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Issue 1

02 Collaborations
at Work

07 In Search
of Excellence

10 Special
Feature

12 In Search
of Excellence

14 Students
in Action

15 From Talks
to Forums

17 Community
at Heart

18 拉大视野

20 Sudut
Utarian

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Students cycling in the Kampar Campus



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MoU with National Institute of Ayurveda

UTAR signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA) on 5 December 2016 at Jaipur, Rajasthan, India. Signing on behalf of NIA was its Director Prof Sanjeev Sharma, while UTAR was represented by Council Chairman Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik.

Also present at the MoU signing were UTAR Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Deputy Dean for R&D and Postgraduate Programmes Prof Dr Yap Sook Fan and Senior Professor Prof Dr Ngeow Yun Fong.

The MoU serves to lay the foundation of the collaboration between the two parties in the aspects of education, training, research, future publications and the popularisation of Ayurvedic medicine in Malaysia. Apart from those, this MoU enables NIA to assist UTAR in founding a department of Ayurveda to teach Bachelor's and Master Degree programmes for Ayurveda in Malaysia.

Prior to this visit, the UTAR delegation



Tun Ling with Prof Sanjeev Sharma and other faculty members

led by Tun Ling participated in the World Ayurveda Congress which was held in Kolkata on 1 December to 4 December 2016.

NIA was established back in 1976 by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of India.

UTAR signed two memoranda of understanding (MoUs), one with Ital Auto and the other with MBSA Auto at Sungai Long Campus on 19 December 2016.

Ital Auto is a dealer of Ferrari and Maserati vehicles based in Shanghai, China, while MBSA Auto is a dealer of Mercedes-Benz based in Malaysia.

Signing the MoUs were UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik and Ital Automotive (Shanghai) Co. Ltd Director and the MBSA Automotive Sdn Bhd Dealer Principal Philip Beng Kian Phee. They were witnessed by UTAR Vice President for Internationalisation and Academic Development Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Ital Automotive Vice-President Chew Chee Wee and MBSA Automotive Deputy General Manager Lu Haw Nguan.

Other guests present at the signing ceremony were MBSA Automotive After-Sales Manager R. Chandra Rajesh and

MoU with Ital and MBSA Auto

Members of Board of Governor of Malaysian Association in the People's Republic of China (MAPROC) Sally Hoong and Lai Kim Aun, Lai's spouse Maureen Lai and Global Trading (SH) Pte Ltd Jeffrey Gan.

Representatives from UTAR included Vice President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, Faculty of Accountancy and Management Dean Dr Sia Bee Chuan, Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) Dean Prof Goi Bok Min, LKC FES Deputy Dean Dr Gulnaziya Issabayeva, LKC FES Department of Mechanical and Material Engineering Head Prof Ir Dr D. Rajkumar and UTAR Education Foundation Corporate Secretary Ong Whee Teong.

The MoUs will lead to future joint research collaborations, exchanges of ideas

and facilities, and industrial attachments and mutual visits by staff members for curricular development, seminars, conferences and workshops. Besides that, industrial study visits by UTAR undergraduate and postgraduate students will take place to enhance learning experiences and professional development.

In conjunction with the MoU signing ceremony, a mock cheque presentation from the Board of Governor Malaysian Association in the People's Republic of China (MAPROC) Representative Sally Hoong to Prof Chuah was held to honour the sponsorship of RM56,275.70. The sponsorship aims to facilitate UTAR students in exchange programmes, internships programme and study tours to China.



Back row, from left: Dr Sia, Prof Goi, Prof Choong, Ong, Jeffrey, Lai, Maureen and Chandra
Front row, from left: Prof Ewe, Prof Chuah, Phillip, Chew, Lu and Sally

UTAR welcomed delegates from Beijing Jiaotong University to the Sungai Long Campus on 12 January 2017. The purpose of the visit was to exchange MoU documents and promote mutual understanding between both institutions.

The delegates from Beijing Jiaotong University were Vice President Prof Dr Chen Feng, School of Civil Engineering Vice Dean Prof Dr Gao Liang, Office of Research Director Prof Dr Jing Tao, Office of International Affairs Deputy Director Lyu Chao, and National Rail Traffic Technical Education and Service Center Deputy Director Wang Gang.

Welcoming them were UTAR Vice President for Internationalisation and Academic Development Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Division of Community and International Networking Prof Dr Cheng Ming Yu, Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science Dean Prof Ir Dr Goi Bok Min, Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) Dean Dr Sia Bee Chuan, Institute of Chinese Studies Dean Assoc Prof Dr Chong Siou Wei, Centre for Extension Education Director Lim Guat Yen, Faculty of Creative

MoU exchange with Beijing Jiaotong University



From left: Wang, Dr Chong, Prof Gao, Prof Goi, Prof Jing, Prof Ewe, Prof Chen, Prof Cheng, Dr Sia, Lim, Dr Lim, Lyu and Dr Ma

Industries Department of Mass Communication Head Dr Lim Chai Lee, and FAM Lecturer Dr Ma Guoxin.

Prof Ewe expressed his warmest welcome and gratitude to the visitors and looked forward to closer collaboration with Beijing Jiaotong University in future. He said, "UTAR will actively develop any possible

collaboration with Beijing Jiaotong University as soon as possible to benefit more students. I believe today's MoU with Beijing Jiaotong University will enable our students to gain more exposure to new knowledge, broaden their global perspectives and learn from international peers."

Prof Chen remarked,

"Beijing Jiaotong University is an old university and there are huge numbers of our graduates supporting the transport industry in China. I hope we are able to exploit the strengths of each university to develop the best possible collaboration for our students."

A contract research agreement was signed between UTAR and Biovision & Greenergy Sdn Bhd on 18 January 2017 at Sungai Long Campus.

Signing the agreement on behalf of the parties were Biovision & Greenergy Sdn Bhd Plant Director Feng Chee Chein and UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik. The signing was witnessed by Biovision & Greenergy Sdn Bhd Executive Chairman Tan Sri Dato' Lau Yin Pin and UTAR Vice President for R&D and Commercialisation Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei. Also present at the ceremony were Biovision & Greenergy Sdn Bhd representatives Leong Kah Mun, Lau Chin Siang and Lau Chin Choon, while UTAR's representatives were Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Research Director Prof Dr Faidz Bin Abd Rahman, Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) Deputy Dean for Student Development and Industrial Training Assoc Prof Dr Lai Soon Onn, and LKC FES Lecturers Dr Sim Jia Huey,

Contract research agreement with Biovision & Greenergy



From left: Dr Sim, Dr Pang, Dr Lai, Dr Thiam, Prof Chuah, Prof Faidz, Tan Sri Dato' Lau, Feng, Leong, Chin Siang, Chin Choon and Prof Lee

Dr Pang Yean Ling and Dr Thiam Hui San.

