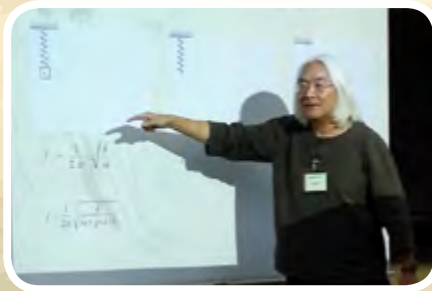




*Research in Petrochemical Lab*



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## MoU with B.K. Geosoil Engineering

Stepping up efforts on academia-industry partnerships, UTAR collaborated with laboratory soil testing expert B.K. Geosoil Engineering Sdn Bhd (GSE) in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony held at Sungai Long Campus on 6 February 2015.

The MoU established a basis for UTAR and GSE to explore collaborative areas, including the development and improvement of laboratory equipment for advanced soil testing, and advancing more knowledge in soil testing. UTAR students and the academics will also benefit from the co-operation through participation in industrial training, research opportunities and industry-based projects.

UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik said, "Today's



Seated from left: Kalaiarasu, Nesakumar, Agilan, Prof Chuah, Prof Yow and Prof Tanaka

MoU is most timely and in line with the educational excellence of UTAR in providing quality and industry relevant programmes. With the present environmental issues of floods, soil erosion and landslides, it is very critical that our Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) students gain the latest expertise on the fundamentals of soil testing and the practical skills to carry out quality soil testing with accurate test reports." He also added that UTAR Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction would also tap on GSE's expertise for research studies on

natural disaster risk management.

GSE Executive Chairman Agilan Muniandy said, "We at B.K. Geosoil Engineering Sdn Bhd, an advanced soil testing company with quality, believes that this new venture with UTAR on research, invention and knowledge sharing basis will benefit both the students and researchers in terms of first hand industry experience for further quality education promoting innovation." He also pledged a donation of RM10,000 to the UTAR Education Foundation on behalf of GSE.

UTAR in collaboration with Silverlake Global Payments Sdn Bhd (SGP) officially launched the UTAR SilverCard at Heritage Building, UTAR Perak Campus on 26 January 2015.

The UTAR SilverCard was offered to all staff and students of UTAR Perak Campus. It would serve as an ID card and e-wallet which could be readily used for purchases and transactions at the cafeteria, library, bus and other facilities within the campus.

Perak State EXCO Member Dato' Dr Mah Hang Soon officiated the launching of the UTAR SilverCard. Also present at the launching ceremony were Executive Chairman of Silverlake Group Goh Peng Ooi, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Director of Silverlake Global Payments Ambassador Dato' Redzuan Kushairi, Group Managing Director of Silverlake Group of Private Entities Choo Soo Ching, Managing Director of Silverlake Global Payments Aaron Tan, Vice Presidents of UTAR Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei and Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, UTAR Council Member Hew Fen Yee, deans, staff and students.

In his address, Dato' Mah applauded both UTAR and SGP for the timely collaborative efforts in bringing about a cashless payment system that is tailored for the campus community. Prof Chuah remarked in his speech that, "The UTAR SilverCard offers an accurate and reliable mode of payment via SGP digital platforms

## Launch of ID-cum-stored value SilverCard



Goh (fourth from right) presenting a mock UTAR SilverCard to Prof Chuah (third from left) at the launching ceremony while (from left) Prof Lee, Hew, Dato' Mah, Choo, Dato' Redzuan and Aaron Tan look on

and I am confident that our students will welcome this lifestyle with conveniences of e-payment."

Goh added that the e-wallet payment instrument aimed to transform the university into a cashless environment and to enrich the student's campus life style with usage of the latest contactless payment technologies. He

also announced that Silverlake would donate to UTAR, any profit generated from the transactions of the current UTAR students.

After the launching ceremony, there was a presentation of SilverCards to 20 UTAR students as well as a transaction demonstration in the UTAR bus by Dato' Mah, Goh and Prof Chuah.

UTAR signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with The Federation of Chinese Associations Malaysia (Huazong 华总) to facilitate the sharing of library resources on 30 January 2015 at The Kuala Lumpur and Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall, Kuala Lumpur.

The MoU facilitated the resource sharing between the two libraries of UTAR and Huazong. The homepages of the two libraries would be linked to each other, and both parties could refer to print and digital online resources. UTAR Library would extend its services such as Inter-Library Loan Service and Document Delivery Service to Huazong Library and vice versa.

"Members of Huazong Library are eligible to join UTAR Library as external members to enjoy its library services and facilities. They are welcome to participate in trainings and workshops, such as sessions on information skills sessions, database training and talks that are organised by UTAR Library," said UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik in his speech at the signing of the MoU.

Huazong's Life Honorary President Tan Sri Datuk Ng Teck Fong added that, "This is the first collaboration between Huazong and a local private university. Members of Huazong Library can access 230,000 books

## MoU with Huazong



Prof Chuah (second from right) exchanging documents with Tan Sri Datuk Ng while (from left) Dr Chua, Tan Sri Pheng and Prof Ewe look on

from UTAR Library, including 50,000 Chinese books." Huazong's President Tan Sri Dato' Sri Pheng Yin Huah thanked UTAR Library for providing assistance in the set-up and management of Huazong Library as well as praised UTAR for its affordable quality education with scholarships and loans to needy students.

Also present at the signing were UTAR

Vice President for Internationalisation and Academic Development Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, UTAR Library Director Lim Suan Hoon, and other management staff and Huazong members comprising Honorary Secretary General Dr Chua Yee Yen, Central Committee Member Dato' Oon Pheng Khoon and Youth Chairman Ong Chong Keng.

The first UTAR Agriculture Science Journal was unveiled during a launching ceremony at Heritage Building, UTAR Perak Campus on 26 January 2015. The quarterly journal aims to provide and share agriculture information by treating each topic as a subject for intelligent enquiry and exploration.

The journal was launched by Perak State EXCO Member Dato' Dr Mah Hang Soon. He was accompanied by UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Dean of UTAR Faculty of Science (FSc) Assoc Prof Dr Lim Tuck Meng and Honorary Editor of UTAR Agriculture Science Journal Dr Francis Ng.

Lauding the FSc on its success in producing the journal, Dato' Mah expressed confidence that the journal would be an invaluable guide to knowledge sharing and promoting sustainability and competitiveness in the agricultural sector.

In his speech, Prof Chuah said, "UTAR wants to contribute to the food sector and therefore, started the Department of Agricultural and Food Science under the FSc. Today's launch of UTAR Agriculture Journal is indeed a milestone for the faculty."

## Unveiling of UTAR Agriculture Science Journal



All smiles after the launch (from left) Dr Lim, Prof Chuah, Dato' Mah and Dr Ng

Dr Lim added that the journal would be a key driving force for Malaysia and tropical agriculture. He elaborated that the journal would be impactful due to its strong editorial management, good information content, total free access by internet and strong

presence in the agricultural libraries of the world through complimentary distribution.

After launching the journal website, Dato' Mah presented prizes to the winners of the Journal Design Competition.

UTAR Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT) organised the launch of AppAsia Mobile Challenge 2015 at Lecture Complex II, UTAR Perak Campus on 21 January 2015. AppAsia Mobile Challenge is a competition that requires students to use their knowledge, ingenuity and creativity to create original mobile applications.

The challenge was jointly launched by UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik and Executive Director of AppAsia Bhd Calvert Wong Ngai Peow. Also present at the launching ceremony were FICT Dean Assoc Prof Dr Liew Song Yue and UTAR Council Member Hew Fen Yee. In his speech, Prof Chuah emphasised on how technologies have a great impact in shaping the way we live, study and communicate with one another and encouraged students to use their creativity and innovation by participating in the challenge.

## AppAsia Mobile Challenge 2015



(Front row, from right) Dr Liew, Hew, Prof Chuah and Calvert Wong with AppAsia team and UTAR students

In his address, Calvert Wong shared his experiences on the mobile industry and encouraged students to acquire positive thinking, the right mindset and passion in order to achieve their

dreams.

The ceremony also saw Wong handing over a mock cheque of RM12,500 from AppAsia Bhd to Prof Chuah, who received the sponsorship for

the Mobile Challenge on behalf of UTAR.

