students and staff. Also present at the talk were CSDCSR Chairperson Dr Falahat Nejadmahani Mohammad, FAM Deputy Dean (Academic Development and Undergraduate Programmes) Ng Kean Kok, academic staff and NSTP officials.

Dr Falahat in his welcome speech thanked Datuk Abdul Jalil and his team for attending the event and providing insights on media developments to our students.

Datuk Abdul Jalil's talk included NSTP as a business entity, the impact of technology, competition, and the business strategies.

Shamini said that NST would be evaluating the top two FAM teams' presentations in due course. The evaluation would be an excellent learning experience for our students as their presentations would be benchmarked against industry standards.

There was also a meeting between CSDCSR and NSTP on possible collaborations in the near future.



FAM staff and students with Datuk Abdul Jalil (front row; second from right) and Dr Falahat (front row; first from right)

Information session on GST

UTAR Centre for Extension Education collaborated with the Ministry of Finance (MOF) to organise a talk on Goods and Services Tax (GST) at Petaling Jaya Campus on 16 July 2014.

The informative talk which attracted more than 250 participants was conducted in Mandarin and focused on the "what, why and how" of GST and its benefits to the country. It is part of UTAR's community efforts to continuously provide information on current issues.

Annie Chua who is one of the GST experts from the MOF and an expert on international Value Added Tax (VAT)/GST as well as an IMF expert roster for tax policy and tax reform presented the talks. She explained the various aspects of GST which included the taxation system, terms of reference, implementation and administration and the essential information for the public to know about the change-over to GST which would be introduced on 1 April 2015.

Chua also added that the Government would monitor the prices of goods and enforcement units would supervise traders in the country. There would be an official guide for consumers before GST is implemented.

There were also elaborations on key roles of the GST on restructuring the taxation system to fulfil Vision 2020, boosting the



Chua giving her talk

economy, strengthening Malaysia's competitiveness in the global market, offering more job opportunities, improving living standards and enhancing technology development.

She advised the audience to visit official websites www.gst.customs.gov.my and www.kpdnkk.gov.my for further clarification and details on GST.

There was also a lively Q&A session where participants asked questions ranging from effects of VAT on businesses to software designs.

UTAR Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT) organised a forum titled 'Getting Ready for IT' at the FICT building in Perak Campus on 2 July 2014.

The objectives of the forum were to provide students and academics with the opportunity to connect with industry players on IT employment and to gain insights into the issues of IT business and new start-ups. It would help students garner first-hand information on industry expectations in

terms of job knowledge and skills even before they graduate.

Moderated by FICT lecturer, Lee Heng Yew, the forum featured three speakers, namely Senior Vice President of R&D

Industry leaders at IT forum

Systems e-Genting Holding Sdn Bhd Jonathan Searcy, Co-Founder and Director of Engineering CEEDTec Sdn Bhd Choong Lee Shyue, and Managing Director of KEDA Limited Lee Boon Kok.

The forum covered topics on the significance of ICT in national development, the industry sectors and opportunities to excel in ICT industry through creating new ways of communicating, doing business and delivering services. There were elaborations on ICT skills in national development, the "how" of MNCs and their strategies to secure business profits as well as challenges in new start-ups and the differences of doing a new business locally and abroad.

The forum ended with a souvenir presentation to the panelists by FICT Deputy Dean (Academic Development and Undergraduate Programmes) Dr Cheng Wai Khuen and a Q&A session. There was also a talk on 'Developing Innovative Capabilities for the Global Market' by the Senior Microprocessor Design Manager from Intel Microelectronics (M) Sdn Bhd Dr Ong Sze Wei.



From left: Heng Yew, Choong, Jonathan and Boon Kok

SRC handover ceremony



SRC students with Dr Teh (fifth from left) and Prof Chuah (sixth from left)

UTAR Department of Student Affairs (DSA) organised the Student Representative Council (SRC) Handover Ceremony at Perak Campus on 2 July 2014 to officially announce and accord recognition to the 2014/15 SRC members. The SRC

serves as a bridge between students and the University and aims to instil responsibility and leadership in the elected student representatives.

The highlights included the hand-over of the SRC logo by the Chairperson of SRC

2013/14 to the new Chairperson of SRC 2014/15 and certificate presentations to the past SRC members.

