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UNIVERSITI TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN

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UTAR signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the SME Association of South Johor (SMEJS) on 22 January 2016 at Ponderosa Golf and Country Club, Johor Bahru.

Signing the MoU on behalf of SMEJS was its president, James Tan Tien Chong, while UTAR was represented by Vice President for R&D and Commercialisation Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei. Invited as the guest of honour was Member of Parliament for Tebrau YB Senator Khoo Soo Seang.

In addition to Prof Lee, representatives from UTAR's Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) present were Dean Dr Sia Bee Chuan, Deputy Dean for Student Development and Industrial Training Dr Chong Shyue Chuan, Deputy Dean for R&D and Postgraduate Programmes Dr Kevin Low Lock Teng, Centre for Sustainable Development and Corporate Social Responsibility in Business Chairperson Dr Mohammad Falahat Nejadmahani, Head of Programmes of MBA, MBA (Corporate Governance), and MBA (Building Management) Dr Pok Wei Fong, and lecturers Dr Wong Hong Chau and Dr Aye Aye Khin. Also present were Advisor and Founding

## MoU with SME Association of South Johor



The delegates from UTAR and SMEJS (Photo credit to SMEJS)

President of SMEJS Teh Kee Sin, over 40 members of SMEJS, and members of the media. The goal of the MoU was to strengthen mutual relationship and collaborations, including student-industry communication to explore opportunities for students to research on the challenges facing SMEs. FAM will collaborate with SMEJS to conduct economic and opportunity studies, perception studies on SMEs, as well as surveys on the economic situation in South Johor.

There will also be collaboration on awareness campaigns for the ASEAN Economic Community, Trans-Pacific Partnership, One Belt, One Road initiative, Goods and Service Tax, and the ways to take advantage of them. SMEJS is a trade organisation established in 2002 with the prime objective of promoting the interests of SMEs in South Johor. It is active in organising events and activities on current issues concerning SMEs in South Johor.

The Institute of Chinese Studies' (ICS) Sinology Unit hosted a 'Seminar Intelektual Melayu-Cina-India Berdasarkan Kajian Manuskrip dan Batu Bersurat Sebelum 1500 Masihi' (Malay-Chinese-Indian Intellectual Seminar based on research on Manuscripts and Inscription Stone before 1500CE) on 1 December 2015.

Present at the opening ceremony were Deputy Minister of Women, Family, and Community Development Senator Datin Paduka Chew Mei Fun, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, UTAR Vice President for R&D and Commercialisation Ir Prof Dr Lee Sze Wei, ICS Dean Dr Chong Siou Wei, and Organising Committee Chairperson Dr Tee Boon Chuan.

Aimed to promote interests in Malay-Chinese-Indian history, this seminar set on examining Malay manuscripts from before 1500CE, particularly those archived in China and India. The seminar also functions as a platform for scholars to discuss tacit knowledge about civilisation from the manuscripts, and to further understand Malay intellectual heritage before 1500CE.

The seminar was divided into two sessions: 'Jaringan Intelektual Buddhisme Antara Melayu-Cina-India' chaired by Centre for Civilisational Dialogue Director Dr Faridah Noor Mohd Noor from University of Malaya (UM) and 'Jaringan Intelektual Hinduisme Antara Melayu-Cina-India' chaired by Dr Ang

## Seminar on historical texts



From left: Prof Chuah, Datin Paduka Chew, and Dr Tee

Lay Hoon from Universiti Putra Malaysia. Topics discussed during the first session included 'Hubungan Negara-negara Kota Awal dengan China: Satu Kronologi' by Nasha Rodzia Khaw, 'Teks Logik Buddha di Alam Melayu' by Dr Muhammad Alinor Abdul Kadir, and 'Kesan Falsafah Buddhisme Srivijaya di China dan Tibet' by Dr Tee. The latter session entailed discussions

on 'Batu-batu Bersurat Melayu Sebelum 1400 TM' by Dr Kumaran Suberamanian, 'Pengarangan Semula Epik India di Tangan Pengarang Java dan Melayu Masa Silam' by Prof Dr Ding Choo Ming, and 'Sumbangan Kitab Arthashastra Karangan Kautilya (Kuran Ke-4 Masehi) Di Dalam Pengurusan Sumber Manusia Alam Melayu' by Dr Balakrishnan Muniapan.

UTAR's Department of Soft Skills Competency (DSSC) in collaboration with the National University of Singapore (NUS) organised the fourth New Village Collaborative Project for a total of eight NUS students. The project was conducted in three selected new villages in Kelantan and Pahang, namely, Gua Musang, Kampung Pulai, and Kampung Raja, from 15 to 23 December 2015.

The week-long project served as a platform for the keen participants of the two institutions to study and research on certain components such as demography, economic development, social structure, historical development, community assets, and cultural values of new villages in Malaysia.

Speaking at the closing ceremony, NUS Prof Albert Teo Chu Ying said, "I would like to thank UTAR for collaborating with NUS and also the New Villages for the fourth time since 2012. It was a valuable and meaningful experience for our students to learn the various aspects of new villages in Malaysia." He added, "I very much look forward to continuing our successful collaboration with UTAR and I'm also hoping that UTAR and NUS will be able to look into other potential new villages."

One of the participants from NUS, Tok Kheng Leng said, "It was a valuable and

## UTAR-NUS new village project



UTAR staff with the NUS students

eye-opening experience at Gua Musang. There were so many things to see and learn from the villagers and UTAR staff. It was interesting to learn that the villagers of Gua Musang depended on rubber tapping for their

livelihood as this agricultural industry does not exist in Singapore. I had also gained valuable friendships with people on the trip. I would like to thank UTAR for organising such a valuable programme."

Six German students under the international student exchange programme arrived in UTAR for semester studies in early October 2015. They are Tobias Siegfried Walbrunn, Eugen Knoll, Wiebke Steffen, Anja Filbrandt, Julia Annemarie Winkler, and Christiane Koenig. All of them are taking semester courses in the Faculty of Business and Finance, UTAR Kampar Campus. When asked about the reasons they chose UTAR, they cited various reasons.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to live in Southeast Asia for the semester. UTAR made an effort to maintain good communication via emails to facilitate our studies here and finally we are here," mentioned Filbrandt.

"I've been looking for a university in Asia on exchange and I am glad to have found UTAR. I like the new experience but the weather is way too hot compared to Germany," said Walbrunn.

"The fact that UTAR offers courses for both Psychology and Business Administration disciplines caught my attention," replied Koenig.

When prompted with the question of what they hope to learn from this exchange, they shared similar thoughts.

"I wish to learn a few words from each of the Malaysian languages, learn more about the cultures and traditions, and interesting inputs from the lecturers," mused Winkler.

"I hope to gain a lot of new experiences about student life in Malaysia especially a huge university like UTAR as my home university is really small," said Steffen.

"Through this stay in Malaysia, I hope

to improve my English, and gain new cultural experiences," answered Knoll.

Their first impression of Malaysia is that they found Malaysians to be really hospitable and friendly.

"People here are very nice, caring and welcoming. The landscape is beautiful with lots of jungles and lots of

## German students here on exchange

palm trees and the spicy food is delicious," replied both Koenig and Steffen.



From left: Eugen Knoll, Anja Filbrandt, Julia Annemarie Winkler, Christiane Koenig, Wiebke Steffen, and Tobias Siegfried Walbrunn

Fourteen students from UTAR Kampar Campus experienced a study tour to Manuel S. Enverga University Foundation (MSEUF) in Lucena City, Philippines from 4 to 10 January 2016.

The week-long cultural learning and exploration tour was jointly organised by UTAR and MSEUF following their strong collaborative ties since 2013. On hand to receive the delegates were MSEUF Vice President for Academic Affairs Prof Benilda N. Villenas and Dean of College of Business and Accountancy Assoc Prof Dr Paz L. Bobadilla.