There was a short training session on mobile applications development after the closing ceremony.

UTAR and Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) jointly organised a training programme titled 'Leadership Breakthrough!' at UTAR Perak Campus from 20 to 21 December 2014. A total of 60 motivated youths from UTAR and USM participated in the collaborative leadership training programme.

The two-day training programme aimed to nurture budding leaders and empower them with leadership qualities through leadership building sessions that included workshops, outdoor activities and games. With the guidance of facilitators and experts at these leadership training sessions, participants from various backgrounds came together to learn, exchange ideas, and to put into practice the essential leadership skills that they have learnt.

At the opening ceremony, UTAR Vice President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Assoc Prof Dr Teh Chee Seng said, "This training programme is a good platform for UTAR to have more collaboration with public universities, and for students to meet highly motivated leaders from other parts of the country."

Deputy Vice-Chancellor of USM Prof Dato' Dr See Ching Mey, who conveyed her message through the student representative Goo Chuan Chiew, said that both USM and UTAR share similar goals in producing more

## Training programme on leadership breakthrough



All smiles from the budding young leaders

well-rounded leaders and hoped that the participants will gain leadership qualities, problem solving skills and the skills of negotiation at the training programme.

The participants attended three workshops and participated in outdoor activities such as a captain ball and an

excursion to Gua Tempurung, Kampar.

There was also the presentation of certificates and souvenirs to the participants at the closing ceremony. The main sponsors for the training were Gua Tempurung Outdoor Camp and Restaurant Jia Kampar.

## Joint ICT workshop with DSU



Group photo after the opening

UTAR Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT) and Dongseo University, South Korea, (DSU) jointly organised a workshop on Computer Vision, Graphics and Interactive-Arts at Perak Campus from 26 to 30 January 2015.

The objectives of the joint workshop were to encourage networking and knowledge exchanges among the participants from South Korea, China, Indonesia and Malaysia, making it a valued platform for discussions on the recent technologies and

knowledge updates on computer vision, image processing, visualisation, graphics and interactive arts.

In his opening speech, UTAR Vice President for Internationalisation and Academic Development Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat said, "This workshop brings UTAR and DSU members together for networking and discussions which will help to pave the way for future project collaborations and advance research culture at both universities." DSU Prof Lee Byung Gook remarked, "DSU is a

collaborative partner of UTAR and we look forward to the mutual benefit of exploring new concepts that arise from the joint discussions." Also present at the opening ceremony were FICT Dean Dr Liew Song Yue, Chairperson Saw Seow Hui, DSU trainers, FICT lecturers, staff, participants as well as UTAR students.

The five-day workshop, conducted by 11 DSU trainers consisted of talks, demos, team building and an excursion to Gua Tempurung.

Organised by UTAR Department of Soft Skills Competency for 12 National University of Singapore (NUS) students, the New Village Collaborative Project ended with a closing ceremony at UTAR Perak Campus on 19 December 2014.

At the closing ceremony, both NUS Prof Albert Teo Chu Ying and UTAR Vice President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Assoc Prof Dr Teh Chee Seng expressed mutual thanks and appreciation to all parties for assisting in the NUS-New Village Collaborative Project.

Prof Teo elaborated that the NUS student gained better understanding of New Village community needs, their assets, dreams and aspirations through engagement in such community projects and field trips and looked forward to more NUS-UTAR collaborations in the coming years.

Dr Teh added that the experience has been very meaningful for UTAR students and hoped that the NUS students have gained more insights working with the communities and spending time with UTAR students.

The NUS students were split into three teams for the project which lasted from 12 to 19 December 2014. During the closing ceremony, they presented their research

## New Village Collaborative Project with NUS



Dr Teh (last row, third from right) and Prof Teo (last row, fourth from right) in a group photo with NUS and UTAR students

findings on the New Villages located in Kelantan. Their research provided insights into the villagers' background, languages, education, career, lifestyle and generational differences. They conducted their research by interviewing the villagers, visiting prominent

landmarks and tasting local delicacies.

The day ended with Dr Teh presenting a souvenir to Prof Teo and certificates of participation to the NUS students.

There was a mock cheque presentation ceremony by Kinta Saujana Properties Sdn Bhd to UTAR at the MH Unilodge Open House at Taman Siswa, Kampar on 25 January 2015. The ceremony marked Kinta Saujana Properties Sdn Bhd's generous sponsorship to UTAR Perak Campus basketball and table tennis teams for the second year in a row.

The mock cheque of RM10,000 was presented by Kinta Saujana Properties Sdn Bhd Director Khor Fong Sik alongside Man Hoe Construction Director Cheng Heng Choy to UTAR Vice President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Assoc Prof Dr Teh Chee Seng. Also present at the ceremony were UTAR Department of Student Affairs (Perak Campus) Sports and Recreation Unit representative Adrin Yeap Wai Kuan, UTAR basketball players as well as table tennis players.

Cheng said it was a worthy cause to be able to sponsor sportsmen and sportswomen of UTAR. He added, "We are glad to know that the teams from UTAR had won several national and state titles in both the basketball and table tennis competitions. This sponsorship is a part of our Corporate Social Responsibility project and a form of

## Sponsorship for sports



Khor (third from left) presenting the mock cheque to Dr Teh (third from right) while Cheng (fourth from left), Yeap (second from right) and UTAR sportsmen look on

goodwill between Kinta Saujana Properties and UTAR."

In his speech, Dr Teh thanked Khor for his generosity towards UTAR and added, "UTAR basketball and table tennis players have achieved a lot and it would not have been possible without the continuous support and sponsorship from Kinta Saujana

Properties."

Yeap informed that the money would be used for training and participation in more friendly matches held around the country as well as to purchase jerseys and sports equipment required for their training and competition.

The Vice President of the China Executive Leadership Academy in Pudong (CELAP) Shanghai, Prof Jiang Haishan and its Department of International Exchange and Programme Development Deputy Director, Wu Baojin visited UTAR on 16 January 2015 to explore opportunities for collaborations and to pave the way for a closer working relationship.

On hand to welcome them were UTAR senior management team led by UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik.

The meeting commenced with Prof Chuah's welcome address and presentation of UTAR corporate video. In his address, Prof Chuah elaborated on UTAR's history, milestones and programmes, adding that "UTAR is a university by the people, for the people with a commitment towards educational excellence in teaching, research and community service." He also extended an invitation to the delegates to visit the pristine UTAR Perak Campus.

Prof Jiang thanked UTAR for the warm reception and expressed delight in meeting educators in Malaysia. He briefed on CELAP's objective which is in line with the China government's emphasis on leadership training for its senior officers. Prof Jiang added, "CELAP is a government funded academy and in 2014, we trained one thousand international participants from 126

## CELAP visits UTAR



Prof Chuah (right) presenting a souvenir to Prof Jiang

countries, including Malaysia."

Prof Cheng Ming Yu, the Director of Institute of Management and Leadership Development (IMLD) gave an overview of IMLD as well as its training programmes for

business leaders and government officials and courses on current topics such as Islamic Finance. IMLD is recognised by the State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs (SAFEA), China.

UTAR Taekwondo team won a haul of one gold, two silver and three bronze medals at Mahsa University Invitational Taekwondo Championship which was held on 29 November 2014 at Mahsa University, Kuala Lumpur.

The invitational Taekwondo Championship is an inter-university championship organised by Mahsa University and endorsed by *Persatuan Taekwondo Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur*. More than 100 students participated in the competition and they were from Mahsa University, UTAR, Management and Science University and Universiti Tun Abdul Razak.

The competition aimed to be a platform for students to gain more exposure through competition as well as to nurture interaction among students from the different universities.

There were six male students and one female student in UTAR team led by Taekwondo coach Ting Siew Chuan and Department of Student Affairs staff Ganavenoth Karunakaran. The categories that they contested were sparring and poomsae (defined pattern of defence-and-attack motions).

The respective winners for Sparring category C were Ahmed Ibrahim (Gold), Tung Guan Yao (Silver) and Bong Weoi

## Taekwondo Championship



Triumphant smiles from UTAR winners and their coach, Ting (second row, centre)

Khang (Bronze). The winners for Poomsae Green Belt category were Ong Kai Sheng (Silver) and Ahmed Ibrahim (Bronze).