Present at the ceremony were the UTAR management team comprising UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Vice President (Student Development and Alumni Relations) Assoc Prof Dr Teh Chee Seng, staff, student representatives for 2013/14 and 2014/15, chairpersons of UTAR clubs and societies and students.

Prof Chuah said that the SRC handover ceremony highlighted the making of student leaders in the UTAR community and the learning opportunities towards deeper engagement in student community issues. He also thanked the previous committee for their contributions and welcomed the newly-elected SRC members.

In their presentations, all the outgoing SRC Chairpersons namely Gan Hui Shin from Kuala Lumpur Campus, Cheong Yuen Nam from Petaling Jaya Campus, Mak Kar Yip from Sungai Long Campus and Melvyn Choong Ern Yoong from Perak Campus thanked their council members for the support and shared their experiences in promoting student welfare.

A spectacular UTAR Ball 2014

Themed Galaxy Night, the UTAR Ball 2014 was held at the Swiss-Garden Hotel & Residences, Kuala Lumpur on 21 June 2014. It was organised by the Student Representative Council (SRC) of UTAR Kuala Lumpur (KL) Campus with support from students of the other campuses and staff from the UTAR Department of Student Affairs in Sungai Long Campus.

Cryzel Gan Hui Shin, the organising chairperson of the UTAR Ball as well as SRC KL Campus chairperson said that the Ball was to celebrate university life and thanked the sponsors, SRC members and students for their support in making the event a success.

The guest of honour, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik in his speech, praised the organising committee for doing a good job and said, "This is by far, the best UTAR Ball I have attended."

Also present at the event were Vice President (Internationalisation and Academic Development) Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Vice President (R & D and Commercialisation) Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei and Vice President (Student Development and Alumni Relations) Assoc Professor Dr Teh Chee Seng, lecturers, students and staff.

There were presentations of awards

to the recipients; namely, Reagen Lee Hon Leong (Perak Campus) for Best Student Leader Award, Lye Guang Xing (Perak Campus) for Most Talented UTARian and Loh Chooi Fern (Sungai Long Campus) for Sportsperson of the year. The Mathematics Society in KL Campus was awarded the Best Society Award (course based) and Wushu Club (Perak Campus) won the Best Society

Award (non-course based).

Other activities included the crowning of Jaspreetjit Kaur Sandhu and Mansour Ayman Alawi as the respective Prom Queen and Prom King, the Waltz performance by SRC organising committee members, dance performances, songs and lucky draws.



UTAR Ball 2014

Over 500 enthusiastic fans of the Cosplay Culture joined the third UTAR Cosplay Event which was held at the Heritage Hall of the Perak Campus on 18 June 2014. It was a time for fun role-playing adventure as the participating students got to dress-up as their favourite characters complete with wizard-like robes, wigs, shiny swords, metal armorplates accessories and even the typical Cosplay make-up.

Organised by the UTAR Japanese Culture Club, the event aimed to create awareness of Japanese Animation and Cosplay Culture, networking among the Cosplay aficionados, manga or anime lovers and sharing of experiences about Cosplay, manga and other comic artists. The chairperson of the event, Chee Weng Fai said, "Besides having fun, we also hope that this event would be a memorable and fascinating experience for all."

A celebration of Cosplayers



Cosplayers in character

There was a sketch based on the famous multiplayer online role-playing game (MMORPG), Ragnarok Online and the subsequent "kawaii" themed dance performances of two mega-hit songs, Senbonzakura and Hare Hare Yukai.

Highlights included the musical performances of both Germaine Lim and Siew Shun Shu-Wei, band performances from Drum Guitar Bass Keyboard and Verano Attack groups and the amazing costume displays of manga characters

such as Haruhi from The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya, Bishop from Ragnarok, Dante from Devil May Cry and Len from Karakuri Burst and sister characters; Anna & Elsa from the film 'Frozen.'

The Department of Modern Languages in the Faculty of Creative Industries organised the UTAR English Language Week at its Petaling Jaya, Kuala Lumpur, and Sungai Long campuses on 9 and 11 July 2014. The aim was to give students an opportunity to use the English Language creatively through songs and drawings and in situations other than just their books.

The event in the Petaling

Thrilling English Language Week 2014

Jaya Campus on 9 July was themed Celebrating Creative Performance while the respective themes for the Kuala Lumpur and Sungai Long campuses were

the Word Warrior, and Don't Keep Calm, It's English Week!