Throughout the week, the UTARians were introduced to a series of city and campus sightseeing tours, short lectures, workshops, as well as other educational activities. The sightseeing tours included the historical Manila Cathedral built in 1571, where the students learnt about its rich history, ornate architecture, and the religious sculptures installed within.

The delegates were also taken on a guided tour around the campus where they were given a glimpse of how tutorial classes are conducted in MSEUF and the opportunity to speak to the academic staff as well as students in classes.

While in the university, the UTAR delegates were also invited to join in an academic research seminar and soft skills training which effectively spurred academic sharing and intellectual discussions.

The UTAR delegates also had their horizons broadened further during excursions to the Department of Agriculture's Philippine

## UTAR students enriched at MSEUF study tour



At the façade of the Manila Cathedral

Fisheries Development Authority where they were briefed on the framework and system of fish distribution in the country. The Central Bank of the Philippines was another place of interest for the delegation where they were accompanied by Dr Paz and learnt

about its background, the Philippine peso, its operation, and its role in the country's economy. The study tour also provided the students with insight into the stimulation and business growth in rural SMEs through a visit to a shoe factory in Liliw, Laguna.

The Department of Soft Skills Competency (DSSC) organised a Chinese New Year Celebration at SJK (C) Dengkil under the UTAR New Village Community Project on 29 January 2016. The purpose of the event was to have some interaction with the students and to learn more about some problems faced by the school.

Thirty-four passionate UTAR students, together with two members from the UTAR Alumni Association of Malaysia, and two DSSC staff formed the UTAR visitors. The 34 UTARians came from the Centre for Foundation Studies, Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science, Faculty of Accountancy and Management, and Faculty of Creative Industries.

Upon reaching Dengkil, the visitors received a warm welcome from the principal and the teachers of the school. Eighty-nine pupils from Year Six participated in the activities such as crossword puzzles and lantern-making. The pupils were divided into groups, each led by two UTARians. The school compound was then beautified

## Visit to SJK (C) Dengkil



Principal Wong (with tie) with all participants

with the artwork and decorations made by those 12-year-olds.

According to the school's principal, Wong See Lee, the issues faced by the school are mainly termite infestations, flash floods after rain, poor heat insulation in certain classrooms throughout the daytime, and aging furniture.

Wong mentioned that there had been fundraising activities from the school as well as appeals to the government. "I have done everything I could but none of them were really effective as we need a large amount of funds," said Wong.

Wong sincerely hoped that this 80-year-old school will soon

have enough funds to kickstart some necessary renovation and reconstruction for the sake of the growing student population. Any charitable member of the public who is inspired to contribute financially to the school may contact the principal at 03-87688259.

A debate team from UTAR emerged victorious during the Inter-Varsity Debate Competition held from 5 to 6 November 2015 at Faculty of Arts and Social Science (FAS), UTAR Kampar Campus.

Hosted by FAS Department of Languages and Linguistics for the first time, the two-day competition was participated by 48 Primary English Educations (*Program Latihan Perguruan Peringkat Ijazah Pertama, PLPIP*) undergraduates from UTAR, UCSI University, and SEGi University.

Present were FAS Head of Department of Languages and Linguistics Christina Ong Sook Beng, Assistant Directors of Teacher Education Division (*Bahagian Pendidikan Guru, BPG*) Azzarina binti Anor Basah, and Rossheta binti Abd Rahman.

The groups subsequently locked horns with one another on topics ranging from the use of English in Malaysia to the country's education system. The final round saw an intense battle of words and wits amongst the three remaining team representing the three institutions respectively.

UTAR emerged as the champion while SEGi University and UCSI University were placed second and third respectively. The UTAR team comprised Lee Pei En, Simranjit Kaur a/p Baljit Singh, Wee Soo Ying, and Khor Qiu Wen.

Final year UTAR student Simranjit

## Inter-Varsity Debate 2015



Dr Alia with the winning teams from SEGi University (left), UTAR (front), and UCSI University

Kaur was also the proud winner of the Best Debater Award, taking home a certificate and trophy.

During the closing ceremony, adjudicator Indrani Sathasivam Pillay complimented the participants for being resourceful and able to present ideas professionally despite the level of difficulty of certain debate topics. "I believe

this has been an enriching experience for all. The past two days have certainly made you realise and learn about the importance of teamwork," said the lecturer from UiTM Seri Iskandar, who also advised the participants to constantly enrich their knowledge as they will be assuming the roles of educators in due course.

Sin Chew E-paper Car Crew visited UTAR Sungai Long Campus for two consecutive Wednesdays on 25 November and 2 December 2015 respectively.

Legal Counsel and crew member Vincent Tee Yeu Chin from Sin Chew Media Corporation Berhad said, "The purpose of our visit to UTAR is to inform our readers, especially the younger generation, about Sin Chew E-paper which allows them to read news and keep updated on current issues using electronic devices." Comparing the E-paper with news on social media, he explained, "E-paper encompasses reliable and complete news with wide coverage, whereas the latter only entails briefs on selected news."

The crew's first visit drew a huge crowd in the campus, leading the crew to revisit UTAR the subsequent week to reach more UTAR students and staff. Goodie bags and prizes such as vouchers and exhibition entrance tickets were given away to UTARians who joined in their games and activities.

UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik remarked, "Modern technology has led to speedy dissemination of information which often has led to inaccuracies and confusion among readers. Hence, students must be aware that they can access credible and reliable sources like E-papers for valid news, despite the prevalence of free online content."

## Sin Chew visits UTAR



Sin Chew E-paper Car Crew with some UTAR students

A winner of "Hello Kitty Go Around" entrance ticket, Accounting student Kea Sook Ling said, "I was notified about the crew's visit through UTAR official Facebook, hence I dropped by to check out the booths," adding that, "The games were fun and the

crew members briefed me about the E-paper. I would love to subscribe to the E-paper in the foreseeable future as it is convenient and I can read the news on my phone."



From left: Dr Chong, Prof Zhao, Dr Chua, Puan Sri Wendy Ong, Datin Lim, Puan Sri Chelsia Cheng, Dato' Hou, Prof Chuah, Prof Ewe, and Prof Lim

## In support of calligraphy heritage

Lion-Parkson Tsinghua Calligraphy Competition 2016 was successfully co-organised by Lion-Parkson Foundation (LPF) with Beijing Tsinghua University and UTAR on 10 January 2016 at UTAR Sungai Long Campus. The calligraphy competition was launched by the Chairman of the Institute of Strategic and Policy Research (INSAP) YB Senator Dato' Dr Hou Kok Chung who is also a UTAR and Tunku Abdul Rahman University College (TAR UC) Council Member. He was accompanied by his wife Datin Lim Mooi Lang, LPF Chairman Puan Sri Chelsia Cheng, Puan Sri Wendy Ong, LPF Trustee Dr Chua Siew Kiat, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, UTAR Vice President for Internalisation

and Academic Development Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, UTAR Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS) Dean Dr Chong Siou Wei, ICS Adjunct Professor Lim Chooi Kwa, and renowned Chinese Calligrapher Prof Zhao Lixin from Shandong Agriculture University, China who is a visiting professor of ICS. Dato' Hou emphasised that, "Chinese cultural heritage is a form of soft power that boosts international relations through cultural influence. Practising Chinese calligraphy helps to relieve stress and gives great aesthetic pleasure." Puan Sri Chelsia Cheng enthused, "It is our pleasure to organise such a meaningful

event to encourage admiration of the beauty of Chinese calligraphy." "I was very intrigued and captivated by the beauty of calligraphy when I first learnt about the art. I have practised calligraphy for two and a half years in Malaysia and I am very moved by Malaysians' persistent efforts in promoting calligraphy and their passion towards the culture," said Urabe Kazuoki from Japan. The top five winners from each category will be invited to attend a four-day calligraphy workshop and awards presentation ceremony at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China in April 2016.