Tessy Cheoy Yee won a bronze medal for Poomsae Yellow Belt category.

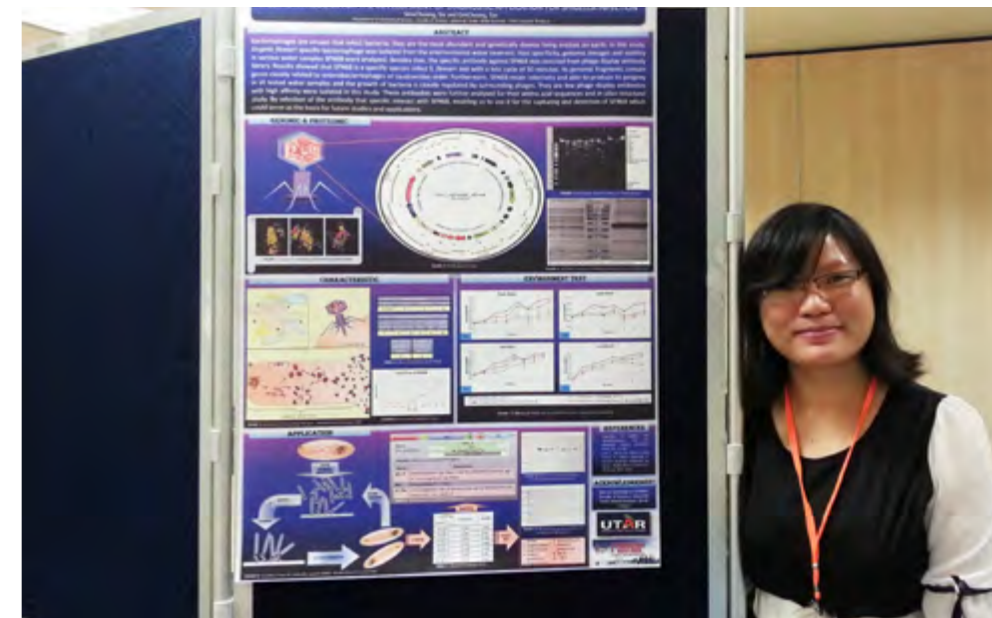
## Best Poster Award in BSGC 2014

UTAR Master of Science student Sia Siew Chuiang clinched the Best Poster Award in the 19th Biological Sciences Graduate Congress (BSGC) held at National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore from 12 to 14 December 2014.

Sia won the Best Poster Award in the Cell, Molecular and Development Biology category for her presentation titled 'Characterisation of SFN6B *Shigella flexneri* specific bacteriophages and selection of specific antibodies for the development of diagnostic application for *Shigella* infection.' She received a certificate and an NUS souvenir for winning the Best Poster Award.

Sia's project aimed to isolate *Shigella flexneri* specific bacteriophage, SFN6B from the environmental water reservoir and analyse the host specificity, genomic lineages and viability in the various water samples of SFN6B. The selection of the antibody that specifically interacts with SFN6B enables it to be used for the capturing and detection of SFN6B which could serve as the basis for future studies and application.

"I am glad that my poster presentation attracted the interest of the researchers and judges at the congress," said Sia. Apart from



Sia with her award-winning poster

thanking her family members and friends for their support and encouragement, she also expressed her gratitude to her supervisor, Dr Tan Gim Cheong, for his patience and dedication in supervising and correcting her project.

BSGC is an annual congress that

provides the platform for graduate students and delegates from universities in South East Asia to exchange ideas and present the latest findings from their research. The congress also builds bridges to establish future collaborations among young scientists.

Team members Lawrence Lee Chun Pei and Tan Teck Yin emerged as the national champion in the SAP Lumira University Challenge with their project titled 'War and Armed Conflict in Africa'. They were one of the seven UTAR teams who made it into the top 10 finalists of the competition which was held on 16 December 2014.

The UTAR winning team then represented Malaysia to compete in the regional round of the competition; against top three winners from South East Asia countries comprising Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia and Philippines.

Both Tan and Lee are third-year Bachelor of Information Systems (Hons) Business Information Systems students of the UTAR Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT). They bagged home a trophy, a Samsung Tab and a certificate of participation each.

The winning duo attributed their win to adopting a learning attitude with the aims of gaining exposure to new technology and the joy of participation. Their preparations for the competition required teamwork, self-discipline and time management in juggling assignments and related workload. They also expressed their appreciation to friends as well as to their mentor, FICT lecturer and experienced SAP consultant Su Lee Seng who gave invaluable advice on how to refine their competition ideas.

Organised by software leader SAP, the Lumira University Challenge 2014 aimed to bring awareness to economic, social and environmental issues using the SAP Lumira visualisation tool. The national finals competition was sponsored by Hilti Malaysia.

## National champion in SAP Lumira Challenge 2014



Tan (right) posing with SAP Malaysia Managing Director Bernard Chiang (second from right), Su and SAP staff Alicia Woo. Lee was not present at the award presentation ceremony

Norlaily Mohd Ali and Boo Lily, both PhD candidates from Faculty of Medicine and Health Science, won two out of three Best Poster Awards at the International Medical Genetics Conference (IMGC) which took place from 3 to 5 December 2014 at Putra World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur.

IMCG 2014 was organised by the Medical Genetics Society of Malaysia with the aim of highlighting the advances in the medical field to improve cancer care with the latest DNA technologies such as targeted treatments, prevention and prognosis.

Norlaily's research, titled "Next-generation sequencing of miRNA (microRNA) of hypoxic cultured BM-MSC, the possibility for cancer therapy" and Lily's "Differential miRNAs profiling expression associated with three-dimensional structure of cancer stem cell-like spheroid model derived from human breast cancer MCF7 cells using Next Generation Sequencing (NGS)", incorporated the latest sequencing platform available in Malaysia, "Illumina next generation sequencing" to elucidate the expression profiles of small Ribonucleic Acid (RNAs).

This new technology has introduced time and cost advantages over the first-

generation sequencing, Sanger sequencing.

As emphasised by the plenary speaker Dr Marcel Nelen (Netherlands), the use of NGS is not just limited

to research but also for clinical and diagnostic settings.

The projects were under the supervision of Assoc Prof Dr Alan Ong and co-supervision of Emeritus Prof Dr Cheong Soon Keng. Both the award recipients were grateful for the UTAR Research Fund as well as the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation E-Science Fund (2012-2014) for funding the projects and to their team members which included collaborator, Dr Yeap Swee Keong, from Institute Bioscience, Universiti Putra Malaysia and Dr Ho Wan Yong from The University of Nottingham, Malaysia Campus.

The conference attracted over 500 participants covering a range of experts in the medical genetic fields from renowned public and private universities and also private organisations in Malaysia.

## Best Poster Awards in IMCG 2014



Norlaily (left) and Lily (right) with their award-winning posters

UTAR Master of Computer Science student Tan Ching Soon won the Best Paper Award in the International Workshop on Advance Image Technology (IWAIT) 2015 held at National Cheng Kung University (NCKU), Taiwan from 11 January to 13 January 2015. IWAIT 2015 is a maiden joint effort by IWAIT and International Forum on Medical Imaging in Asia (IFMIA).

Tan submitted two papers to IWAIT, and one of the papers titled "A tracking scheme for Norway lobster and burrow abundance estimation in underwater video sequences" won one of the best paper awards. The award winning paper, which Tan co-authored with Dr Lau Phooi Yee, Prof Paulo Correia, Dr Aida Campos and Paulo Fonseca was a proposal on a unified visual tracking technique used to deliver a video-based abundance of the Norway lobster and its biological feature, burrow, by scanning the underwater video footage obtained from the underwater remote operated vehicle.

The final selection for the award involved two evaluation rounds; the first was based on the camera ready paper quality and the second was on the presentation of the research topic with evaluation from the specially selected technical committee.

"I spent almost two months to complete this paper, and I had several rehearsals to prepare myself for the oral presentation with the guidance from my supervisor, Dr Lau, and the members from the Portuguese Institute for the Ocean and Atmosphere (IPMA), Prof Paulo Correia, Dr Aida and Paulo Fonseca. This achievement is due to the joint team effort and university support through the Research Grant Project," said Tan.