The UTAR-Biovision & Greenergy Sdn Bhd collaboration represents the culmination of hard work between both parties to enhance the understanding of waste management by UTAR students and staff in order to spread the best practices in line

with environmental concerns.

Prof Chuah said, "We are truly grateful for Biovision & Greenergy Sdn Bhd's initiative to establish a cooperative relationship with UTAR in efforts to prevent damage to the Earth's ecosystem and to elevate the quality of life for the planet's inhabitants by implementing

advanced waste management and waste recycling systems."

Biovision & Greenergy Sdn Bhd is a biomass operator and producer of palm fibre, bio oil, biofuel, fertiliser and other products using Empty Fruit Bunch (EFB) and other biomass materials.

Alumni Chinese New Year Reunion Dinner

UTAR Student Representative Council (SRC) together with the Department of Alumni Relations and Placement (DARP) organised the "Alumni Chinese New Year Reunion Dinner 2017" on 17 February 2017 at the Sungai Long Campus.

Present at the event were UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Vice Presidents Prof Ewe Hong Tat, Prof Lee Sze Wei and Prof Choong Chee Keong, Registrar Yim Lin Heng, Alumni Association President Koh Fook Huat, Chancellery Head Lim Swea Jen, DARP Head Foo Wai Wai, Department of Student Affairs (Sungai Long Campus) Head Loh Nyuk Leung, Organising Chairperson Yap Yuan Ping, alumni, faculty members, administrative staff, SRC members and students.

At his opening speech, Prof Chuah said, "This reunion dinner is very meaningful as it gathers the UTAR alumni to catch up with one another and allows the university to update the alumni on its latest developments. We send our deepest appreciation to everyone who believes in UTAR and has supported the university in any shape or form. In return, UTAR has been actively working on many meaningful projects. Among them are 'The Gift of Eyesight' which gives free eye screening and glasses to needy students, and the 'Miracle Baby



Prof Chuah interacting with some international postgraduates and alumni

Programme' which provides treatment for children with congenital heart disease."

"We are currently raising funds through various activities to set up our own hospital in Kampar. The hospital will offer affordable medical and health services to benefit people from all walks of life. Besides that, this project will enable the university to train

medical students to cater to the shortage of medical specialists in the country," said the president.

The reunion dinner encompassed a wide range of performances and activities such as Lao Sheng, Lion Dance, Wushu, Flag Dancing and lucky draws.

Fifth UTAR-NUS New Village Collaborative Project

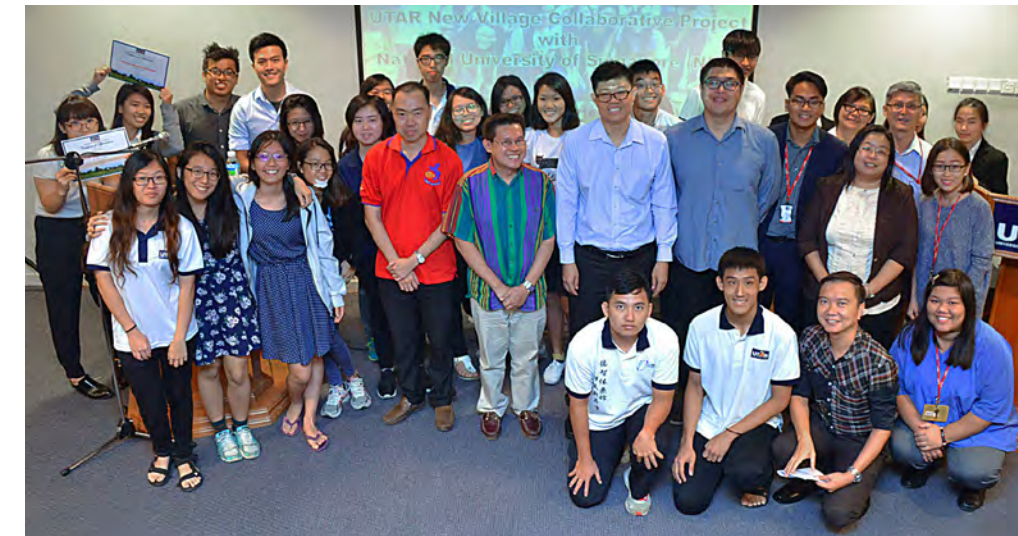
UTAR's Department of Soft Skills Competency (DSSC) in collaboration with the National University of Singapore (NUS) organised the fifth UTAR-NUS New Village Collaborative Project for a total of nine NUS students. The project ended with a closing ceremony at UTAR Kampar Campus on 28 December 2016.

The week-long project was conducted in three fishing villages in northern Perak, namely Kuala Gula, Bagan Seberang and Bagan Selatan, from 20 to 28 December 2016.

The UTAR-NUS New Village Community Project served as a platform for participants from the two institutions to uncover certain aspects of these three fishing villages in Malaysia such as demography, economic development, social structure, community assets and cultural values.

UTAR Vice President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong said, "We encourage our staff and students to assist the villages and then try to give some suggestions or solutions to improve their standard of living. Besides that, we try to work with some corporations and companies to provide some assistance to the villages, especially ones that have commercialisable products."

NUS Prof Albert Teo Chu Ying said, "In previous years, our research team have went to Perak, Kedah and Kelantan sequentially for social research studies every December



Prof Choong and Prof Teo with the nine NUS students, UTAR students and staff

since 2012." He looked forward to engaging with the UTAR students whom will visit NUS for a study trip this coming May. "In the next trip, I will lead them to look at charities, social enterprises, and also to study community development and social entrepreneurship in the Singaporean context."

Carmen Chia Jia Yun, a Psychology student from NUS said, "The field study has been an unforgettable experience for me. I also appreciate the chance we got to learn of the environment, development and problems facing the village and villagers."

Researchers had an insightful day at the Centre for Applied Psychology (CAP) Seminar 2017, organised by its namesake centre on 12 January 2017 at the Kampar Campus.