The Effective Research Management workshop with Naresuan University, Thailand was held at UTAR Kampar Campus from 6 to 10 January 2016. The objectives of the workshop were to enhance research skills of postgraduate students and to share good practices in research management. A total of 16 postgraduate students from UTAR and Naresuan University participated in the workshop. Facilitating the workshop were Dr Chong Yee Lee, Dr Eng Yoke Kee, and Dr Mahmud bin Hj Abd Wahab from UTAR's Faculty of Business and Finance; and Dr Sukij, Dr Vichayanand, and Dr Warawude from Naresuan University. Participants were also given advice and tips to improve their research papers and proposals for their academic journey ahead. After the workshop, the participants from Naresuan University continued on for an excursion to Genting Highlands. They visited the Visitor's Galleria, to take a walk down memory lane and got to know the history of Resorts World Genting and the founder's vision. They also visited Horizon 50, detailing the last 50 years of Genting's history. The participants also visited Putrajaya on

## Effective Research Management workshop



The participants and facilitators

their last day in Malaysia. They were briefed about the development of Putrajaya and explored various sites in the federal territory. This event was organised by UTAR's Institute of Management and Leadership Development and Institute for Postgraduate Studies and Research.

## Visit by Education Bureau of Guizhou



Dai (front row, fourth from left) and Prof Chuah (front row, fourth from right) with delegates from Education Bureau of Guizhou Provincial Government and UTAR

Delegates from the Education Bureau of Guizhou Provincial Government visited UTAR Sungai Long Campus on 14 January 2016. On behalf of the education bureau were its Deputy Director Dai Qiping, Director of Technology and Postgraduate Studies Department Xiong Xiong, and Director of Higher Education Department Qiu Jiangtao. The visitors also consisted of representatives from Guizhou higher learning institutions: Tongren University President Prof Hou Changlin, Guiyang University Vice President Prof Jiao Yan, and Guizhou Nationalities University Vice President Prof Wei Wei. They were accompanied by China (Guizhou)-Malaysia Education Service Centre Head Liu Shujuan, and Malaysia

Chinese Association People's Republic of China Affairs Committee Deputy Secretary General Low Joo Hiap. The objectives of the visit were to inform UTAR about research and educational development in Guizhou province, as well as the forthcoming China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week. The visit was also set to foster mutual ties with UTAR through discussions on its founding history, academic features, and development as a non-for-profit university. In view of boosting international academic exchange, it was also held to explore prospective opportunities for exchange programmes, joint research, and postgraduate studies. Besides that, Dai officially invited Prof Chuah to attend the

Ninth China-ASEAN Education Cooperation Week as an initiative to boost effective collaborations with UTAR. "UTAR always seeks to provide quality education to our students from multiple aspects through exchange programmes to broaden their global perspectives and to learn from international peers. This year, we target to expand the international learning platforms by mobilising one thousand students inbound and outbound, respectively," Prof Chuah announced. In conjunction with the visit, UTAR signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with Tongren University, Guiyang University, and Guizhou Nationalities University.

## Visit by Guilin University of Technology



From left: Dr Lim, Tan, Dr Yong, Loh, Lim, Fook, Assoc Prof Ye, Prof Ewe, Prof Zeng, Xiong, Tang, Li, and Dr Tan

UTAR cordially welcomed delegates from Guilin University of Technology (GUT) at the Sungai Long Campus on 8 January 2016. The purpose of the visit was to hold a general discussion for possible collaborations between GUT and UTAR in the future. The delegates from GUT consisted of Vice President Prof Zeng Fanrong, Faculty of Civil Engineering and Architecture Dean Assoc Prof Xiong Ying, Publicity Department Head Assoc Prof Ye Hao, Student Affairs Director Tang Zhuangdong, and International Office Programme Manager Li Caiyun. Welcoming them were UTAR Vice President for Internationalisation and Academic Development Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Division of Community and International Networking Director Dr Tan Sin Leng, Centre for Extension Education Director Lim Guat Yen, Soft Skills Competency Department Head Fook Oi Yee, and Student Affairs Department Head Loh Nyuk Leung. Also present from the Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science were Deputy Dean Dr Yong Thian Khok, Civil Engineering Department Head Ir Dr Lim

Siong Kang, and Architecture and Sustainable Design Department Head Tan Kok Hong. "There have been UTAR students who were sent overseas, including to China last year for student exchanges and it's hoped that UTAR would have the chance to collaborate with GUT on this. In fact, UTAR's Centre for Extension Education also organised some short study tours to foreign nations to be exposed to different cultures and lifestyles," said Prof Ewe. Prof Zeng expressed his utmost support to Prof Ewe's suggestion of collaboration. He mentioned that in fact, GUT also carries out exchange programmes, not only for students but also staff. Therefore, UTAR could easily make requests for exchanges at any time. "We, too, hope that GUT students will be able to take part in the short courses in UTAR to improve their English language as the environment here is conducive for learning," said Prof Zeng.

## UTAR President and Council Member awarded



Front row (from left): Dr Ovid Tzeng, Prof Chuah, Dr Lucia Lin, Dr Wu, Dato' Hou, Yao, and Dr Huang

Photo credit to Sin Chew Daily

UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik and UTAR Council Member Senator Dato' Dr Hou Kok Chung were awarded the 'Taiwan Ministry of Education 2nd Class Professional Education Medal' (台湾教育部二等教育专业奖章) in Taiwan on 20 January 2016.

Dato' Hou and Prof Chuah together with the former President of Federation of Alumni Association of Taiwan Universities in Malaysia, Yao Teck Kong, were the only three Malaysians selected to receive the award. They were awarded by Taiwan Education Minister Dr Wu Se-Hwa accompanied by Taiwan Ministry of Education Political Deputy Minister Dr Lucia S. Lin. Also present at the award ceremony were former Taiwan Education Ministers Dr Ovid Tzeng and Dr Huang Jong-Tsun.

The trio was applauded for their immense contribution in stimulating education growth as well as academic ties between Malaysia and Taiwan.

Prof Chuah's unyielding and proactive efforts in spearheading the communication with the Malaysian Qualifications Agency have been essential in the materialisation of the mutual recognition of joint degrees.

During Dato' Hou's tenure as the Deputy Minister of Higher Education, great emphasis was placed on the improvement of Malaysian students affairs

management in Taiwan. Dato' Hou has also been very committed in developing and enhancing the academic collaborations between Malaysia and Taiwan.

According to Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Malaysia Education Division Director Chu To-Ming, the 'Taiwan Ministry of Education

Professional Education Medal' is mainly awarded to individuals who have outstanding contribution in promoting and enhancing the development of Taiwan education. Chu added that the medals are only awarded on special occasions and first-time awardees are usually only awarded with a "3rd Class Medal".

UTAR has had a long standing relationship with over 30 universities in Taiwan. The close ties forged with these reputable universities over the years have spurred a wide spectrum of enriching activities which include staff and students exchanges, joint researches, new village collaborative projects and others.

## Champion at the Surface Artspllosion Challenge



Yong with his tumbler sleeve (at left) and prize

With much delight, Architecture student Yong Song Zhe was crowned champion at the Surface Artspllosion Challenge organised by Microsoft Malaysia at Limkokwing University of Creative Technology from 21 to 25 October 2015. Yong walked away with a Microsoft Surface 3 set, including a Surface pen, and a type cover worth over RM3,200.

The challenge, open for all undergraduates nationwide, was to design the best tumbler sleeve. Around 80 undergraduates from all around Malaysia took part in the challenge, designing the sleeve based on their own creativity.

The concept of Yong's design was that though Microsoft is sailing in a highly competitive sea, it has proven to be a formidable brand despite the thunderstorms. Yong came up with the concept in a mere 20 minutes.