## Best Paper Award in IWAIT 2015



From left: Prof Chung (Conference General Chair of IWAIT & IFMIA 2015), Dr Lau, Tan and Prof Nakajima (IWAIT Advisory Committee)

## Publication in clinical neurology journal

Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Land Science (LKC FES) Department of Mechatronics and Biomedical Engineering Asst Prof Dr Tee Yee Kai co-authored a research paper which was published online on 6 January 2015 in Brain, one of the most reputable clinical neurology journals.

The paper titled "Identifying the ischaemic penumbra using pH-weighted magnetic resonance imaging" was also featured as the Editor's Choice for

Brain's January issue. The paper aimed at establishing the proof of principle for clinical use of pH-weighted MRI in patients with acute ischaemic stroke; revealing that cerebral intracellular pH - a marker of metabolic stress, is associated with eventual tissues outcome.

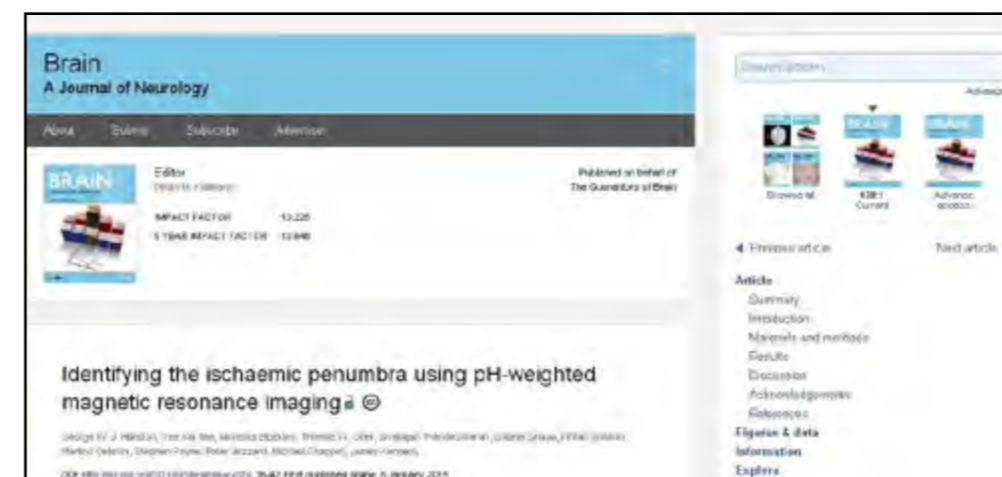
"This recognition is definitely a motivation for me to strive for excellence and to continue publishing in reputable journals. Such a publication in this reputable



Dr Tee

journal re-affirms our University's research culture and I thank my alma mater, the University of Oxford in UK, for the support in facilities and funding," said Dr Tee.

Dr Tee also expressed his gratitude to his former colleagues and collaborators at Oxford University; his PhD supervisors, Oxford Acute Vascular Imaging Centre and the staff of Oxford Acute Stroke Programme for making the publication possible.



A screenshot of the paper on Brain's online portal



Dato' Seri Ong (centre) flanked by Prof Ewe and Chua (on his right and left) along with judges, sponsors and members of the organising committee during the opening ceremony

Actuary Today 2015 proved to be a resounding success in nurturing the awareness of actuary with the supportive presence of industry experts, academics, students and even professional actuaries from Hong Kong. It attracted student participants from a total of 47 institutions of learning inclusive of UTAR and secondary schools.

The event, held at UTAR Kuala Lumpur Campus from 28 January to 1 February 2015 was organised by the UTAR Actuarial Science Society with the partnership support of the Society of Actuaries (SOA) and the Actuarial Society of Malaysia (ASM).

Aptly themed as 'Embrace the Uncertainties', the event served as a bridge to link the knowledge at UTAR with the industry and networking with other students and the wider community. Ultimately, it helped

to dispel the myth of actuarial science as mere calculations of numbers, and to stimulate the interests of both the public and younger generation in actuarial science.

Actuary Today 2015 had a new component which was the Actuarial Conference in addition to the three regular components of Actuarial Exposition, Actuarial Competition, and Actuarial Challenge that were organised in the earlier years.

Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan was the Guest of Honour at the opening ceremony of Actuary Today 2015 which was held on 31 January 2015. Also present at the ceremony were UTAR Vice President for Internationalisation and Academic Development Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, UTAR Lee Kong

# Spotlight on



The guests and VIPs during the opening ceremony

Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) Deputy Dean Dr Lai Soon Onn, Assistant General Manager and Chief Actuary Munich Re Hong Kong branch Simon Lam Yat Tung, Vice President and Head of General Insurance Committee of ASM Kelvin Hii Chee Yun, SOA Programmes Manager Dr Yung Wai Ling (from Hong Kong), Organising Chairman of Actuary Today 2015 Chua Jia Rong, other guests, students, and judges as well as representatives of the sponsors which are SOA, Berjaya Sompo Insurance Berhad, and Persatuan Insurans

Am Malaysia.

In his speech, Dato' Seri Ong emphasised the importance of actuarial science and said, "Actuary Today 2015 is a very timely and important activity to complement the government's aim of enhancing human capital in the creation of knowledge based society. As the country advances to developed nation status there will be more career opportunities for actuaries," he said, after lauding the efforts of the organising committee.

Prof Ewe in his address added that the event exemplified UTAR's commitment to quality

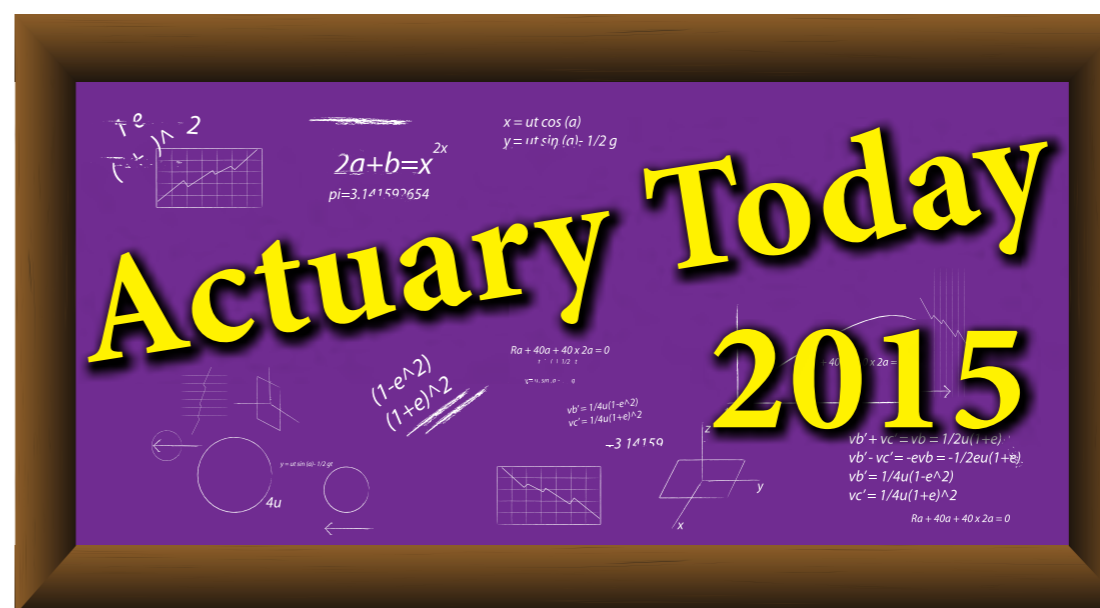
education by drawing on its academic resources to benefit students and the community in promoting the awareness on actuarial science. Students learned leadership skills, teamwork and coordination through organising Actuary Today 2015 which involved participation from schools, universities, actuary societies and industry partners.

The lecturer-in-charge of the event was the Chairperson for the Centre for Mathematical Sciences Dr Chua Kuan Chin. Forty UTAR Actuarial Science student volunteers, led by the organising chairman Chua were actively involved in fund-raising, logistics and promotional activities for Actuary Today 2015.