The Petaling Jaya event started with a welcome speech by Yogesvary a/p Alahakone,

the Head of Department for Modern Languages and showcased performances which included singing, sketches, musical dramas, poem recitals, self-defence and first-aid demonstrations. The organising chairperson Dannie Mar Yi Yuan presented the prizes to the top five most creative performers.

The Sungai Long Campus activities included a singing competition and a Win, Lose or Draw Competition where students guessed idioms based on their teammates' drawings. Lucky participants also took home attractive prizes from the lucky draw. Lecturers-in-charge, Amalina binti Ismail and Chai Hui Ling were pleased by the event's success. Amalina added that it also eased the students' stress from academic studies.



The committee members, lecturers-in-charge and performers in Petaling Jaya Campus

Counselling workshop for schoolteachers

The UTAR Community Counselling Centre and the Division of Community and International Networking (DCInterNet) organised a counselling workshop for 15 teachers from seven schools on 14 June 2014 at UTAR Perak Campus. The participating schools were Sekolah Menengah Pei Yuan Kampar, Sekolah Menengah Nan Hwa Sitiawan, Sekolah Menengah Tsung Wah Kuala Kangsar, SMJK Poi Lam Ipoh, SMJK Perempuan Perak, SMJK Pei Yuan Kampar and Institut Perguruan Ipoh Ulu Kinta.

The objectives of the counselling workshop were to help the school counsellors gain more insights into the issues and challenges of today's school counselling, the holistic approach to solutions as well as the various strategies for counselling of school students.

"The counselling workshop is part of the community service activities by UTAR Community Counselling Centre for school counsellors. With the changing school scenario, counsellors play multifaceted roles. They encounter many challenges and issues in their implementation of their planned activities," said Low Sew Kim, a lecturer and also a registered counsellor from the Department of Psychology and Counselling in the Faculty of Arts and Social Science. She further added that the workshop was organised as part of a continuous professional development for school counsellors to further their knowledge in handling various counselling challenges in school.

Despite being a one-day workshop, it succeeded as a comprehensive learning experience for participants due to the informative talks and discussions whereby



Low explaining to participants the role of the UTAR Community Counselling Centre

the participants exchanged their experiences and viewpoints.

"The workshop is a good place for networking as we are able to know more people and also places for counselling, and in turn, give advice to the parents on how to cope with their children's behaviour. This workshop is not necessarily limited to counsellors. It is for teachers as well because we interact with the students on a daily basis and can give them appropriate counselling directly," said Principal of SMJK Perempuan Perak Lee Puay Eng at the workshop.

R. Mariammah, one of the participants also from SMJK Perempuan Perak said, "This is my first time to UTAR Perak Campus

and I must say that it is very scenic. The workshop is an eye-opener, enriching and helps in problem-solving. The sharing and discussion among the schoolteachers and mentor help us to explore new approaches to upgrade our counselling skills." She added, "As a language teacher, I'm handling a lot of classes and I hope this workshop will help me with students who require more counselling assistance."

Marking the closing of the workshop was the presentation of certificates to the representatives and participants by the Director of DCInterNet Dr Tan Sin Leng. The participants toured the campus before their return journey.



The participants during group discussion



Dr Tan presenting the appreciation certificate to Lee, Principal of SMJK Perempuan Perak

English Language Camp for children



Pupils with their teachers, facilitators and FAS Dean Dr Cheah Phaik Kin (third row, seventh from left)

UTAR Centre for Learning and Teaching, the Division of Programme Promotion and the Faculty of Arts and Social Science (FAS) jointly organised a fun and interactive English Language Camp for a group of school children and orphans on 12 July 2014. The camp was held at the Heritage Building, UTAR Perak Campus.

The participating schools were SJK (T) Mambang Diawan and SJK (T) Kampar and Joyful Home which is an orphanage in Ipoh. They were accompanied by their respective school teachers and the orphanage representative.

Assisted by student facilitators, the camp started with an ice-breaking session for the pupils to get to know one another. There

were lively activities such as a game called 'Peek-a-who' and the story telling session titled 'Mr Lion and Mouse'. In the 'Peek-a-who' game, each team members raced to call out their opponent's name after a blanket separating them was removed. The pupils enjoyed asking questions in the story-telling session and interacting with the Lion and Mouse characters which were portrayed by the facilitators.