"I would like to thank Microsoft for awarding me the first prize and I feel truly blessed and fortunate for grabbing this opportunity. Let us strengthen our abilities to make them our talents!" mentioned Yong in sheer delight.

## PECIPTA 2015

The International Conference and Exposition on Inventions by Institutions of Higher Learning (PECIPTA 2015) was held at KLCC from 4 to 6 December 2015. The event was themed 'Innovating Today for Tomorrow'. UTAR's research products were showcased at the Entrepreneurship and Industrial Management Cluster, ICT and Multimedia Cluster, and Manufacturing Technologies Cluster.

The purposes of this event were to bring together the innovative research, development, and commercialisation initiatives; promote the latest university-industry products; and create new knowledge and networking opportunities.

The event saw the presence of Minister of Higher Education Dato' Seri Idris Jusoh, Deputy Minister of Higher Education Datuk Mary Yap Kain Ching, Director General of Higher Education Prof Dato' Dr Asma Ismail, and representatives from different universities.

The cluster booths of the day included Education and Human Development; Art, Design and Creativity; Entrepreneurship and Industrial Management; Agriculture, Aquaculture and Environment; Biotechnology, Life Science and Pure Sciences; Health, Wellness and Wellbeing; Information Communication Technology and Multimedia; and Manufacturing Technologies and Disaster Management.

All the UTAR participants were from the Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science. Those who participated in the Entrepreneurship and Industrial Management Cluster were Ir Dr Low Kaw Sai and Dr

Tioh Ngee Heng. Meanwhile, Prof Ir Dr Goi Bok Min and his team took part in the ICT and Multimedia Cluster. Lastly, Dr Chin Siew Kian and his research assistant represented in the Manufacturing Technologies Cluster.

Prof Goi and his team won a silver medal for the project titled 'Bio-Crypto Authentication Solution'. Besides, Dr Low and Dr Tioh also bagged a silver medal with

their project titled 'Amphibious Bamboo/Lightweight-Concrete Infill Buoyant System to Support Heavy Constructions over Thick Soft Subsoil for Terrestrial Use as well as under and above Water as a Floating Platform for Waterborne Application'.



Prof Goi (second from right) with his team

## Elsevier Most Cited Article



Tan displaying the certificate

A research paper by Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) Senior Lecturers Sim Jia Jia and Garry Tan Wei Han was recently awarded as 'Most Cited Article' by the world-leading academic publishing company, Elsevier (USA)'s *Telematics and Informatics Journal*.

Titled 'Understanding and Predicting the Motivators of Mobile Music Acceptance - A Multi-stage MRA-Artificial Neural Network Approach', the paper co-authored with Prof Dr Ooi Keng Boon of UCSI University, Jessica Wong Chew Jia of Linton University College, and Hew Teck Soon of University of Malaya was given the acknowledgement based on the number of Scopus citations from 2010 to 2015.

"The music industry is constantly changing. Our study explains the behaviour of consumers and how they affect the growth of the mobile music industry. We are delighted to have received this recognition and also to contribute to the mobile innovation diffusion process and adoption," explained Tan.

*Telematics and Informatics Journal* is currently indexed with Thomson Reuters (ISI); Social Science Citation Index (SSCI); JCR-2014, IF = 1.12.

# Monsomeness CNY Carnival



From left: Foo, Tan, Senator Chong, and Prof Chuah at the Sin Chew E-paper launch

UTAR Student Representative Council (SRC) together with UTAR Sungai Long Clubs and Societies jointly organised the Monsomeness Chinese New Year (CNY) Carnival on 31 January 2016 at the Sungai Long Campus. The joyful carnival saw some 5,000 visitors around the campus from 4pm to 11pm. The visitors included guests, students, staff, parents, shop owners, and residents from the surrounding communities in Sungai Long and Mahkota Cheras.



24 Festive Drums performance by UTAR students at the opening ceremony



Dramatic Chinese art of face mask changing

The CNY carnival was officially launched by the Deputy Education Minister of Malaysia Senator Chong Sin Woon, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Sin Chew Media Corp Berhad Chief Operations Officer Tan Chee Yuen, National Kidney Foundation Representative Stephanie Wee, UTAR Vice President for Internationalisation and Academic Development Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, and UTAR Vice President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Dr Teh Chee Seng. Also present at the launch were the MY FM crew, and Public Bank representatives Emily Choo and Yip Lin Hoh.

Senator Chong remarked, "Students should develop analytical skills and social awareness through activities such as this in the university to learn soft skills such as leadership, event planning, management, interpersonal communication, and emotional intelligence. These are crucial aptitudes that will enhance your personal development in preparation for career later on."

Prof Chuah applauded the organising committee's efforts and said, "As a university in the Sungai Long community, UTAR constantly seeks beacons to boost the spirit of communal harmony. It is truly heartening to know that our students have walked the extra mile to reach out to the communities through community engagements such as this carnival. I am also very proud of our students as they have embraced the Year of the Monkey with such a meaningful gesture of raising charity funds in support of the National Kidney Foundation of Malaysia."

"The Monsomeness CNY Carnival 2016 is the first UTAR CNY celebration since the consolidation of the UTAR Klang Valley Campuses. I am happy that all the students from the various faculties have now come together under one roof and have worked to make this carnival the most heart-warming celebration of the year. There were many students who volunteered their assistance and I am grateful for their time and efforts," said Foo Yi Rou, the organising chairperson.

From 4pm to 11pm, a wide array of events were held all around the campus with a fusion of traditional and modern performances including a bazaar. Adding to the festive spirit were demos on Chinese creative arts such as Chinese yo-yo by UTAR Diabolo Team, Chinese Orchestra by the UTAR Music Club, LED Dragon Dance by *Persatuan Sukan dan Kebudayaan Ma Ching Ipoh*, and the ancient Chinese dramatic art of face mask changing by MRGJC Quest. There were also performances by Yang Wu Martial Arts and Lion Dance, UTAR 24 Festive Drums, World Taekwondo Federation practitioners, and UTAR Wushu Club.

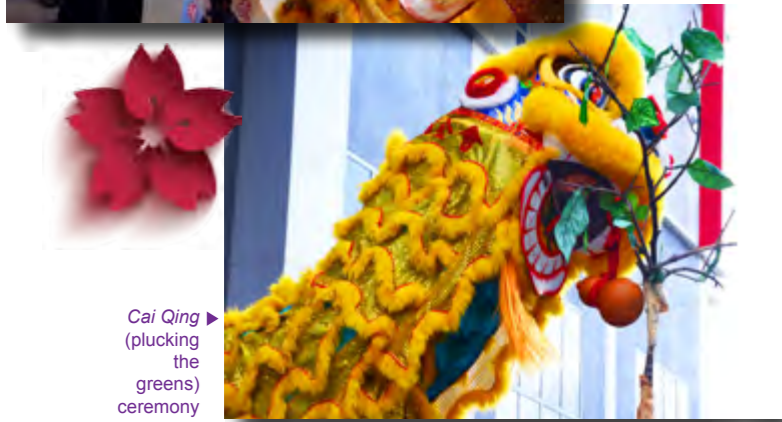
There were also stage performances from Outbac Phoenix, HIM, Fubumomo, Sam Lee, Nerdy Duet, UTAR Sungai Long Dance Club, and T. Bag Band. The visitors to the carnival were also entertained by local celebrities including M-Girls, Chen Han Wei and Kido, Rejuvenate Dance Crew, and Shawn Lee.



The lion dance welcoming Senator Chong



The auspicious dragon dance



Cai Qing (plucking the greens) ceremony



Tan (first from left), Prof Chuah (third from left), and Senator Chong (fourth from left) at the launch



Rejuvenate Dance Crew with Shawn Lee (middle)



M-Girls performing CNY songs



HIM, the youngest performers at the carnival

## Top eight in national Mountain Dew challenge



From left: Ang, Tay, Yong, Chai, and Wong

Following their success in the two-stage college/university level earlier in November 2015, UTAR's iFAT team managed to place in the top eight among the 28 teams in the Mountain Dew Dota 2 national level tournament held at the TGV Cinema, One Utama in Selangor from 5 to 6 December 2015.