CAP Seminar 2017



The presenters and participants all smiles before the start of the seminar

Members of CAP who were invited to present their researches were FAS Deputy Dean for R&D and Postgraduate Programmes Dr Kok Jin Kuan, Chairperson of CAP Dr Tan Chee Seng, Head of Master of Psychology Programme and Organising Chairperson Dr Yap Chin Choo, and FAS Lecturers Deepa a/p Visvanathan, Mohd Yusof bin Zulkefli, Lee Ling Khai, Sarvarubini a/p Nainee, William Hoi Wei Yuan, Assoc Prof Dr Siah Poh Chua, Loh Wan Lin, Anna Ong Wen Huey and Peh Kai Shuen.

The seminar yielded fruitful discussions between the participants, enabled the presenters to obtain positive feedback and offered opportunities for researchers to discuss potential collaborations with each other.

Year Two Master of Psychology (Industrial & Organisational Psychology) student Lew Wei Him said, "Being a postgraduate student, the seminar provided me with much needed knowledge for my research, insights into the academic world and the requirements needed to get research published."

FAS Lecturers Ho Khee Hoong and Cheng Siew May mentioned that the

information shared by the presenters prioritised impactful social issues for the Malaysian community.

Noteworthy researches presented include FAS Lecturer Mohd Fauzi bin Harun and Mohd Yusof's "Beauty and the Beast: *Jom Kurus 1Malaysia (JK1M)* Programme vs Social Media", Dr Tan's "Attitude towards Deafness and Deaf People among Malaysian

Secondary School Students", Sarvarubini's "The Role of Meaning in Life Satisfaction of Malaysian Adults", Dr Kok and FAS Senior Lecturer Low Sew Kim's "Coping Abilities and Social Support of Myanmar Teenage Refugees in Malaysia", and Dr Siah's "Cultural Values and Attitudes towards Older Person among Malaysian Chinese Adolescents".

With the aim to provide training to senior-ranking police officers from the Perak State Police Contingent and District Police Headquarters of Perak, UTAR's Centre for Extension Education (CEE) and the Faculty of Arts and Social Science (FAS) organised a workshop titled "The Future of Policing" on 27 December 2016 at Kampar Campus.

The workshop was conducted by UTAR International Collaboration Partner Prof Prabha N. Unnithan from Colorado State University, USA and Dr Cheah Phaik Kin from the Department of Public Relations, FAS.

officers from the Police Volunteer Reserve in Perak. The two-hour workshop highlighted four key issues, namely policing and globalisation, police and community, professionalisation and civilisation.

The workshop also touched on issues and challenges facing the police in the 21st Century. The discussion revolved around the processes that are being affected by the advancement of information and communication technologies. The participants also learnt about the changing roles of the police and criminal justice system in the future. They were also enlightened on

Workshop for high-ranking police

the importance of community policing and the roles of police volunteer officers in Malaysia.

Besides that, the workshop also aimed at forging better rapport between senior-ranking officers of RMP and the UTAR community.

Pegawai Turus Pentadbiran of the Perak State Police Contingent SUPT Lai Lee Ching said, "The workshop is indeed

a good platform for all of us to learn some new concepts and issues that concern the public. The speakers are really knowledgeable and we are glad to be part of this informative workshop. The workshop has clearly described the shifting roles of information technology and its importance in policing."

Besides the 30 senior-ranking Royal Malaysian Police (RMP) officers from the Perak State Police Contingent and District Police Headquarters of Perak, the workshop also saw participation of



A representation of the close ties forged between UTAR and RMP

Tea meeting with President

Graduands of the August 2017 Convocation had the opportunity to receive advice and wisdom from UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik at tea meetings held at Sungai Long Campus on 16 February 2017 and Kampar Campus on 22 February 2017.

"Convocation is not only a celebration of your success, but also for your parents and families as well. Make sure to share your joy and success with them and treat them well," advised Prof Chuah. Prof Chuah further offered tips and advice as they begin building their future careers. Citing a JobStreet survey, he said unrealistic salaries; poor character, attitude or personality; weak communication skills and command of English; as well as being picky about jobs were the top reasons why graduates are unable to gain employment.

"You may have the necessary foundation, but it's not enough to succeed in today's globalised and competitive world. You need to continuously seek and learn new knowledge, discover new insights and differentiate yourself from your peers. Especially when you are starting a career as a professional, remember to be a good subordinate and team worker, learn to continuously develop yourself, prioritise the company's goals, be ethical and if needed, exit the company in a graceful manner with no strained relationships with your employers," he added.

Lastly, Prof Chuah reminded the students how contributions from people of all walks of life helped the university's development in the past, with hopes that the graduands will do the same in future.

The tea meeting not only served as an effort to sustain a strong



Prof Chuah giving advice to students

network with the alumni community, but was equally important for the graduands to be informed on the alumni association's role in helping students stay in touch with the university after graduation.

Structural Earthquake Stability 3.0 Competition

The Structural Earthquake Stability (SES) 3.0 Competition was held at Sungai Long Campus on 18 February 2017. It was an inter-university competition organised by the UTAR Student Chapters of The Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM) and the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), together with Lee Kong Chain Faculty of Engineering and Science's (LKC FES) Department of Civil Engineering. It was sponsored by Sunway Construction Group Berhad.

SES 3.0 aimed to propagate the skills of earthquake engineering through the practical experience of building small-scale structural models. By challenging the undergraduate students to design a cost-effective structure to resist seismic loading, it was hoped that the potential of their engineering knowledge, management skills and creativity could be unleashed.

Present at the opening ceremony were UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Sunway Construction Berhad Special Project Director-cum-SES 3.0 Competition Judge Akira Yabe, LKC FES Dean Prof Ir Dr Goi Bok Min, LKC FES Department of Civil Engineering Assoc Prof Ir Dr Lim Siong Kang, SES 3.0 Advisor Dr Lee Yee Ling, Co-Advisor Yip Chun Chieh, and SES 3.0 Competition Judges Prof Yasuo Tanaka, Ir Adjunct Prof MC Hee, and Ir Ng Joo Yee.

During his welcoming remarks, Prof Chuah said, "Teaching engineering students is not an easy task. As educators, we do not just limit them to the knowledge from books, but also lead them to explore the real world. We do not make decisions based on



Team Anything constructing their model

manmade laws, but make decisions logically and rationally based on nature's law."

The 140 participants who formed 28 teams hailed from 16 universities. *Anything*, the Champion-winning team from UTAR brought home prizes worth RM1,300.

Meanwhile, team *Will Win* from UCSI University and team *UiTM1* from UiTM won First Runner-up and Second Runner-up with prizes worth RM1,000 and RM800 respectively.