Chua, a third year UTAR Actuarial Science student enthused that one of the main goals in organising the event is to clear the misconception of the public towards actuarial science and to motivate the current Actuarial Science students, including the juniors to pursue their dream paths to be actuaries. "Actuary Today is a big event and we started planning since July 2014. By organising this event, my team



Chua taking the VIPs on a tour of the Exposition



The judges for Actuary Today 2015 were Kelvin Hii Chee Yun from ASM, Simon Lam Yat Tung from Munich Re Hong Kong branch and Alvin Lim Jun Sum from Lonpac Insurance Berhad. Lee Voon Chung from Berjaya Insurance Berhad was the Actuarial Challenge question setter. The representatives for the sponsors were Dr Yung Wai Ling for Society of Actuaries, James Choi Weng Hon for Berjaya Sompo Insurance Berhad and Frances Yew from Persatuan Insurans Am Malaysia.

UTAR representatives presenting to the judges in the Actuarial Challenge

and I learned a lot about communication, leadership skills and time management." He further said, "I have noted the advice from Kelvin Hii, the Vice President of ASM that what we do today will make an impact on others."

The Universiti Malaya team emerged as the champion of the Actuarial Challenge while Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) team were the first runner-up, and the UTAR team came out as the second runner-up. The winning teams won RM3,000, RM2,000, and RM1,000 respectively.



The organising committee together with the judges and speakers during closing ceremony



The USIM team introducing themselves



(From left) Ching Ing Chian from ASM, Seow Fan Chong from Sunway University, Yee WenLi from JPWALL Consulting partners and the host Dennis Ng in the Town Hall Meeting during the conference

UTAR students gained significant insights during the 'Life is Beautiful, Integrate It' event held at Heritage Building, UTAR Perak Campus from 19 to 22 January 2015.

The four-day event comprised the 'Life Hacks' exhibition, a non-smoking campaign, a safety campaign, a flea market and the 'Protect, Save and Integrate' talk series. The 'Life Hacks' exhibition offers strategies and techniques on how to manage our time and daily activities in a more efficient way. The safety campaign exposes reasons why people get involved in drugs and the consequences of drug addiction.

During the 'Protect, Save and Integrate' talk series, professional insights were given by speakers from the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC), Royal Malaysia Police (*Police Diraja Malaysia*), Malaysia Crime Prevention Foundation and Malaysian Intellectual Property Association.

## Life is Beautiful, Integrate It



Organising committee of the event relishing in their successful team effort

Head of Student Sector, Community Education Division of MACC Siti Zakiah binti Che Man gave a talk titled 'A Brief Overview of MACC and the Initiatives to Prevent Corruption under GTP 2.0'. GTP 2.0 is an extension of GTP 1.0, launched by the government in 2011 and achieved almost all targets as promised. Under GTP 2.0, new initiatives and targets have been identified for the period of 2013 until 2015.

A talk titled 'Cybercrime Awareness and Challenges' was delivered by DSP Yeap Yoke Peng from the Cybercrime Investigation Division, Commercial Crime Investigation Department of Royal Police Malaysia.

DSP Yeap explained on the types of computer crimes such as cross border intellectual property, licensing issues, and organised crime networks such as human trafficking, drugs and terrorism utilising the internet for communication and the challenges to control the cross border transfer of intellectual property such as the subscription to pornography and gambling sites by Malaysians.

Organised by the Crime Prevention Society of UTAR Perak Campus, the 'Life is Beautiful, Integrate It' event aimed to impart knowledge regarding safety and share tips that make daily life more convenient for the UTAR Community.



An overview of the flea market selling clothes, accessories, beauty products and electronic gadgets



DSP Yeap (seated front, fourth from right) posing for a group photo with the students after her talk



Siti Zakiah sharing insights about MACC and its initiatives



(Back row from left) Ant-Traffie, Ant-Cheffie, Ant-Fixie, Ant-Greenie and Ant-Lovie posing with (front row from left) Dr Alia, Dr Teh and Chia

Chinese New Year celebration came early for a group of Public Relations (PR) students as they ushered in the festive season in conjunction with the Soft Launch of PR Campaign 2014/2015: Volunteerism IV at UTAR Perak Campus on 2 February 2015.

Themed "Togetherness", the soft launch was organised by the same batch of PR students who earlier kick-started a series of scintillating fund-raising activities in November 2014 for the upcoming PR Campaign.

The VIPs invited to grace the soft launch included UTAR Vice President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Assoc Prof Dr Teh Chee Seng, Dean of Faculty of Arts and Social Science (FAS) Dr Alia Azalea and Head of Department of Public Relations Pong Kok Shiong, who were greeted by the 24-Festive Drums and lion dance performances by UTAR Wushu Club members.



Sprightly performances by the PR students

## Soft Launch of PR Campaign



UTAR Wushu Club students performing the 24-Festive drums and lion dance to welcome the VIPs

The campaign's main director Chia Yi Jing first extended her gratitude to the VIPs and proceeded to introduce PR Campaign 2014/2015: Volunteerism IV as part of their coursework. "The main objectives of this campaign are to improve the lives of Kamparians and to make Kampar a better place. We will focus on volunteerism work and activities on five different aspects of social needs, namely Road Safety, Food Tourism, Vandalism, Environment and Charity.

All five groups will organise an in-campus and an outreach event respectively ranging from musical drama, food exhibition to community projects to raise awareness based on the five sub-themes." She also added that the soft launch acts as a warm up to the grand launching ceremony at the end of February 2015.

Dr Alia commented that the PR Campaign serves as a golden opportunity for the students to be exposed to real life situations while planning and managing events and to groom them for their career advancement in the future. Dr Teh concurred and said, "In UTAR, students don't just graduate with certificates but also with the sense of giving back to the community." He also stressed that such activities will enable UTAR graduates to leave their alma mater with a sense of pride for they know they have achieved something in life which is more important.

The soft launch also saw the introduction of the five Campaign Mascots, namely Group One's "Ant-Traffie" for Road Safety, Group Two's "Ant-Cheffie" for Food Tourism, Group Three's "Ant-Fixie" for Vandalism, Group Four's "Ant-Greenie" for Environment and Group Five's "Ant-Lovie" for Charity. According to Chia, ants signify diligence and unity. These values are shown through the continuous efforts of the students in carrying out the campaign and at the same time, displaying the value of togetherness, which is also the theme of this Chinese New Year event.

Following the introduction of the iconic mascots and several animated performances was a special guests appearance session which saw local Chinese movie "The Dream Boyz" Director Ryon Lee and casts including Alvin Chong, Fuying and Sam, Rayz Lim, Teddy Chin, Joe Chang promoting their upcoming movie which premiered on 12 February 2015. The soft launch concluded with an autograph session.

Over 100 Wushu exponents throughout the Peninsular of Malaysia competed in the two-day 2015 UTAR National Sanda and Tuishou Open Championship held at Dewan Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik, UTAR Perak Campus from 17 to 18 January 2015.

Organised by UTAR in collaboration with UTAR Wushu Club and Federation of Wushu, Dragon and Lion Dance of Perak, the championship was divided into two categories, Sanda and Tuishou. It aimed to raise the standard of Wushu through networking and exchange of knowledge with Wushu enthusiasts from other universities and associations.

Vice President of MCA Perak State Liaison Committee Dato' Dr Ooi Jing Ting represented the guest of honour, Perak State EXCO Member Dato' Dr Mah Hang Soon, and Dato' Ooi officiated the opening ceremony.

Also present at the opening



Sanda fighting competition in progress

ceremony were President of Wushu Federation of Malaysia and Federation of Wushu, Dragon and Lion Dance of Perak Dato' Martin Lim Soon Seng, Vice President of Wushu Federation of Malaysia Dato' Lim Siew San, UTAR Vice President Assoc Prof Dr Teh Chee Seng and Organising Chairperson Chong Jia Jun.

In his address, Dato' Ooi congratulated the organising committee and UTAR students for their efforts in organising the event and elaborated on the benefits of wushu, especially in improving one's physical and mental health. Dato' Lim in his address remarked that such a competition would help to spread the real spirit of Wushu

and enhanced shared learning among Wushu enthusiasts while Chong, in his welcome address emphasised on sportsmanship and thanked all parties for the support in organising the competition.

Ten out of 26 participants in the UTAR Wushu team won 10 medals (one gold, four silver and five bronze).



There was an early Chinese New Year (CNY) celebration at UTAR Sungai Long Campus, which was jointly organised by the Department of Student Affairs, UTAR Student Representative Council together with 16 other student clubs and societies for the Sungai Long township community.