This round the team walked away with a cash prize worth RM3,000 and a certificate of participation each.

The team comprised Entrepreneurship student Yong Say Fong, Computer Engineering student Chai Mun Hong, Accounting student Ang Boon Liang, Environmental Engineering student Tay Kok Sheng, and Foundation in Arts student Wong Meng Kit.

"Though we could not go very far in the finale, we are immensely proud of our achievement to be in the top eight. It was a good opportunity for all of us to improve our skills," enthused Yong.

"It was an enjoyable and fun moment for all of us. We didn't expect that we could manage to reach the finals as we found that there were a lot more skilful players who took part in the competition. Even though we lost in the qualifier round yet we felt proud to be in the top eight among the top 28 teams," said another participant, Chai.

Mountain Dew's Dew Challenge 2015 is a digital gaming challenge. The Challenge comprises two games, namely Dota2 for teams of five and Hearthstone for individuals. The RM180,000 pool of prizes given away was the combination of RM150,000 cash prizes for Mountain Dew Dota2 Challenge and RM30,000 cash prizes for Mountain Dew Hearthstones Challenge.

## Duo shine in Miss Malaysia Tourism Pageant 2015



From left: Chong, Miss Malaysia Tourism 2015 Xandria Ban, and Rishon with their trophies

UTAR students Rishon Shun and Chong Jia Ying emerged as winners of two out of three titles in the Miss Malaysia Tourism Pageant 2015 grand finale held at Shaftsbury Asteria, iKHASAS iTech Tower, Cyberjaya on 17 October 2015.

Following her crowning as Miss Perak Tourism 2015, Rishon continued to prove her mettle by successfully clinching the Miss Malaysia Tourism 'Queen of the Year 2015' title. Chong, on the other hand, went from being Miss Perak Tourism 2015's Top 5 finalist to the titleholder of Miss Malaysia Tourism Metropolitan 2015.

When asked about what made her stand out in the competition, Rishon, an English Language undergraduate, shared that it was her ability to communicate effectively in English and the confidence to carry herself well. To the 21-year-old, her determination and perseverance throughout the competition may have also been the factors in winning the crown as well as two other subsidiary titles including Miss Photogenic and Miss RNG EMagazine.

Public Relations student Chong professed, "I was actually not very confident because the other contestants carry themselves so well and each is a winner in her own right." She added that it was her desire for self-improvement which propelled her to the top. To further complement her self-discipline, the knowledge and exposure Chong gained from UTAR's Public Relations programme have also perfected her public speaking and presentation skills, among others. "Throughout the competition, I have managed to establish close ties with the contestants, organisers, franchise holders, sponsors, and others," the beauty said. Chong also earned herself the Miss Confidence subsidiary title.

According to the duo, while people may perceive the contestants to be enemies with one another, in reality it was the contrary. During the competition, both Rishon and

Chong were constantly rooting for each other and looked after each other like twin sisters, reflecting the spirit and bond of UTARians.

Renowned science communicator Dr Mahaletchmy Arujanan visited UTAR Sungai Long Campus on 27 January 2016. She hopes to cultivate interest for pursuing the sciences among the young through her success story in the field of biotechnology.

"Scientific invention and discoveries have made many things possible, which were once thought impossible in the past. Science is the main tool to explore the hidden secret of the world for the betterment of human life," Dr Maha said.

"You can blame the system or anything else for your failures, or you can take charge of your life and be responsible for your success," she advised. She also advised students to step out of their comfort zones, reject mediocrity, and constantly challenge themselves to see the endless possibilities out there.

She also said students should stop asking what they should do, instead they should first ask themselves what they want or like to do, and explore the relevant industries that interest them; the interest must come from within their hearts.

"Dream careers are not offered by employers, it is created by you. Get a job, change it into a career, and then reshape and redefine that career into your dream career," she advised.

Dr Maha is the Executive Director of Malaysian Biotechnology Information

## Journey to the top 100



Dr Maha sharing her work experiences in MABIC

Centre (MABIC) and Editor-in-Chief of *The Petri Dish*, the first science newspaper in Malaysia. She has a degree in Biochemistry and Microbiology and a Master's in Biotechnology from Universiti Putra Malaysia, and a PhD in Science Communication from University of Malaya.

Dr Maha is listed as one of the world's 100 most influential people in biotechnology by Scientific American Worldview 2015. She won the 2010 Third World Academy of Science Regional Prize for Public Understanding of Science for East, Southeast Asia, and Pacific Region.

## Leading speaker inspires at UTAR



Christiansen on his 1.5 metre-high scaffolding

Tony Christiansen, a world-leading motivational and inspirational speaker who lost both his legs from a horrific train accident at the tender age of nine presented a talk titled "Your Attitude Determines Your Altitude in Life" on 3 December 2015 at Kampar Campus.

Christiansen, 57, was here to share his secrets to overcoming challenges and achieving success. He said, "People should not wait for something to go wrong to decide to make their life the best it could be. I am fortunate, I know so many people that are far worse off than I am; but then I know so many able-bodied people that are far more disabled than I'll ever be, just because of their attitudes."

"It's not what happens to you, it's what you do about it that makes the difference. Everybody asks me, 'don't you have down days?' My answer to that is, 'I had a down day. It was in 1972 and it lasted 10 minutes.' I have a choice when I wake up in the morning where I can have a great day or I can have a crappy day. I choose to have a great day."

"I actually think that if losing my legs is the worst thing that's going to happen to me, the rest of my life is going to be great," he said.

Christiansen was initially not expected to live past the age of 20 as doctors did not believe he could deal with the pressures of life. Instead, he defied all odds with his ever positive attitude and continued to achieve remarkable feats. Among these achievements include being a best-selling author, a world-class athlete and medallist, a motor racing champion, a qualified pilot, a lifeguard, a successful businessman, and even earning a black belt in Taekwondo and climbing Mount Kilimanjaro.

UTAR welcomed more than 800 new students of the 2016 January Intake during orientation which commenced on 10 January 2016.

## Welcome to our new students

At the mass call held during orientation, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik welcomed the new students and inspired them to be diligent in their studies. He encouraged them to participate in the various sports and student club activities for a more meaningful university life. The students were also welcomed by their respective Deans and Heads of Departments.

During orientation, the students were briefed on university policies, rules, procedures, and personal safety. Information on financial assistance including PTPTN loans was also explained. Various briefings on the university's facilities, curriculum, clubs and societies, events, and others were also held.

Among the activities in the orientation programme are a city tour, a New Village tour, several ice-breaking and tele-match activities, a blood donation and healthy lifestyle campaign, a community service project and various talks on adjusting to campus life, study skills, soft skills and careers.

"UTAR has established collaborations with many reputable universities and



UTARians at the orientation held in UTAR Sungai Long Campus

companies which will provide me with international exchange opportunities and internships. The university is also well known and its qualifications are well recognised in the industry. Hence, I chose to study in UTAR," said Nicholas Phua Cheng Hann who hails from Johor. He is taking a degree in Construction Management.

Foundation in Science student, Wong Mei Keng said, "It is a brand new start for me and I hope to adapt to the new environment and make new friends. There are so many clubs and societies. I hope to participate and gain experiences to learn valuable soft skills as personal development in preparation for my career later on."

Doshisha Glee Club mesmerised a crowd of UTARians with their angelic voices during the UTAR Doshisha Concert held at UTAR Sungai Long Campus on 17 February 2016. This was the club's first time performing in Malaysia.

Doshisha Glee Club Alumni Association Vice President Naoki Toyoda hoped that the club would move Malaysian audiences with their beautiful voices, as well as deepen the relationship of both countries through music.