For the outdoor activity, the pupils listened to a series of commands and performed the suggested action only when the phrase, 'Tiger says,' was mentioned.

At the closing ceremony, FAS Deputy Dean for R&D and Postgraduate Programmes Dr Priscilla Moses presented the souvenirs to the teachers and representative from the orphanage.

UTAR Department of Soft Skills Competency Perak Campus successfully organised a Family Day at the Sungai Siput Selatan New Village in Kampar on 20 July 2014.

The Family Day was part of 'We-Care-We-Act' project under UTAR New Village Community Service, which was one of the University's initiatives to enhance students' soft skills and life skills through engagements in community services at selected new villages. By helping to organise the half-day Family Day, the participating 80 UTAR students got to hone their skills in teamwork and leadership as well as gain a sense of purpose in caring and sharing with the villagers and their families.

Held at Sungai Siput Selatan Community Hall, the Family Day saw the participation of around 100 villagers in fun-filled activities that included student dances, songs and opera performances and Chinese golden oldies performance by two of the elderly villagers.

More than a Family Day



Interactive games and handicraft stations

A hit with the new village children were the stations on handicrafts and games where UTAR students guided the children on the numerous games and handicraft techniques. Making the Family Day more memorable were the students' Bollywood dance and a Korean song performance which brought cross-cultural experience to the Sungai Siput

Selatan villagers.

Wong Chow Wan, a mother of four, who participated in the programme said that cultural performances and events conducted during the family day were very entertaining and suggested that such activities be organised more often in the future.



马台港学者齐聚一堂

由拉曼大学中华研究院主办，台湾国立成功大学台湾文学系和香港中文大学中国语言及文学系香港文学研究中心联合总会和马来西亚大学中文系毕业生协会协办的《战后马华、台湾、香港文学场域的形成与变迁》2014年国际学术研讨会于2014年7月18至19日，一连两天在霹雳校区进行。研讨会的主旨旨在推动和促进马华、台湾及香港三地学者的研究理念、想法。到访的台湾和香港学者分别由台湾国立成功大学台湾文学系游胜冠教授以及香港中文大学新亚书院钱穆图书馆及联合书院胡忠多媒体图书馆主任马辉洪的带领下前来共享其盛。三地学者一共发表了30篇论文。筹委会主席许文荣致开幕

词时表示，“此研讨会是拉曼大学、台成大及香港中文大学的初次合作。我校获得‘开球权’举办了第一次的研讨会，在未来此研讨会将移师到香港和台湾举办。”此外，他表示此研讨会所发表的论文分为三种性质，分别是撰写本身文学场域的状况、其他地方文学场域的状况，以及马港台三地文学场域互动交流的性质。中华研究院副院长黄文斌致词时表示，“此研讨会创造了一个平台，让研究学者获得全新的灵感和视野，并促进不同区域学者的交流。不管是马华文学、台湾文学或香港文学，都需要建立各自的特色，为文学的世界创造一个多元化色彩。”此研讨会分为八个不同主题的场次进行，其中包括文学观念、文学与媒介、作家与作品、文学旅行、马华论述等。本校参与发表的师生包括廖冰凌、曾维龙、余历雄、李树枝、黄丽丽、研究生马峰及杨凤玲。

怡保师训学院拜访团



拉曼大学霹雳校区于2014年8月13日迎来了由怡保师训学院中文组的师生所组成的拜访交流团。出席者包括该校语文系副主任关家凤、中文组主任陈毓梅、其他九位讲师及约40位的中文组学生。本校的迎宾队伍则包括了中华研究院的副院长黄文斌、林志敏、系主任莫德厚、讲师陈明彪、林良娥及中文系的学生。黄副院长致欢迎词时分享了自己的一些教书时的体验、与“师道”相关的课题、关于“专业、敬业、乐业”等的切身经历，与在座的未来老师共勉

之。他表示，“怡保师训学院与本校的距离并不远，两校之间可多加互动及交流。”“拉曼大学在学术界及业界有口皆碑。本校师生此次能够有机会前来一同交流，从中了解师资阵容、课程内容、校园环境等。这一趟的校园游的确让本校师生开拓视野，”关副主任致词时表示。两校的师生在毕业后都可互访彼此的学校继续深造。拉曼大学中文系的学生在毕业后若想走“教育之路”，可选择到师训学院来修读教育文凭；而师训学院的毕业生可到拉曼大学来继续修读