The CNY Carnival held on 1 February 2015 aimed to promote understanding of Chinese culture and to bring early festive cheer to the community through engaging activities such as Chinese cultural performances and musical shows of songs and dance.

The event was jointly officiated by UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik and the representative from Prime Minister's Department, Department of National Unity and National Integration Chief Assistant Director Ruzylawati Binti Mustapha Kamar.

In his welcome address, Prof Chuah said that the CNY Carnival is one of the innovative approaches by UTAR to bring together the diverse groups in the community to better understand each other's culture and customs.

The launch was spectacular with the presence of "Choy San Yeh" (Chinese God of Wealth and Prosperity) mascot, lion dance and drum play that accompanied the guests for a tour to the event venue. The crowd



Opening ceremony: After the "Cai Qing" or "Plucking the Greens"

applauded as the prancing lions performed the 'Cai Qing' or 'plucking the greens' act with the unveiling of the CNY scroll.

Adding to the festive spirit were demos on Chinese creative arts such as Chinese yo-yo, the ancient Chinese dramatic art of face mask changing, calligraphy and colouring competitions. There were booths to sell food

and drinks and stage performances by UTAR songbirds and students, Chinese orchestra, wushu, taekwondo, and Muay Thai clubs.

There was also free health screening conducted by the UTAR Traditional and Complementary Medicine team for the public and support from the local radio station MY FM "Te Gong Dui" crew.

## CNY Carnival 2015

## National Sanda and Tuishou Open Championship

## Early Childhood Education Week

UTAR Early Childhood Studies Department Faculty of Creative Industries (FCI) organised its first Early Childhood Education (ECE) Week at the Petaling Jaya Campus from 17 November until 21 November 2014. The timing was most apt as the event was held just after Malaysia's National Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Week, which was launched on 11 October 2014.

ECE week was celebrated with a series of activities including an exhibition, performances, workshops, competitions, a guest talk and a prize giving ceremony. It was a platform to promote awareness on professional development and career pathways for ECE educators as well as to engage industry practitioners with lecturers and students on the importance of quality and professionalism in early childhood care and education.

Present at the ribbon-cutting ceremony to officiate the ECE week was the FCI staff, including the Dean Dr Chin Yee Mun, Deputy Dean of Academic Thinavan a/l Periyayya, Deputy Dean of Research and Development Raduan bin Sharif, Deputy Dean of Student Affairs David Tneh Cheng Eng, heads of departments, students,



All smiles for ECE week

lecturers and guests.

After the opening ceremony, there was a guided tour of the exhibition which displayed students' teaching aid materials, followed by a puppet show which was conducted by the ECE students.

There were poem and drawing competitions on the second and fourth days, with six concurrent workshops on the third day. These workshops, which included a

special workshop on helping children with special needs, were conducted by the Early Childhood Studies Department lecturers with assistance from the students.

The final day saw sketch performances, a talk by Patricia Teh, the founder and owner of Peter & Jane Kindergarten and industry advisor to UTAR and prize presentations to the winners of the poem and drawing competitions at the closing ceremony.

## Japanese and Korean Culture Festival

It was a fun-filled weekend for participants of the Japanese-Korean Culture Festival 2015, held in UTAR Petaling Jaya Campus from 10 to 11 January 2015. The two-day event was organised by UTAR Centre for Extension Education and Korean Language House. The festival was supported by sponsors and merchants who set up nearly two dozen booths promoting Korean and Japanese culture, products, food, art craft, make-up and photo booths, as well as language courses.

The performances included Japanese rock, a K-pop dance competition, traditional dances and performances by artists such as Erul and Dior. There were hairstyling demonstrations, traditional games such as Tuho (Pitch-pot), a Korean game that dates back nearly a thousand years, and movie screenings.

The festival also saw Malaysian students performing the popular traditional Korean songs - *Arirang* and *Trot*. They were led by Kim Eun Kyung, a teacher from Korea who is currently attached with Korean Tradition (KTO) Malaysia. These performing students

are learning Korean culture at KTO Malaysia.

Fifteen groups competed in the K-pop dance competition and the group 'Seven Degrees' won first place and was awarded a

trophy and prizes. A lucky draw at the end resulted in twenty participants winning exclusive hotel vouchers and prizes.



An energetic K-pop dance



## Run with Nature Trekathon 2014

UTAR Department of Student Affairs Sports and Recreation Unit organised this year's Trekathon with the theme of 'Run with Nature' at Taman Botani Selangor, Shah Alam on 16 November 2014.

The event attracted more than 700 participants comprising students, staff, lecturers and others from the UTAR community. The objectives of the Trekathon were twofold; to promote a healthy lifestyle amongst the UTAR community and to raise funds for UTAR Sports Exchange Programme which benefits the UTAR sports teams in terms of cultural exchanges and friendly competitions with teams from other institutions of higher learning in different states as well as the neighbouring countries.

Daniel Lai and Lin Chew Ying both from Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) were the respective winners for UTAR Student Men and Women Categories. Muhammad Albarr from Faculty of Creative Industries was the winner for UTAR Staff Men Category and the winner for UTAR Staff Women Category was Koo Chai Hon from LKC FES. Cheung Jun Wen



All smiles after the run

from Kuala Lumpur and Siti Nur Aisyah from UNITEN were the respective winners for Open Men and Women Categories.

Fostering more togetherness and friendliness at the event were the lively and entertaining wushu performances by the

UTAR students.

The sponsors for this year's event were Permata CNA Development Sdn Bhd, UTAR Canteen Management and FotoRex.

## Visit to Divine Mercy Boys' Home

UTAR Corporate Communication final year students from Faculty of Creative Industries visited Divine Mercy Boys' Home in Kepong on 31 January 2015. The students were accompanied by their lecturer Anita binti Morah Abas and tutor Woon Chun Meng.

The aims of the visit were to bring Chinese New Year festive cheer to the children through engagement with Chinese cultural activities as well as the donations of books and school shoes. It was an opportunity for the students to experience community work in helping the needy and the unfortunate.

After a warm welcome by the administrator of Divine Mercy Boys' Home, Julie Doss and the children, there were an introduction speech and an icebreaking session. The students guided the children on the art of calligraphy and the making of *tangyuan*, a traditional Chinese dessert. The children were thrilled to actually practice the

art of writing Chinese phrases and proverbs. And Woon brought smiles and laughter to the children with his talent in customising balloons into different shapes.

Julie said, "It is wonderful to have students coming over to share Chinese culture with the children as these activities are educational." She thanked

the students for organising such a meaningful activity as the children at the home are either orphans or they come

from broken homes with little opportunity for education. The visit ended with a photo session and lunch.



All smiles with the calligraphy scrolls

Students from Klang Valley Campuses joined hands in organising a successful Giving Back! Campaign from 4 to 7 November 2014 and from 10 to 12 November 2014.

The volunteers, comprising students from the Faculty of Creative Industries, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Faculty of Accountancy and Management and Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science, were enrolled in UTAR's compulsory co-curricular units, namely, Community Project, Social Entrepreneurship, Arts and Cultural Performance Project, and Theatre.

The Community Project and Social Entrepreneurship students visited non-governmental organisations (NGOs) such as Tanma Women Centre, Jumble Station, Beautiful Gate Foundation, Women's Aid Organisation, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), Kechara Soup Kitchen, Rumah Shalom and

## Giving Back Campaign

Rumah Hope. These students have earlier spent some time with their chosen NGOs to provide the respective services such as spring cleaning at the orphanages and volunteering to distribute food to the homeless.

The students also helped to organise fund-raising activities such as selling flowers and postcards, candies and cookies, and handmade soaps by refugees from Myanmar as well as promoting the NGOs' activities and recruiting new volunteers.

Among other highlights of the campaign held at Sungai Long Campus was the presence of SPCA's pet ambassadors, Cookie and Zoey. Pyo Ng from SPCA also delivered a talk to students on the proper way of caring and handling animals as well as introduced SPCA's work.

Students of the Theatre class performed a drama based on the movie, 'Rise of the Guardians' to students at the Kuala Lumpur



Pyo Ng (seated front, left) posing for a group photo with the students and pets

Campus. At the Sungai Long Campus, students of the Arts and Cultural Performance Project put up a drama based on the story of a group of villagers

in Malaysia who have come to accept their similarities and differences in order to overcome a tragedy.