The club sang a mix of popular Japanese folk, English, and Malaysian songs such as *Mogamigawa-funauta* (Mogami River boatman's song), *Sakura chiru* (Sakura is falling down), *Yesterday*, *The Lion Sleeps Tonight*, *Rasa Sayang*, and *Sejahtera Malaysia*. The crowd was also serenaded by UTAR Choir and UTAR Chinese Orchestra performing Japanese music.

"It is an honour performing in Malaysia. This tour also acts as a cultural exchange that enables us to learn more



Doshisha Glee Club performing *Kuniko, Kuniko* (Come land, come land)

about Malaysia," said the club's Student Leader and Chairman of Concert Tour Committee Daijiro Nakagawa.

"UTAR and various higher learning institutes in Japan have benefitted under the Look East Policy. Many wonderful and meaningful knowledge and cultural exchanges have taken place over the years. I believe this concert will pave the way for more academic and cultural collaboration between UTAR and Doshisha University," said UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik.

## Doshisha Glee Club performs at UTAR

Also, present were Chieko Tatsumi, Deputy Director of Japan Information Service, Embassy of Japan, representing the Ambassador of Japan to Malaysia His Excellency Dr Makio Miyagawa, and UTAR Vice President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Assoc Prof Dr Teh

Chee Seng. The Doshisha Glee Club, part of Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan was established in 1904. At 112 years old, it is the oldest male choral group in Japan. Currently 60 Doshisha University students belong to the club.

Motivated by the resounding success of former Public Relations (PR) Volunteerism Campaigns held since 2011, 251 UTAR undergraduates are reliving their forerunners' volunteerism spirit and legacy with the Grand Opening Ceremony of the PR Campaign 2015/2016: Volunteerism V at UTAR Kampar Campus on 1 February 2016.

## PR Campaign 2015/2016: Volunteerism V launches

Invited to grace the opening ceremony was Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry YB Senator Dato' Lee Chee Leong. On hand to receive him were UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, *Majlis Daerah Kampar* (MDKpr) Secretary Nor Akmal Yang Ghazali representing Council President Khairul Amir Mohamad Zubir, Dean of Faculty of Arts and Social Science Dr Alia Azalea, and PR Campaign Volunteerism V Main Director Alex Leong Kar Yin.



From left: Leong, Prof Chuah, Dato' Lee, Nor Akmal, and Dr Alia launching the Grand Opening Ceremony

This year's campaign constituted of five groups with each championing a sub-theme namely, 'Depression (D)', 'Recycle (R)', 'Technology Escapism (E)', 'Animal Protection (A)', and 'Malaysian Culture (M)', which are collectively known as 'D.R.E.A.M'.

Prof Chuah remarked, "I'm always proud of the past and present PR Campaigns for their effort in benefitting the community in different ways." Citing the exemplary achievement by the previous year's PR Campaign in bagging the much coveted Bronze Award in the Malaysia PR Awards (MPRA) 2014/2015 for the first time, Prof

Chuah encouraged the current campaign's organising committee to take that as an encouragement for continuous improvement.

Buoyed by UTAR's commitment to educational excellence over the years, Dato' Lee said, "I believe UTAR is doing an excellent job in educating its students on the importance of volunteerism, social

responsibility, and not to forget event management through the execution of this campaign."

It was organised by current Second and Third Year Public Relations students. Initiated in 2011, the PR Campaign has since gained momentum in becoming a significant annual event at UTAR Kampar Campus.

UTAR Journalism in Chinese Media (JCM) students in the Faculty of Creative Industries launched the official UTAR Chinese news portal 'U-Click' on 29 January 2016 at the Sungai Long Campus.

Present at the U-click news portal launching ceremony were Sin Chew Daily Executive Editor-in-Chief Kuik Cheng Kang, Cari.com.my Managing Editor Tan Boon Kooi, 8TV news anchor Owen Yap, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, UTAR Vice President for R&D and Commercialisation Ir Prof Dr Lee Sze Wei, Faculty of Creative Industries Dean Dr Chin Yee Mun, and U-Click Launching Ceremony Organising Chairperson Thong Li Min.

In his speech, Prof Chuah remarked, "The JCM programme was set up in May 2011. UTAR is the first private university in Malaysia which offers the Bachelor of Arts (Hons) Journalism in Chinese Media. The university aims to educate our students to be professional and ethical journalists."

"The U-Click news portal is wholly managed by the JMC students and it is an important learning platform for them to further develop media literacy and ethics. We welcome support from the students and feedbacks for improvements," said Wong Chen Vun, the U-Click news portal advisor.

The launch also featured a special dialogue session by guests from three different media platforms; namely, Kuik from printed news, Tan from online news, and Yap from telecast/TV news.

Kuik said that, "The pen is mightier than the sword. The role of a journalist is not just about writing a news article. A journalist also needs to interview people from different social backgrounds and relay the correct and appropriate message to the public. Therefore, journalists must develop journalistic professionalism and be aware of their social responsibilities in presenting the facts with accurate word choice. Student journalists can start training while at university. As learners, you must not be afraid of mistakes as they are proof that you are learning but you must improve with each mistake made."

"The emergence of online news sharing tools has brought about a new media known as 'self-media' where people can easily create interwoven contents and collate information from multiple sources,

## Launch of U-Click News Portal



From left: Dr Chin, Tan, Kuik, Prof Chuah, Yap, Prof Lee, and Thong at the launch

without knowing the truthfulness of the contents. Hence, writers for online media must be impartial and not produced biased news. To ensure content credibility, writers must practise and seek consistent and professional journalistic efforts," said Tan.

Emphasising further on journalistic objectivity, Yap explained, "News must remain unbiased regardless of the journalist's opinions or personal beliefs. Online media platforms allow two-way communication and encourage more interactions with the audience. Therefore, U-click journalists can collect information from its readers without bias. The views presented should be fairly comprehensive in reflecting the actual scenarios."



## Luncheon for scholarship recipients



Front row, fifth from left: Dr Teh, Prof Lee, Prof Chuah, Tun Ling, Tan Sri Hew, and Prof Ewe posing with the recipients

The Division of Examinations, Awards and Scholarships (DEAS) in UTAR, held a luncheon for UTAR Scholarship recipients on 28 January 2016 at its Kampar Campus.

A total of 57 Scholarship recipients from Kampar Campus, comprising 53 UTAR-UEC Scholarships and four Scholarships for Students from Secondary Schools in Pulau Ketam and other disadvantaged areas, joined the luncheon held in the presence of UTAR Council Chairman Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik.

"Today is a celebration of your achievements in school; you understand that education is the way forward in today's highly globalised world. UTAR is proud to reward you for your tireless effort, with hopes that you will contribute to society with the knowledge you gain here," said Tun Ling.

During his speech, Tun Ling encouraged and urged all the students to master English as it is an important language of knowledge. He added, "English is an important language for your career development. It will enhance your competencies in many areas." He also shared his own experiences of being non-conversant in Mandarin which led him to proactively learn how to speak the language in order to better communicate with the community during his tenure as the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA) president.

In his speech, Prof Chuah encouraged the students to study hard to live up to the expectation of the donors and to soar high. He also advised the students to seek knowledge and be analytical in their approach so that they could use the skills and knowledge learnt in their careers. He also cited the example of some alumni being successfully hired by Huawei UAE for their bilingualism and hardworking attitude, and encouraged the students to adopt similar attitudes.

UTAR-UEC Scholarship recipient, Lim Mie Sie said, "The UTAR-UEC Scholarship has helped me ease my family's financial burden for my education. My tuition fees are fully covered and an allowance of RM500 is given to me each month. With this monthly allowance, I have learnt to spend wisely so that I can pay my room rental, utilities, and three daily meals."