Alumnus shines at business awards

UTAR alumnus Lee Ti Chou, currently the Executive Director at New Yew Seng Diesel, has received the Product and Service Excellence Award at the Sin Chew Business Excellence Awards 2016 and was named an Excellent Eagle at the most recent Golden Eagle Award.

Lee has won the two awards for two consecutive years since 2015. Besides, the alumnus also received several other small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) awards such as SME Young Entrepreneur Award 2015 from SME Association of Malaysia, Young Entrepreneur Award (Special Mention) from Star Outstanding Business Awards 2015, and SME 100 Fast Moving Award 2015 from SME Asia.

"It has been 11 years since I completed my studies at UTAR. As soon as I started my career, I have worked from ground up in order to comprehend the operations of a diesel trading business. Those days in training have made me an entrepreneur today," said Lee, who graduated in 2005 from the pioneer batch of Bachelor of Business Administration (Hons) students from UTAR Faculty of Accountancy and Management.

Lee enthused, "I am very proud to be a UTARian and I hope my achievements today will inspire my fellow juniors and that I can be a good role model for those who intend to pursue an entrepreneurial dream."

"I would like to express my gratitude and dedicate my achievements not only to my family. I am thankful that UTAR has provided a holistic education in teaching, shaping, guiding and influencing me in both my academics and life. I believe UTAR has certainly impacted many other individuals out there and inspired them to excel in many ways," Lee emphasised.

Lee is also a member of the Malaysian Business Champions Club Programme by Secretariat for the Advancement of Malaysian Entrepreneurs (SAME).



Lee at the award ceremonies

Assoc Prof David Ng Ching Yat, Dr Lau Teck Chai, AMBA student Yuen Mun Kwun and alumnus Lim Boon Keong, all from or formerly of the Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM), won the Best Paper Award in the 3rd International Conference on Science and Social Research (CSSR) held at The Everly, Putrajaya from 6 to 7 December 2016.

The international conference was organised by Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) and the Institute of Research Management and Innovation (IRMI). The objective of the conference was to facilitate the publication of research findings in high quality journals and enhance the visibility of researchers. This conference serves as a platform that enables researchers to present their findings and share innovative ideas, knowledge and technologies, all while expanding their social network beyond their areas of expertise.

The researchers submitted to the conference their paper titled "A study on the Performance and Risk Diversification Benefits of Real Estate Investment Trusts in Malaysia", which focused on utilising the Sharpe, Treynor and Jensen measures to investigate the risk diversification benefits of Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs). The findings from the paper provide a clear understanding and comprehension of REITs performance to portfolio managers and investors as a possible investment.

At the same event, Ng also won the Best Presenter Award. "CSSR 2016 provided us an ideal platform to present our Social Science research with other academics and industry personnel working in similar research fields. This was only my second experience presenting a research paper, and it was to a larger audience than the last. We were excited to be chosen for the Best

CSSR Best Paper Award



Ng and Dr Lau with their certificate

Presenter and also the Best Paper Awards. This has provided us with extra motivation in continuing with our research and to present more papers at international conferences," said Ng.

UTAR Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology's (FEGT) Doctor of Philosophy (Engineering) student Goh Ching Lam received the Best Paper Award in the 3rd International Conference of Chemical Engineering and Industrial Biotechnology (ICCEIB) held at Bayou Lagoon Park Resort, Malacca from 28 to 30 November 2016.

Organised by Universiti Malaysia Pahang, the international conference was themed 'FEW: Emerging for the Sustainable Future' and served to disseminate cutting-edge research findings and advances in the fields of chemical engineering and industrial biotechnology towards food, energy and water.

Titled "Optimisation of Palm Oil Mill Sludge Biochar (POMSB) for Heavy Metal Removal Using Response Surface Methodology (RSM)", Goh's paper was handpicked as the Best Paper for the category of "Water and Environmental Engineering". According to Goh, his research highlighted the successful conversion of POMS into biochar for wastewater treatment. "This will be able to solve environmental pollution caused by palm oil mills. By producing high value-added biochar for wastewater treatment, which is currently not yet available in the market and also not reported in the literature, palm oil mills will also see an increase in revenue in contrast with converting POMS into low-value fertiliser," he explained. Goh also added that producing POMSB is much more economical and energy-efficient than making powdered

Best Paper in Water and Environmental Engineering



Goh (middle) flanked by Dr Bashir (left) and Dr Sumathi (right)

activated carbon which has a similar function. "In a nutshell, biochar helps to create a sustainable environment by reusing waste produced from palm oil mills to reduce water contamination," Goh concluded.

A Senior Lecturer at Tunku Abdul Rahman University College, Goh also extended his heartfelt gratitude to his

supervisor, Assoc Prof Dr Sumathi a/p Sethupathi from FEGT's Department of Environmental Engineering as well as co-supervisor-cum-FEGT Head of Department of Environmental Engineering Dr Mohammed J. K. Bashir for their guidance and encouragement.

Advertising graduate Ooi Wen Lih, or popularly known by her stage name Wengdy Ooi, was crowned Champion at the Astro Star Quest (ASQ) 2016 on New Year's Eve at Desa ParkCity, Kuala Lumpur. She walked home with a cash prize of RM50,000 and a luxury car.

"I am honoured by the judges' decision! This is truly the best starting point in my career," she said. Ooi beat four other finalists, Eugene Wen Keng Soon, Steve Eer Xiao Hui, William Tan Kian Hong, and Brian Chew Yi Bin in a 20-minute action-packed performance to win the competition.

Ooi discovered her passion for singing through her family's love for music when she was five. "Setting foot on stage has been my dream since childhood, because I want to use it to spread positive energy and motivate people through my voice," she continued.

She also credited her success to past performances she gave on campus. "Through my experience, I've learnt that my mentality affects every performance. Therefore, I always treat each performance as my first, to keep myself fresh and excited."

Ooi recently participated in the Hong Kong for the TVB International Chinese New Talent Singing Championship 2016 held on 19 February 2017. "As for the next step, I hope to have more performing opportunities, as well as creating and releasing my own material," she said.

Alumna crowned Astro Star Quest champion

"No matter what your dreams are, as long as you are willing to take the first step,

put in effort and persist through hardships, it will produce results," she advised.