中文硕士班。她补充表示，“在未来的日子里，两校加强合作与交流，一同发展华文教育，以培育英才。”随后，莫主任代表拉曼大学为中华研究院及中文系进行简介；而陈主任则代表怡保师训学院为该校进行简介。经过两位主任为各自的学校进行简介后，在场者对彼此的学校的概况、课程、学生生活、出版刊物等有更深入的了解和认识。在学生的表演项目里，中华研究院的学生为来宾们准备的表演包括古筝弹奏、京剧演艺及孔雀舞表演；而师训学院的学生则带来了以乌克兰丽伴奏歌唱表演、诗词朗诵及手语表演。两校学生多才多艺，所带来的精湛表演让观众们为之喝彩。



中华研究院学生的古筝弹奏表演。

中华研究院中华艺术研究组于2014年8月9日在霹雳校区首次举办了汉服研习一日营，并成功吸引了超过50位学生的参与。此研习营有幸邀得来自马来西亚汉服运动的成员前来为学生们讲课，他们是郑永田、陈泽斐、谢志瑶及蔡清渊。汉服是中国华夏民族的传统服饰，而汉服运动于2003年开始在中国发迹，进而世界各地的华人群里掀起了一股热潮。一直到2007年马来西亚青年运动（青运）联邦直辖区大城堡支会的发起



中华研究院副院长林志敏赠送纪念品给郑永田。

下，汉服运动在马来西亚正式萌芽。在第一环节中，透过一系列摄于19世纪末的照片，郑导师开始为参与者简述民族服装的历史与特征。民族服装是一个文明衍生出来的外在文化，是一个民族的象征和威严。“普遍上人们都误以为旗袍和唐装是华人的传统服装，但旗袍和唐装其实是满族的传统服装，是清兵入关建立清朝时强制推行的‘剃发易服’政策所造成的改变，”郑导师表示。‘剃发易服’政策使到汉服和汉族断绝了将近三百年。随后，谢导师和蔡导师透过图片和他们身上的汉服为参与者讲述汉服的剪裁和款式。随着人们对汉服的改进，目前汉服已成为了一种时尚的穿着。汉服试穿环节成为了学员最喜爱的环节之一。初次试穿汉服的学员都不忘拍照留念。研习营的第二个环节主要是向学员讲解华夏礼仪，由陈导师负责讲解。华夏礼仪包括冠礼、笄礼、婚礼、相见礼、拜见礼、乡射礼及燕礼等。陈导师的讲解，让在座的学员对华夏礼仪有更深入的了解。随后，导师们把学员分为两组进行冠礼和笄礼的示范演示。身着传统汉服的学员，在进行示范演示时仿佛化身古人去亲身体验这些礼仪。

首办汉服研习营

拉大团队走入双溪古月客家新村



摄于三山古庙前的大合照。

拉曼大学中华研究院团队在2014年8月7日到访双溪古月三山古庙与当地居民进行交流，以了解双溪古月客家新村的生活与社会形态。在中华研究院副院长黄文斌带领下，随行的还包括文学与社会科学学院讲师石碧芬、台湾国立交通大学客家文化学院的罗

烈师博士、台湾国立政治大学的陈琮渊博士及中文系的学生。三山古庙会会长蔡明星先生及会员们为拉曼大学团队准备了丰富的客家佳肴以欢迎拉曼大学团队的到来。其他新村社团组织的出席者包括双溪古月福建公会、双溪古月河婆同乡

联谊会、双溪古月嘉应乡谊会和双溪古月菜农公会的代表。蔡会长致欢迎词时表示，“双溪古月这一带是国内最多客家人云集的地方。因此，客家文化研究者可考虑把双溪古月和附近的小镇列为考察之地。”此外，蔡会长也在场者讲述了双溪古月三山古