Another recipient, Accounting student Tan Ye Shean said, "I got to know about the UTAR-UEC Scholarship from friends while doing the English Enhancement Programme in UTAR. This scholarship has really helped me and my parents to ease our financial burden. I would like to thank UTAR for giving me this opportunity."

The UTAR-UEC Scholarship is an initiative by UTAR to assist students from Independent Chinese High Schools in Malaysia with more opportunities for higher education. The UTAR-UEC Scholarship covers tuition fees for students at the university and in addition, students will also receive RM500 allowance each month throughout the tenure of the scholarship.

As of December 2015, the university has awarded UTAR-UEC scholarships to 208 United Examination Certificate (UEC) students and eight scholarships for students from rural schools.

Also present at the luncheon session were UTAR representatives comprising Planning and Development Committee Advisor Tan Sri Hew See Tong, Vice President for Internationalisation and Academic Development Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Vice President for R&D and Commercialisation Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei, Vice President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Assoc Prof Dr Teh Chee Seng, Deans, Head of Departments, staff, and students.

Since its inception, UTAR has set up scholarships and interest-free student loans as financial assistance to deserving students.

The following are more scholarships offered by UTAR to needy students: UTAR Scholarship for Top Achievers, UTAR Sports and Talent Scholarship, UTAR-Nanyang Education Scholarship, UTAR-Sin Chew Daily Scholarship, UTAR-The Star Education Fund Scholarship, UTAR-Teach For Malaysia Scholarship, UTAR-Royal Military College Scholarship and many others including sponsorships by organisations.



Tun Ling (top) and Prof Chuah interacting with the recipients

## ICS community outreach activities

There were four workshops on Chinese calligraphy wood carving conducted by the Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS) in SMJK Hua Lian, Taiping on 3 October, *Pusat Khidmat Masyarakat Kuala Sepetang*, Taiping on 4 October, SMJK Pei Yuan, Kampar on 18 November, and SMJK Choong Hua, Bidor on 21 November 2015.

The workshops, conducted by ICS Deputy Dean for Student Development and Industrial Training Dr Lim Chee Men, aimed to promote the artistry of Chinese calligraphy wood carving and to nurture the talent of the participants through the uniqueness of the art.

Chinese Studies student Tan Jia Ling said, "Dr Lim taught me a lot and I learned different methods of wood carving. I learned to be patient and how to interact with participants from various ages when assisting Dr Lim in wood carving sessions. All these have encouraged me to move forward on my wood carving journey."

Goh Ming Tsuey, one of the senior assistants of the workshops, said, "It is a very good opportunity for us to enhance our carving skills by sharing it with participants. The workshops have provided an opportunity for people from all walks of life to learn about the beauty of Chinese traditional arts, which



Participants of *Pusat Khidmat Masyarakat Kuala Sepetang*, Taiping

can also cultivate their mindfulness. I hope that such events can be held more often so that Chinese calligraphy wood carving can be promoted to the younger generations."

Lee Jia Ying, another Chinese Studies student, hoped to learn a new skill through participating in the workshop. "After seeing my seniors' work, I can better appreciate

the beauty of the traditional arts. The combination of skilful craftsmanship and the natural beauty of wood breathe new life into the wood. Every single carving, design, and colour imparts a special significance to the wood. It is so amazing!"

## Online educational resources for teachers

UTAR's Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) organised a one-day workshop titled "Online Educational Resources" at the Kampar Campus on 3 November 2015. The workshop aimed to shed light on the usefulness of online educational resources and to create awareness on their practicality among school teachers in Malaysia.

In his welcome address, Organising Chairperson-cum-FBF Deputy Dean for R&D and Postgraduate Programmes Dr Mahmud bin Hj Abd Wahab said, "UTAR is indeed proud to organise such a workshop that provides insight into online educational resources, which is considered a good opportunity for teachers to learn about online resources and their advantages at this period."

He added, "With the coming of the Information Age, teachers need to be innovative and must use interactive teaching strategies to deliver lessons in the classroom. Therefore, I believe this workshop will be a comprehensive learning platform for the participants."

Attended by a total of 22 participants comprising school teachers from SMK Methodist (ACS) Kampar, the workshop covered relevant topics including the importance of using online educational resources in teaching, online teaching tools,



Participants with the organising committee

online ideas in teaching, and the methods of using online educational resources.

The workshop was conducted by Chong Chee Keong, a lecturer from the Department of Economics of FBF. Despite being a one-day workshop, it succeeded as a comprehensive learning experience for participants due to the informative talks and discussions, whereby the participants exchanged their viewpoints.

In the year 2013, the CLT was invited to

join the Regional Distribution and Training Centre (RDTC) for UNESCO ICT-in-Education resources network in the Asia-Pacific Region. Since then, the CLT has played a pivotal role in ICT-in-Education activities by organising talks and training in surrounding educational institutions, and conducting research and consultancy work on ICT-in-Education. The CLT also heads the research cluster in the RDTC network.

来自中国的著名书法家赵立新教授于2016年1月22日应拉曼大学中华研究中心之邀到拉曼大学金宝校区，为拉曼大学的师生主讲了以“中国书法与绘画之共性”为题的讲座。赵教授目前也是拉曼大学中华研究院的客座教授。

## 赵立新谈中国书法和绘画之共性

席间嘉宾有拉曼大学校长拿督蔡贤德高级院士、中华研究院院长张晓威副教授、副院长黄文斌副教授、林志敏博士、客卿教授拿督林水椽教授、会馆和学校代表、书法爱好者、中华研究院和其他院系的教职员等。

主持人黄文斌副院长在为主讲人进行简介的时候，赞扬赵教授是个“通”很多的人，“赵教授擅长各种书法体，如草、隶、甲骨、金文、小篆、行书，书体全面、精到，各具特色。”

赵教授为与会者讲解了“书画同源”和两者之间的密切关



张晓威(右)代表大学赠送纪念品给赵立新;左为黄文斌。

系。另外，他也通过(一)中国书画异形同质、(二)一致的笔墨追求、(三)相同的经营位置原则、(四)相同的审美追求——气韵生动、(五)一致的审美意象以及(六)相同的评价体系——境界六个方面来让与会者对中国书法与绘画的共性有更进一步的了解。他强调，“中国的书画作品，不仅仅是一种凝固的形式，更是作者心灵的幻化，承载着作者思想和审美意象。”

随后的交流环节中，赵教授和与会者交流甚欢，一同探讨了文化书法、意象、气韵、书法家内涵、书画实用性等课题。讲座后，赵教授即场为与会者挥毫泼墨，展现了让人为之赞叹的书法技艺。值得一提的是，赵教授所挥毫的绝句出自于林水椽教授之手。



左起：黄文斌、张晓威、林水椽、赵立新和林良娥。

## 佳节送温暖

拉曼大学中华研究院逾30名师生于2016年1月23日到访报恩寺安宁之家和安宁儿童之家派送佳节温暖，提前和他们欢庆佳节的来临。

这次的佳节送温暖活动旨在让学生有机会走入社区，为有需要帮助的人做一些力所能及的事，同时献上最真诚的爱心与温暖。他们为报恩寺安宁之家和安宁儿童之家送上佳节红包、日常用品、干粮、文具等。



拉曼大学师生到访报恩寺安宁儿童之家派送佳节温暖。

中华研究院讲师莫德厚代表致词时不忘提早为安宁之家的“老朋友”和安宁儿童之家的小朋友献上最美好的祝福。他表示，“我们非常鼓励学生，学习不只局限于课堂上，而是走入社会，走进社区，在自己能力所及的范围内为社会做出贡献。”

中华研究院行政人员兼活动协调员胡瑗凌表示，“希望学生们的用心筹备能够为报恩寺的老人和小孩带来佳节欢乐和温暖。”