ASQ 2016 Champion Wengdy Ooi

Elsevier Most Downloaded Article

Marking another milestone of the groundbreaking research conducted in UTAR is Faculty of Business and Finance Tutor Hew Jun Jie with his "Telematics & Informatics Most Downloaded Article (May – July 2016)" award that he recently received from Elsevier (USA)'s *Telematics and Informatics* journal.

Titled "Hall of fame for mobile commerce and its application: A bibliometric evaluation of a decade and a half (2000-2015)", the award-winning research paper centres on evaluating the current development and trends of researches on mobile commerce and its application through bibliometric analysis.

"I really did not imagine my paper could be one of the most downloaded articles of this journal. It is truly an honour to have the Editor-in-Chief Prof Jan Servaes accept my paper and to have so many readers around the world reading my paper," said Hew.

Apart from his paper being recognised as the most downloaded paper, Hew's paper also serves as a forerunner in using bibliometric analysis in the Web of Science database. He also foresees the paper



Tan, Hew and Leong posing with the certificate

benefitting researchers by identifying potential research directions, and eventually being a guide to potential researchers and practitioners in this research field.

Currently, UTAR is ranked the third among the most productive institutions in the research discipline of mobile

commerce and its application, and adding to that success are FBF Senior Lecturers Garry Tan Wei Han and Leong Lai Ying, who have been identified in the list of most productive authors. This success also draws attention to Malaysia as being one of the top ten most productive countries in this

research field. *Telematics and Informatics* is an interdisciplinary journal examining the impacts and challenges of information and communication technologies, and is currently indexed with Thomson Reuters (ISI); Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI), with Impact Factor (IF) of 2.261.

FBF lecturer named Outstanding Reviewer

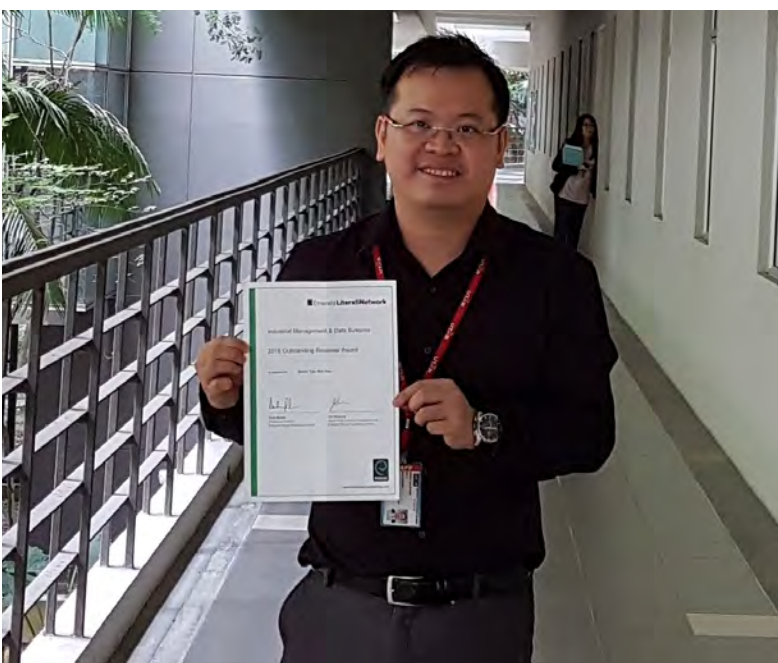
Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) Senior Lecturer Garry Tan Wei Han was named as an Outstanding Reviewer for the Journal of Industrial Management and Data Systems in the Emerald Literati Network 2016 Awards for Excellence.

Reviewers play a critical role in the scholarly publishing process as academics are dependent on critical peer reviews to assess the quality and thoroughness of their research before publication.

To be recognised as an Outstanding Reviewer by the world-renowned scholarly publisher was a first for Tan, and the Marketing expert enthused, "The award is a validation of the rigorous research training that we provide for our students at FBF." He also expressed his gratitude to the editor Assoc Prof Dr Alain Chong Yee Loong, a prominent academic in Information Systems at the Nottingham University Business School, China, for the nomination.

Tan, who hails from Ipoh, was also the recipient of the 2015 Highly Commended Award by Emerald's Journal of Service Management. Winners of the 2016 Emerald Literati Network Awards for Excellence can also be viewed from Emerald Group Publishing's website.

The Journal of Industrial Management and Data Systems is currently indexed in Thomson Reuters (ISI) with 1.278 Impact Factor (Journal Citation Reports 2015).



Tan displaying his certificate

UTAR launches Tun Tan Cheng Lock Centre for Social and Policy Studies



The VIPs officially launching the centre

As a tribute to one of the country's founding fathers and the first President of the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA), UTAR launched the Tun Tan Cheng Lock Centre for Social and Policy Studies (TCLC) in its Sungai Long Campus on 28 February 2017.

Present at the launch were the guest of honour Transport Minister Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai, UTAR Chancellor Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik and spouse Toh Puan Ena Ling, granddaughter of Tun Tan Cheng Lock Datin Paduka Tan Siok Choo, TCLC Steering Committee Chairman-cum-UTAR Council Member Senator Dato' Hou Kok Chung, Deputy Minister of Women, Family and Community Development Senator Datin Paduka Chew Mei Fun, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, TCLC Chairperson Assoc Prof Dr Chin Yee Mun, Tun Tan's family, as well as guests from MCA, UTAR Council and Board of Trustees, University of Malaya, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Universiti Putra Malaysia, New Era University College, and Chinese associations.



From left: Datin Paduka Chew, Datin Paduka Tan, Prof Chuah, Dato' Sri Liow, Tun Ling and Dato' Hou with MCA's donation



Prof Chuah thanking MCA and Tun Tan's family for their support



Datin Paduka Tan citing the legacy of Tun Tan



Dato' Sri Liow emphasising the importance of unity in Malaysia

Speaking at the launch, Prof Chuah thanked MCA for their donation of RM1million to the TCLC in support of further research and to meet the centre's goals and objectives. "It is very important to rediscover the missing parts of our history and culture, as well as the legacy of Tun Tan Cheng Lock and our founding fathers. Therefore, TCLC will conduct research on Tun Tan Cheng Lock's life, values and political contributions, and on Tun Tan Siew Sin's contributions during his tenure as the Finance Minister of Malaysia. The centre will also expand its role to research on past Malaysian leaders, nation building and contemporary socio-political issues."