庙的历史及该庙目前所进行的活动，其中包括提供免学费的幼稚园教育、优生奖学金、派送恩物给乐龄人士及其他慈善活动。黄副院长致词时表示，“我们和台湾的研究学者一同前来考察双溪古月这个客家新村，以商讨其作为台湾从事客家研究的研究生的考察地点。”他补充，通过传统、历史和其他相关元素的结合有助于重塑新村的全新面貌。若从经济发展方面的角度来考量，将会带动当地旅游业的发展。随后，罗博士也为出席者主讲了以《三山国王信仰概论：本地、渊源与交流》为题的讲座，讲述了三山国王信仰在中国广东的源起及其作为台湾社会民俗信仰所扮演的庇佑角色。据罗博士所言，从事三山国王研究的中国和台湾学者已展开了合作，寄望未来也有来自马来西亚的学者参与其中。交流会的尾声，黄副院长和罗博士不约而同地与在场者分享了台湾的年轻人投身文化创意产业和种植业让许多旧镇重新发展起来的例子以激励当地民众。



Para pelajar UTAR sedang melukis mural dinding

Nilai etika dan ketinggian moral adalah antara aspek terpenting dalam melahirkan graduan kompeten, holistik, bermutu serta dilengkapi kemahiran insaniah yang sekali gus meningkatkan kebolehpasaran graduan. Sebagai langkah ke arah melahirkan graduan dengan ciri-ciri ini, UTAR melalui Jabatan Kompetensi Kemahiran Insaniah Klang Valley (DSSC), baru-baru ini telah menganjurkan program khidmat masyarakat *New Village Community Project*, di SRJK (C) Chamang, Pahang serta program kebudayaan-belajar bahasa Afrika.

Disertai lebih 60 orang pelajar, program khidmat masyarakat UTAR dan pertukaran budaya yang terdiri daripada projek lukisan mural

dan sesi pengenalan variasi bahasa Afrika, mendekati pelajar kepada masyarakat melalui pembelajaran luar kampus selain memupuk keprihatinan terhadap golongan memerlukan dan minoriti.

Seramai tiga orang kakitangan DSSC bersama pelajar-pelajar UTAR telah menjayakan projek khidmat masyarakat tersebut. Projek melukis mural merupakan salah satu aktiviti yang cukup menyeronokkan buat para pelajar apatah lagi dilakukan secara beramai-ramai bersama murid sekolah berkenaan. Lukisan mural yang disertai dengan kata-kata motivasi dilakarkan pada dinding sekolah sebagai sumber inspirasi dan pencetus semangat kepada murid-murid untuk berjaya dalam pelajaran dan

UTAR membentuk kemahiran insaniah pelajar

kehidupan.

Selain program khidmat masyarakat bersama murid-murid sekolah, aktiviti yang turut mendapat respon menggalakkan daripada para pelajar UTAR ialah kelas pembelajaran bahasa Afrika

yang merupakan kesinambungan Bengkel Kebudayaan Antarabangsa UTAR yang telah diadakan awal Febuari lalu.

Mhadji Issa Fahmi, pelajar asasi UTAR dari Comoros dan Ahmed Ibrahim Hussain Hamza, pelajar Fakulti Kejuruteraan dan Sains UTAR dari Sudan Selatan berperanan sebagai tenaga pengajar program kebudayaan tersebut. Peserta yang jarang sekali didedahkan dengan budaya unik ini menggunakan peluang keemasan yang diberi untuk mempelajari elemen-elemen asas komunikasi dalam bahasa Afrika seperti nombor, ucapan, hari, dan sebagainya. Selain pengajaran aspek bahasa, kedua-dua tenaga pengajar juga memperkenalkan budaya dan adat tradisi masyarakat Afrika kepada rakan-rakan yang hadir.



Pelajar UTAR mengambil gambar berkumpulan di sebelah lukisan mural yang telah dilengkapkan



Ahmed (baris hadapan, keempat dari kanan) bersama dengan peserta-peserta dari UTAR



Mhadji (keenam dari kanan) dan peserta-peserta dari UTAR

UTAR CAMPUSES

Petaling Jaya Campus

(KPT/JPS/DFT/US/B07)

9 Jalan Bersatu 13/4
46200 Petaling Jaya
Selangor Darul Ehsan

Kuala Lumpur Campus

(KPT/JPS/DFT/US/W05)

Jalan Genting Kelang
53300 Kuala Lumpur

Sungai Long Campus

(KPT/JPS/DFT/US/B12)

Lot PT 21144
Jalan Sungai Long
Bandar Sg. Long
Cheras, 43000 Kajang

Perak Campus

(KPT/JPS/DFT/US/A04)

Jalan Universiti
Bandar Barat
31900 Kampar