随后，学生们为老人和小孩带来了一

连串的表演，如歌唱、舞蹈、手语、“杯子会跳舞”手技表演等。一首首新旧的贺年歌曲，如《大地回春》、《财神到》、《大日子》、《天天好天》等，让大家提前欢聚在一片农历新年的氛围里。

在互动环节里，学生分成两组，一组负责照顾小朋友，另一组学生则负责和老人们交流。安宁儿童之家的小朋友和学生们互动甚佳，进行了许多趣味的小游戏。另一方面，老人们通过怀旧金曲和本校师生进行音乐交流，有者更即兴唱起了粤曲、各方言金曲等。



莫德厚(左)象征性地把物资移交给报恩寺安宁之家负责人陈明兰。



张晓威在黄文斌的陪同下赠送纪念品给林建雄(左图)及中茶国际茶业公司副总经理王翠萍(右图)。



拉曼大学中华研究院于2016年2月24日在金宝校区举办了一场别开生面的“中国茶艺术品茗交流会”，吸引了逾40师生的踊跃参与。

这项品茗交流会由中华研究院、中茶国际以及竹林缘茶馆联合举办，中华研究院负责安排及提供场地、中茶负责提供茶及竹林缘茶馆负责提供茶具。现场更有中茶国际茶业公司茶艺师符一飞、竹林缘茶馆东主林建雄以及中华研究院副院长黄文斌副教授为与会者示范沏茶。三位示范者分别沏了普洱茶、铁观音和六宝茶，供与会者品茗。

中华研究院院长张晓威副教授致词时表示，“茶可吃也可喝，对身体也起了很好的保健作用，更重要的是好的茶，就像品质好的咖啡，不需要添加任何的糖、奶等物，就已经非常适合饮用。”借助于师生们对品茗交流会的热烈反应，他呼吁志愿者们一同成立茶艺社，让品茗文化在拉曼大学发展开来。

黄副院长致词时表示，“大马常年如夏，恒温恒湿的稳定状态非常符合藏茶的绝佳条件，而全马收集普洱茶最好的地方恰好也是霹雳州，寄望有山有水的金宝在未来也能够成为收藏普洱茶的好地方。”他补充，“中茶更到访金马仑进行了茶叶化验，化验结果显示金马仑的茶叶非常有潜质发展成红茶。以人民的健康及推展区域的经济前提出发，培植茶叶的确是个可行的计划。”

茶艺师符一飞为与会者进行了中茶简介、茶在中国的历史背景，以及如何区分绿、黄、白、青、红、黑六大茶类。她也为与会者一一解说生、熟、老茶的特征、功能、

收藏方法等，让众人受益匪浅。

在随后的沏茶环节中，符一飞在沏普洱茶时，逐一讲解与示范茶叶的量取、温壶、温杯、置茶、洗茶等。林建雄在沏泡铁观音茶的时候，也为与会者讲解了铁观音茶的性质以及沏茶所用之水质的重要性。最后，轮到黄副院长沏泡的六堡茶登场。他讲述了六堡茶在霹雳州盛行的渊源，以及六堡茶的清热、解暑保健功能。沏茶师们和与会者边饮茶边交流，让众人对品茗文化有更深入的了解。



林建雄(坐者左起)和符一飞为师生们示范沏茶。

# 中华研究院以茶会友

## 中华大讲堂 系列讲座

### 中华大讲堂系列讲座(七)：中国崛起与南海的争端



主讲人：中华研究院中文系(双溪龙区)系主任陈中和博士  
日期：2015年11月25日

首先，主讲人举美国为例子，以厘清世界强国的定义。美国是最大的经济体和市场、最大的负债国、有最强大的武力、主要国际组织的掌控者、世界货币的印刷者、世界通讯网络/电子系统的供应者、有世界最大的人才库和世界最大重要物资储蓄国。综合这八点，美国成功控制世界。随后，主持人以具体的数据和生动的画面，一一引领与会者认识中国的定位。

在谈到南海课题的时候，主讲人首先以地图呈现让与会者对南海有个宏观的认识。他表示，早在1947年的时候，中华民国已经有详细的南海地图，划定了包含南海数百岛屿和礁石的边界。然而在2014年中国领导人习近平大规模的南海造岛活动后，全球对南海课题的争执再度浮上台面。他随即亦一一分析了其中的原因。

主讲人幽默风趣且生动的演讲，清晰地说明了中国与南海份额风起云涌和各国的厉害关系，让与会者获益良多。

# Persembahan malam kebudayaan

Seramai 207 orang pelajar UTAR dari Kampus Kampar telah menganjurkan sebuah aktiviti tahunan bertajuk, Malam Kebudayaan Antarabangsa bertempat di Kampung Baru Timah pada 22 November 2015.

Bertemakan 'Every Magical Momentz International Cultural Night 2015', malam tersebut merupakan satu acara yang menyeronokkan dalam sambutan serta persembahan kebudayaan bagi mereka. Dihadiri lebih kurang 150 orang tetamu, malam kebudayaan tersebut diaksikan dengan pelbagai persembahan kebudayaan oleh pelajar-pelajar UTAR. Malam kebudayaan tersebut bermula dengan sebuah persembahan khas *a cappella* oleh sekumpulan pelajar UTAR.

Dianjurkan oleh pelajar-pelajar yang mengambil mata pelajaran ko-kurikulum,



Persembahan kebudayaan



Projek Kesenian dan Persembahan Kebudayaan di bawah naungan Jabatan Kemahiran Insaniah Kompetensi UTAR, projek ini bertujuan untuk mendedahkan pelbagai tradisi dan pengaruh budaya Malaysia yang berlainan kepada komuniti UTAR serta para penduduk di sekitar kampung-kampung baru. Selain aspek kepelbagaian budaya di Malaysia, malam kebudayaan ini juga bermatlamat menyebarkan pengetahuan tradisi dan kebudayaan negara lain melalui persembahan yang disampaikan oleh pelajar-pelajar antarabangsa UTAR yang datang dari negara-negara yang lain.

Timbalan Pengerusi MCA Cawangan Kampar Chang Gwo Chyang, mewakili

Timbalan Menteri Perdagangan Antarabangsa dan Industri Senator Dato' Lee Chee Long, memberikan ucapan pembukaan beliau yang menekankan prinsip dan visi UTAR yang ingin membawa perubahan dari segi penerimaan budaya dan tradisi global secara terbuka kepada pelajar-pelajar, pihak fakulti, masyarakat serta ekonomi.

Manakala, Pengerusi Penganjur Tan Zhi Yin pula menyampaikan ucapan terima kasih kepada para tetamu yang sudi hadir serta sokongan yang diberikan. Pelajar program pengajian Sains Pertanian itu juga memperkenalkan matlamat program kebudayaan tersebut dengan menyatakan bahawa ia bertujuan memupuk semangat perpaduan serta menggalakkan

kepelbagaian budaya masyarakat Malaysia dan negara lain.

Aktiviti malam kebudayaan tersebut juga dihadiri oleh Naib Presiden UTAR (Pembangunan Pelajar dan Hubungan Alumni) Prof Madya Dr Teh Chee Seng, Pengerusi MCA Cawangan Kampung Timah Tham Cheng Soon, Guru Besar SJK (C) Kampung Timah Lee Fong Foon, kakitangan UTAR, para pelajar dan orang awam.

Malam yang meriah tersebut mempersembahkan lebih 20 persembahan kebudayaan. Sebagai tanda kenangan, pelajar-pelajar UTAR juga telah melakarkan sebuah lukisan mural yang menerangkan konsep 1Malaysia di salah sebuah bangunan SJK (C) Kampung Timah.

## UTAR CAMPUSES

### Sungai Long Campus

DU012-02(B)

Jalan Sungai Long  
Bandar Sg. Long  
Cheras, 43000 Kajang

### Kampar Campus

DU012-03(A)

Jalan Universiti  
Bandar Barat  
31900 Kampar