Prof Chuah also announced that the centre currently has 80 members from various faculties in the university, and all interested academics are welcome to submit their proposals to conduct research for the centre. "We also welcome researchers from all fields to be part of the centre's exciting initiatives and we look forward to possible collaborative efforts with our partners including MCA. All the research outcomes and knowledge will be disseminated to the general public, with hopes that they will inspire the younger generation to take up leadership roles and encourage them to contribute in nation building," said the president.

Datin Paduka Tan enthused, "My sisters, Siok Eng and Siok Lee, and I would like to thank Dato' Sri Liow, Tun Ling and UTAR for deciding to name this centre after our grandfather, the late Tun Tan Cheng Lock. It is an honour that Tun Tan would have appreciated tremendously." Citing the background of Tun Tan's legacy, she said, "While much has been written about Tun Tan's involvement in politics, little is known about his entrepreneurial forays, first in rubber planting and later banking."

She explained, "Due to the lack of financial resources to study law at a university, Tun Tan highly valued a university education, reflected in the fact that he sent his children to the US and UK for their tertiary education. Conversely, my grandfather was a staunch follower of Confucius. One of the most important rituals that he observed strictly was the ancestral remembrance ceremony; a rite that he instilled in his son Tun Tan Siew Sin whom in turn impressed on my sisters and I to continue the traditional Confucian ritual. Above all, Tun Tan ingrained in his children a key Confucian ethic — the worst transgression a son or daughter could commit is to bring dishonour to the family."

Also speaking at the launch was Dato' Sri Liow who said, "Tun Tan was the founder and the first president of MCA and we are proud to have this centre set up in honour of Tun Tan and his immense contributions to our

country. He was a prominent public figure who was committed to championing the rights and social welfare of the Chinese community in Malaya. Most importantly, he was devoted to building a multiracial system of governance in order to raise the harmoniousness of race relations in Malaya. It is undeniable that he was one of those leaders who believed that moderation was the only way for Malaya to move forward."

The guest of honour further said, "In recognition of Tun Tan's immense efforts and to continue his incredible legacy, MCA is proud to donate RM1million to the TCLC at UTAR. The donation will fund various activities and research in areas such as the thoughts and ideas of Tun Tan and our founding fathers, the history and contributions of Malaysian Chinese, nation building, ethnic relations, social policies and much more."

He also advised, "I hope that our youths will be inspired by the deeds of Tun Tan and be motivated to emulate this patriotic spirit of togetherness among us all. By understanding the past, we can plan and act in the present in anticipation of future challenges and growth. If we want to know how and why our society is the way it is today, we have to look into our history for answers and that is why we need to properly document our past and seek solutions for the future. It is with great hope that the TCLC will inspire the younger generation to contribute to building a better Malaysia through Tun Tan's vision — uniting our multiethnic society to build a greater nation."

The TCLC's vision is to be a centre of excellence that spearheads research for the betterment of Malaysia as a nation. Visit the TCLC's official website for more details: <http://research.utar.edu.my/TCLC/index.html>.



The guests admiring the exhibition on Tun Tan

Champion in international public speaking contest



Sivaraj (fourth from left) receiving prizes from Dr J. Radha Krishnan (sixth from left), while other VIPs and winners look on

speakers from different parts of the world. I am grateful and indeed very happy to win in this competition."

He added, "Public speaking has always been a skill that I love very much. I loved the challenge of arguing with brilliant people and voicing out my opinions in a compelling way.

It is always very exciting to think fast and speak impromptu upon receiving the topic."

The guest of honour who gave the prizes was Secretary of the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu Dr J. Radha Krishnan.

Best Presenter Award at ICSPC 2016

A team of researchers from UTAR Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) won the Best Presenter award in the 2016 IEEE Conference on Systems, Process and Control (ICSPC 2016) held at Swiss Garden Hotel in Malacca from 16 to 17 December 2016.

The team comprised Dean of FEGT Assoc Prof Dr Yap Vooi Voon, Head of Master of Engineering Science programme Assoc Prof Dr Humaira Nisar, and Master of Engineering Science student Ong Yew Fai. They won the Best Presenter award after presenting their paper titled "Image Classification Using Wavelet Coefficients for Video Surveillance".

The paper was part of Ong's Master's studies and was inspired by the video surveillance applications using wavelet compression and parallel processing that the team is currently working on. "Our research is related to video surveillance and we are working to develop a fast event detection method for video surveillance using wavelets and parallel processing. Through this research, we introduce a new approach to identify and classify different types of images encountered in video surveillance systems. The main objective of our study is to identify specific wavelet filters for achieving a better



Ong (left) receiving the award on behalf of his team from General Chair of ICSPC 2016 Prof Dr Mohammad Nasir Taib

classification for images. In addition to that, the fundamental properties of wavelet coefficients for feature selection for image classification are investigated. Haar, Daubechies 5, Symlet 2, and Biorthogonal 2.2 wavelets have been used in this investigation and the results show that Haar wavelets provide promising results in object

retrieval compared to Daubechies 5, Symlet 2, and Biorthogonal 2.2 wavelets," explained Ong.

He added, "This is my first experience presenting a research paper in a conference held by the IEEE Malaysia Section Control Systems Chapter and we are excited to be chosen as the best presenter."

Best Paper Award



HudsonAlpha's Head of Software Development and Informatics (SDI) Group Dr Elizabeth Worthey (left) presenting the certificate to Dr Humaira

or abnormal state identification process in wastewater plants. When implemented, it will precipitate improved quality of the water leaving water treatment plants and help to detect abnormal occurrences in treatment plants. It will also decrease the overflow of untreated water in the plants, hence further ensuring society's access to clean water.

IECBES was an opportune platform for the researchers to share and exchange ideas with industrial experts and academia. Various technologies on computing, imaging, sensors and systems were also showcased at the conference.

Second place in chess tournament

UTAR Faculty of Business and Finance's Final Year Financial Economics student Jackie Chan Sheng won Second place in the *Kejohanan Catur Tertutup Negeri Perak 2016* held from 3 to 4 December 2016 at the *Perpustakaan Awam Negeri Perak*.

Co-organised by the Perak Chess Association and *Perpustakaan Awam Negeri Perak*, the competition was only open to Perak citizens, and with the purpose to enable local chess players to showcase their skills and talents.

Chan proved his mettle at the chess battlefield against 101 participants, which led to him walking home with a trophy and a RM400 cash prize.

Despite being rewarded for his talent and skill, the chess enthusiast mentioned that losing was just as important to him as it has taught him over the years to be more cautious and to be prepared when facing younger opponents.