A group of 23 UTAR volunteers led by Faculty of Arts and Social Science lecturer Teh Boon Teck went down to the ground for community service work at Kampung Baru Jeram, Kampar, Perak on 14 December 2014.

The purpose of the community service was to help Maria, a single Malay woman to clean her house and give her a better living environment.

Teh first heard about Maria from another student. "I suggested Journalism student Wong Qun Ting to recruit some

## Cheer for Maria

manpower through Facebook and organise this activity. Initially, I thought that the number of volunteers would be lesser as it was during the exam week. It's so touching that over 20 students turned out. I hope this will inspire more students to help the needy in the community through action," said Teh.

The volunteers who arrived at Maria's house early in the morning rolled up their sleeves to start the cleaning chores while

a few shared some light moments with Maria.

"With all the hard work, we managed to complete the spring cleaning mission within 10 hours. We have brought Maria gas, food, and other daily products," said Wong. She added that there were also good samaritans who donated mattress, pillow and even a shelf. These kind-hearted people also managed to raise RM1,475 in total, to which Maria expressed

her heartfelt gratitude.

The volunteers revisited Maria on 25 January 2015 to Maria's surprise and joy. They also spent some time cleaning the environment and catching up with her.



Maria



Students getting down to work

## 台湾文学与文化传播讲座暨



一众嘉宾和与会者在八打灵校区中华研究院合影。

## 电影欣赏交流会

由拉曼大学中华研究中心现代文学研究组、国立台湾大学台湾文学所、马来亚大学中文系与语言学系、新纪元学院中文系于2015年1月22日联办了《台湾文学与文化传播》讲座暨电影欣赏交流会。

此次会议邀得台大台文所所长黄美娥教授、前所长洪淑苓教授、苏硕斌教授以及张文薰教授前来进行学术与文化交流。当日出席的嘉宾除了本校中华研究院院长张晓威副教授、系主任陈中和博士、讲师廖冰凌博士等一众师生外，马来亚大学出席交流会的代表有潘碧华博士、陈湘琳博士、蔡晓玲博士，还有新纪元学院中文系伍燕翎主任以及罗燕婷讲师。

张院长致开幕词时表示马来西亚早期的学人中多有留台经历，而且他们在文学上的表现可说是得益于当年台湾的栽培，让今日的马来西亚华人在此方面拥有不俗的成就。

另外，台文所代表洪淑苓教授致词时表示此次交流会的缘起，乃

是“知识传播与文化交流——台湾文学与马华文学多元关系之探究”合作计划的一项活动。该计划由国立台湾大学台湾文学研究所执行，并获得2014年度教育部补助，马来亚大学中文系和语言学系、拉曼大学中文系以及新纪元学院中文系是此研究计划的参与单位，目的是藉学术活动提高台湾文学在马来西亚的能见度，与马华文学有所对话，形成良好的互动关系。

交流会于上午进行了两场与“台湾文学与文化传播”相关的讲座，即由洪淑苓教授主讲的《台湾现代诗的现与后现代》和苏硕斌教授主讲的《台湾文学中的旅行文学》。洪教授从台湾现代诗发展史的角度对台湾现代诗进行解读，谈到了各阶段的发展现象，包括古典风格、现代主义与后现代思潮等等。洪教授的诗歌赏析非常有趣，让与会者都很有共鸣。苏教授则从文学社会学角度出发，对1990年代台湾出现的旅行文学现象进行研究。内容论及新的旅行文学具有“

苦痛”的意涵，同时对旅行文学与游记之间的关联和异同作出深入的学理解释。

交流会的下午时段则是台湾本土电影《总铺师》的欣赏环节。《总铺师》是由台湾导演陈玉勋执导，描绘传统“办桌”文化，是台湾2013年唯一一部连续四周票房第一的本土电影。该剧无论在人物形象、对白和情节的设计上，都充满创意。尤其片中人物的幽默滑稽更是让全场与会者捧腹大笑，然而笑中带泪的剧情让人感动不已。

饭后，进入以《从电影看台湾的饮食文化与家族书写》为题电影论坛环节，与谈人为黄美娥所长、张文薰教授、陈湘琳博士及廖冰凌博士。黄所长认为，该片作为台湾贺岁片，启用的全是广告明星，通过食神、动漫、推理、武侠等多种元素打造通俗电影的形象效果。

活动尾声，主办单位安排了提问环节让主讲者和一众与会者围绕上午时段的两场讲座和电影及饮食文化展开讨论，互相分享心得。

## 爱薇谈其创作的文学路

由拉曼大学中华研究中心现代文学研究组于2015年1月28日所举办的《春华秋实·我的文学路》讲座，有幸邀得马华著名作家爱薇前来与学生们分享其创作心得和心路旅程。

爱薇表示，“能够坚持创作至今时今日不外乎内心的一种使命感。”真所谓“人不下鞍，马不停蹄”，只要自己的健康和精神状态允许，她都会继续创作。她更列举并分享了数位年过90高龄的作家、诗人如余光中、席慕容、杨绛等所秉持的创作精神，更以他们为学习的榜样。

作家的创作往往取决于其成长背景，爱薇也在会上娓娓道出她的成长背景以及如何和图书结下不解之缘。在同学们还在念简单的图画书和课本时，她已经从父亲藏在阁楼上的那箱文白参半、没有标点才子佳人或武侠故事书上积累

了一定的词汇，写出流畅的作文了。后来，在老师的鼓励之下，她更把稿寄去香港的《世界儿童》和《世界少年》，初尝作品被刊登的喜悦。

中学时期，她成为了家乡的第一位女中学生，而后在学校的图书馆担任工读生，让她开始了“博览群书”的日子。

另一波的创作生涯是在和前夫离婚后，她带着孩子从新

加坡回到家乡，为了生计重燃其写作的热诚。在那段期间她可堪称为一位多产作家，平均每天伏案书写八千多字。她为杂志写特稿、专访文章；为电台编写儿童和成人广播剧。虽然每天“埋首苦写”，但她却不认为那是一份苦差，反而乐在其中。后来，她更创办了一

本以青少年为对象，陪伴了不少中学生成长的《中学生》月刊。

爱薇的创作非常多元化，概括了散文、儿童报道文学、小说、亲子散文、旅游散文等。她在席上分享了其心血之作，如《因风而鸣——我的文学因缘》、《小羊的黎明》、《晚来风急》、《小镇的故事》、《两代情》、《亲情的呼唤——爱的世界》、《外面的世界真精彩》、《人海荡舟》等等。

爱薇在创作路上的努力不懈让在座的年轻学子们钦佩不已。最后的交流环节上，学生们与爱薇交流甚欢。当天的出席嘉宾包括中华研究院现代文学研究组李树枝博士、中文系讲师曾维龙博士及日语讲师叶蕙。



左起：李树枝、爱薇、叶蕙

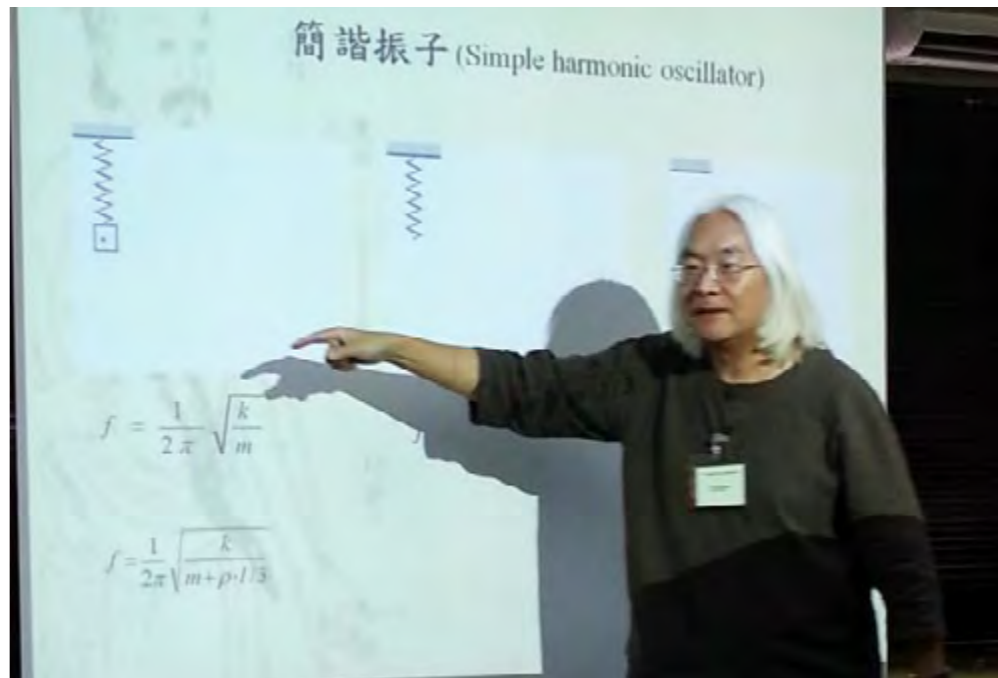
## 张翔教授谈李约瑟难题之正解

由拉曼大学中华研究中心汉学组与中医药研究中心于2015年1月28日合办了一场学术讲座，并有幸邀得台湾大学电子工程学系教授兼拉曼大学中医学系访问学人张翔教授前来主讲以《李约瑟难题之正解：中西自然哲学及科学之比较评论》为题的讲座。