"Mastering chess is not easy, but through my many years' experience and practice, I was able to be crowned the first runner up. The ability to be farsighted, focused and able to solve complex situations in a short time will allow each player to come out ahead of their opponent," enthused Chan.

For Chan, the game was not just a

mere hobby, but stated that "chess is life"; it is a game of art and science that includes how to predict your opponents and to strategise against them. More importantly, juggling between his hobby and studies, Chan mentioned that he was grateful to

UTAR for teaching him the importance of time management and the need to strike a balance between studies and leisure activities, to balance his mental and physical health in his scholarly years.



Chan (back row, fourth from right) with the organisers and other winners at the tournament

Study Tour to Josai

It was an enriching 10-day study tour for 20 UTAR students when they visited Josai International University (JIU) in Japan from 28 September to 7 October 2016.

Organised by UTAR Faculty of Business and Finance, the students journeyed to learn Japanese language and culture. Greeting the visitors with a warm welcoming party were JIU's Faculty of Tourism Dean Prof Junichi Watanabe, staff and students.

Besides attending lessons on Japanese language and culture at JIU, they also learnt the practical side of the culture through soba-making and bamboo craft classes. The fun lessons did not stop there, as students had the opportunity to enjoy tea at a traditional Japanese tea ceremony lesson with a specially-invited tea ceremony master. They also went on to have pleasant lessons on wearing kimonos and writing Japanese characters using *fude* brushes.

These were followed by classes on tourism, hospitality management, tourism development risk assessment, and tourism destination marketing class.

During their lessons in JIU, the students also had the honour of meeting JIU Chancellor Dr Noriko Mizuta, Vice President Prof Masumi Ishida and Kamogawa City Mayor Takao Hasegawa, and being taken to visit the birthplace of JIU and Josai University (JU) Founder Mikio Mizuta.

Not forgetting leisurely activities, students had fun with visits to Kamogawa's Sea World, promenade, shrine and the observatory deck. Time was also allocated



The students in their kimonos

for the students to visit Kawagoe's historic Little Edo, Asakusa district for shopping and Akihabara district to indulge in Japanese *anime*, *manga*, video games and figurines.

Since 2011, when an agreement was initially signed with Josai University Educational Corporation (JUEC) which

operates JIU and JU, the universities have collaborated closely with UTAR, for example sending their students to UTAR's English Language and cultural programmes in the hopes of nurturing broad international outlooks.

ACG Fiesta 2017

The UTAR Asian Cultural Society of Sungai Long Campus held a cosplay event titled "Anime, Comic & Games (ACG) Fiesta 2017" at Sungai Long Campus from 21 to 22 January 2017. The fiesta acted as a platform for cosplayers to network and showcase their creativity.

"Cosplaying is an excellent opportunity to connect with those who share similar interests, and a chance to be the character you love. Through this fiesta, I hope more people will learn to appreciate and adopt this subculture," ACG Fiesta 2017 Chairperson Goh Jun Kian said.

The fiesta featured special guests such as AbamApam, Angie, and Lea & Mikki, as well as the GG Twins as the emcees for the event. Among the fun activities were a Cosplay Cafe, solo and group cosplay competitions, a talent competition, mini concerts, various game booths, and a haunted house.

Goh said around 900 participants from the public showed up. "According to their feedback, most of them are looking forward to next year's fiesta."

Cosplay (コスプレ), a contraction of the words *costume* and *play*, is a performance art where a participant (known as a cosplayer), dresses up in costumes and accessories to represent a specific character from *manga*, *anime*, comic books, cartoons, video games, films or television series.



Some of the dance performances (top) and costume competition entrants (bottom)

Leadership Skills for Youth forum

To expand students' soft skills development, the "Leadership Skills for Youth" forum, organised by the Department of Soft Skills Competency (DSSC) of Kampar Campus, was held on 26 November 2016.

The invited speakers included Communication Expert, Television and Radio Producer, Founder and Managing Director of AW Communications, and Anchor of Melody FM Wong Chui Ling; Ipoh City Councillor, and Director of Bao Today and Chengtao Machinery Experts Sdn Bhd Ceylyn Tay Wei Lung; Managing Director of GAFS Advisory Sdn Bhd, Registered Financial Planner and Associate Estate Planner Practitioner Goo Kah Thart; and Managing Director of Hills and Cheryl Corporate Advisory Sdn Bhd Chong Choong Kian.

Wong, from her expertise in the entertainment and communication industry, shared that the four skills of personal traits, social grace, people skills and communication, are collective elements found in a leader. Wong likewise highlighted the importance of constantly seeking new knowledge and applying them to areas they can be of service to.

Tay shared, "It is important for a leader to have good communication skills because you cannot influence someone without



Speakers and participants at the end of the forum

talking. The need to speak face-to-face, with emotions involved, allows people to see your sincerity, persuading them to trust you."

Chong concurred, saying, "Soft skills are about showing your character to the other individual, and it complements your hard skills."

Goo spoke of a leader as being an individual with humane values and who is able to perform their best. "To lead

others, you have to first lead yourself, and leaders draw out leadership qualities in their members," he said. Citing from his experience with UTAR interns, he mentioned that UTAR students were indeed exemplary students with good leadership skills, and reminded participants to view challenges as opportunities that will help bring out their leadership skills.

ISGST 2017

UTAR Centre for Environment and Green Technology (CEGT) organised the 2nd International Symposium on Green and Sustainable Technology (ISGST 2017) at Kampar Campus from 10 to 13 January 2017.

Held for the second time since 2014, the symposium has since provided a strategic platform for the dissemination of knowledge and up-to-date developments in green and sustainable technology across the international academic community.

Representing UTAR President to deliver his opening remarks was Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei, who mentioned, "UTAR focuses on teaching and research excellence. There have been some successful researches on renewable energy which have earned recognition at various awards. These research accomplishments are testimonies to the university's research excellence, further motivating us to bring forth research and innovations to benefit the economy and environment." He also added that the university highly encourages cross-disciplinary researches, synergistic development of ideas and shared use of resources.

The four-day symposium consisted of four keynote lectures. They were delivered by Universiti Sains Malaysia's Prof Dr Ahmad Zuhairi Abdullah who spoke on



The organising committee and some of the participants

biomass conversion, Kobe University's Prof Dr Yusuke Uchiyama who spoke on environmental assessment and modeling, Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP)'s Prof Dr Nasir Shafiq who lectured on green materials, and Tamkang University's Prof Dr Ho Chii-Dong who focused on water and waste management. Technical sessions were also held throughout the symposium, further intensifying the discussions and interaction amongst the 70 over participants.