张教授在讲座开始时阐述其研究动机，引用席文教授在《中国之科学及文明》的看法：（一）中医实属于中古世纪、（二）西医才合乎现代科学、而（三）中西医结合唯有在中医科学化及数字化后才有可能谈结合的问题，并强调（四）西医必须致力于以西方科学解释中医及其他医学后，方能一统天下。张教授认为只有立足于中华文化及哲学上，建立具有文化特色的科学后才能把中医现代化，与西医分庭抗礼。批评者认为中医不能以仪器试验检验，无数学描述，无逻辑推理，所以不科学。张教授以中医理论为基础、实验为主、数学及逻辑推理为辅，将传统中医予以现代表述，以期提出和西方医学分庭抗礼的体系。他深信中医更合乎真理，其物理世界观更合乎天人和谐之道，并可持续发展。

话锋一转，张教授叙述李约瑟提出的难题：为何中国早期科学和技术领先西方，但为何近代科学却是在西方建立，而非中国？张教授也举出历来的各种解答及其背景，他认为正确的解答必须满足两要件，（一）李约瑟难题主要是在谈近代科学，因此正解先要在科学的领域中寻找，找不着，才能看看次要或别的范畴以及（二）正解必须能解释为何以前能领先七个世纪，只是在最近两、三个世纪落后。

张教授接着分析中西方之自然哲学观，指出自然哲学是对自然之哲学研究，为自然科学之前身。比较后，张教授总结说中国的自然哲学观是气、阴阳、五行、天人合一；西方的自然哲学观则是原子、



张教授为大家解说中西物理世界观之异。

粒子碰撞，天人相分。他指出，李约瑟曾说中国人的物理世界观是连续体而非不连续的，是波而非原子的。更准确而言，中国人的物理世界观是连续体而非不连续的原子，是波和场的交互作用而非原子碰撞的。因此，西方近代物理及科学中的交互作用需要“粒子之碰撞”，而中国人的观点较为接近“场”的方式及波的交互作用。李约瑟指出“这波的概念，有时会抑制科学知识之进展”。中方的自然哲学及时空观涉及复杂动力系统、连续体及场之波动、周期性节律。定性描述和简单的定量描述在前17世纪之古时尚堪使用，例如四大发明、天文历法。到了近代，由于缺乏强有力的数学工具而逐渐捉襟见肘。张教授认为西方的还原论及机械观和中方的

整体论及有机哲学格格不入，所以西方近代科学不可能发生与中国。

张教授提出的分形连续体混沌波动论，既可解释为何可领先17世纪，例如四大发明；又可说明为何落后，近代数学对复杂性系统提出有效工具后，又可藉由古籍及古汉字、汉语之描述，重新把传统中医及古代科学予以现代表述，便可继续往开来。他举例说农业社会，日往夜来、潮起潮落、四季变化都是节律。人类亦处于此周行不殆之节律中。在地球，我们一般有日、月、季、年节律。而时间、空间、物质、辐射均与节律及周期运动有关。天、人乃各具特色之连续体，又均为大连续体中的一部分。这些连续体在统计上自我相似、有分形之结构，而其间之交互作用是以波和场的方式进行。由于各式各样频率和振幅的波都有，故命之为混沌波，此为分形连续体混沌波动论之由来。

尔后，张教授对近代科学进行比较和评论，指出试验及观察证伪西方“近代科学”、及近代物理中的原子论、量子论、原子核物理等等。而分形连续体混沌波动论才接近事实。基于先贤之有机自然哲学，所提出的“近代科学”架构可用于物理，也可应用于中医学，未来亦值得研究其能否成为格物之学。

张教授总结时说，西方近代科学没有产生于中国是因为它是错的，不完善的。基于有机自然哲学，利用强有力的数学工具，便可提出一个可以分庭抗礼的、整体论的国学，以便继续往开来。



中华研究院院长张晓威（右二）颁发纪念品给张翔教授（左二），由中华研究院副院长郑文泉（左一）和中医系主任郑建强（右一）见证。

# Pelajar UTAR anjur pesta *Ponggal*

Seramai 150 orang pelajar UTAR menyambut perayaan *Ponggal* dengan penuh kemeriahan dan kegembiraan di *Sri Nagamman Hindu Temple*, Kampar pada 7 Februari 2015. Dianjurkan oleh persatuan pelajar UTAR yang dikenali sebagai *Indian Culture and Language Society*, majlis tersebut dirasmikan oleh pengerusi penganjur Sivaraj a/l Lingraj diiringi dengan kehadiran beberapa pensyarah dan staf termasuk penasihat persatuan Meera Devarajoo.

Perayaan *Ponggal* atau lebih dikenali sebagai perayaan menuai, pada kebiasaannya diraikan oleh masyarakat



Aktiviti memasak *Ponggal*



Persembahan dan permainan tradisional India sedang dijalankan

*Tamil* India selama empat hari berturut-turut bermula 13 hingga 16 Januari mengikut kalendar *Gregorian*. Perayaan menuai ini disambut meriah sebagai tanda penghargaan kepada *Suriyan Bhagavan* (Dewa Suria) kerana *Suriyan* atau matahari ialah sumber tenaga utama dan kebanyakan tenaga yang digunakan di Bumi terutamanya dalam pertanian berasal daripada matahari.

Majlis tersebut dimulakan seawal jam 7 pagi dengan aktiviti memasak *Ponggal* menggunakan ramuan seperti beras baru, susu, gula dan minyak sapi. Selepas memasak *Ponggal*, majlis tersebut diteruskan dengan upacara sembahyang sebagai tanda penghargaan kepada *Suriyan Bhagavan*.

Serentak dengan majlis tersebut, pihak penganjur turut menganjurkan beberapa acara permainan tradisi India termasuk permainan seperti mengigit tebu, menganyam *toranam* (daun kelapa) dan *uri addithal* (memecah belanga dengan menutup mata).

“Aktiviti ini merupakan satu aktiviti yang cukup baik kerana dapat memberi pendedahan kepada pelajar tentang budaya masyarakat India di negara ini seterusnya mencerminkan perpaduan yang terjalin dalam kalangan pelajar UTAR yang berbilang bangsa,” kata Shivaraj.

Beliau juga menambah, “Walaupun majlis ini tidak melibatkan ramai pelajar daripada kaum-kaum lain, namun penyertaan pelajar Cina dalam permainan mengigit tebu dan *uri addithal* amat bermakna bagi persatuan kami dan ia turut memeriahkan perjalanan aktiviti kami pada hari tersebut. Saya juga berharap pelajar-pelajar UTAR akan terus memberi sokongan dan menyertai semua aktiviti anjuran persatuan tanpa mengira kaum supaya dapat berkongsi budaya dan mengeratkan hubungan antara satu sama lain.”

Sebelum bersurai, para hadirin disajikan dengan makanan daun pisang berkonsepkan *vegetarian* dan juga dengan manisan yang dikenali sebagai *Laddu*.

## UTAR CAMPUSES

### Petaling Jaya Campus

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46200 Petaling Jaya  
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### Kuala Lumpur Campus

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