"As an electrical engineering researcher, certain research findings shared by the keynote speakers were particularly useful for me. In this symposium, I'm able to interact and discuss with the researchers of certain papers immediately which enable me to understand the researches more effectively," remarked Prof Dr Martin Schubert from Ostbayerische Technische Hochschule (OTH) Regensburg, Germany.



How to be a technopreneur

Technopreneur Lilyana Abdul Latiff held a talk titled "What it takes to be a software entrepreneur", organised by the Department of Consultancy and Commercialisation, at Sungai Long Campus on 14 February 2017. She shared some of her experiences on leveraging technology in entrepreneurship.

Speaking to students largely from the Software Engineering programme, Lilyana advised them to learn new skills besides their technical knowledge. "Building a product such as an app or a website not only depends on programming languages or codes, it also requires you to understand design aspects such as colour and aesthetics," she said.

Lilyana credited her studies in business administration for helping her to successfully manage her first startup. "Studying business admin has been the best choice I've made. It helped me to manage my finances, market my products, and run my business," she said.

However, her journey as an entrepreneur has been no bed of roses.

◀ Lilyana sharing her experience

Lilyana shared some bad decisions she and her partners made for Joota, a social networking site similar to Pinterest. "We exhausted our funding on R&D, an expensive office in KL, paid ourselves high salaries, and did little on marketing. Looking back, if we spent more time on marketing, and stationed ourselves in the United States, Joota could have been a success story," she continued.

Lastly, she advised students to develop an entrepreneurial spirit no matter where they work. "The entrepreneurial spirit is a mindset, attitude and approach that actively seeks out change; it's a mindset that embraces critical questioning, innovation, service and continuous improvement."

Lilyana Abdul Latiff is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Founder of Aelph One, CEO of New Entrepreneurs Foundation of Malaysia (MyNEF), Co-Founder of Joobii Commerce, and Chairperson of ASEAN Rice Bowl Startup Awards.

Delivery of free spectacles continue

Following the successful school visits-cum-eye screening projects to a total of four schools in Perak last year, UTAR Council Chairman Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik led the year's first delegation to visit and distribute free spectacles to 98 school students from SJK (C) Thung Hon, Cenderong and SJK (C) Bemban, Batu Gajah on 5 January 2017.

Titled "The Gift of Eyesight", the project was a collaborative effort between UTAR and the Malaysian Association of Practising Opticians (MAPO) to help young students, especially the poor and those in need of spectacles, to get free spectacles.

Tun Ling was accompanied by UTAR Vice President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, UTAR Council Member Hew Fen Yee, Head of the Department of Soft Skills Competency of Kampar Campus Hee Chwen Yee and other UTAR staff.

The delegates from UTAR were cordially received by SJK(C) Thung Hon Principal Lai Yoke Kam, SJK (C) Bemban, Batu Gajah Principal Lee Wai Men, MAPO Vice President Douglas Lee C.K., England Optical Group Founder Prof Dato' Dr Chin See Keat Sin, and teachers and students from both schools.

Tun Ling said, "Providing spectacles to young students help to raise young children's grades, improving their education. Apart from that, healthy vision enables young students to improve their quality of life from childhood into adulthood and to contribute actively in society. UTAR is indeed proud to work together with MAPO to make



Two Standard Six students from SJK (C) Thung Hon each receiving spectacles from Tun Ling and Douglas Lee, while Prof Chin (in white) looks on

eye care accessible to needy students. I would like to thank MAPO and England Optical Group Founder Dato' Chin for their noble act of collaborating with UTAR to give back to the community."

The England Optical Group also sponsored a total of 300 spectacle frames valued at RM15,000 to the needy school students.

Aid for schools to boost English and IT proficiency

UTAR once again collaborated with ECM Libra Foundation to organise a series of comprehensive English and IT Tuition Programmes for selected primary schools in Kampar and Batu Gajah, namely SJK(C) Jeram, SJK (C) Kampung Timah, SJK (C) Lawan Kuda, SJK (C) Bemban and SJK (C) Thung Hon.

Jointly conducted since March 2016 by UTAR Department of Soft Skills Competency (DSSC), Faculty of Arts and Social Science (FAS) and Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT), the tuition programmes ended with a closing ceremony at UTAR Kampar Campus on 19 November 2016.

The programme was aimed to enhance the school students' English Language and IT proficiency as well as to strengthen their understanding toward the subjects.

UTAR Vice President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong said, "We are glad to see

that more than 140 schoolchildren have benefitted from the tuition programmes conducted by UTAR. This was a good opportunity for the students to equip themselves with the right education and essential knowledge, especially with English being the *lingua franca* around the world, and with IT skills becoming increasingly essential in the 21st century."

The English Tuition programme focused primarily on the teaching of listening, speaking,

reading and writing skills to the school students. Apart from indoor learning, the students also engaged in interactive activities such as storytelling, grammar lessons, English language-related games, reading aloud, and singing action songs to stimulate students' interest in English. Meanwhile, the components of the IT Tuition programme involved indoor class training on some basic programming and animation skills.

The closing ceremony ended with ECM Libra Foundation Senior Manager Cheah Sook Lian presenting prizes to students whom performed well in the final assessment.



School students with their instructors

Dialogue sessions with CELAP

(OBOR) Initiative: Globalisation", elucidating the initiative which promotes regional and cross-continental connectivity and trade between China and Eurasia. It covers five major areas of interest, namely policy coordination, infrastructure construction, unimpeded trade, financial integration and people-to-people ties.

Zhao, however, illuminated the audiences with her talk titled "Executive Leadership Education and Training in China". She introduced the leadership

education and training system used in China, as well as its development throughout the years.

At the dialogue session held in Kampar Campus, Dr Au Yong also spoke on the environmental legislation and development in Malaysia. This was followed by Dr Abdelhak who delivered a talk related to the influence of modern technologies on cybercrime among Malaysian youth.



Seated, from left: Dr Abdelhak, Zhao, Dr Au Yong, Dr Yang, FBF Deputy Dean Dr Lau Lin Sea and Dr Yii with other staff from UTAR Kampar Campus

UTAR successfully organised two dialogue sessions with two delegates from the China Executive Leadership Academy Pudong (CELAP). The first was hosted by the Institute of Management and Leadership Development (IMLD) on 4 January 2017 at Sungai Long Campus, while the second was hosted by the Centre for Economic Studies (CES), parked under the Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) on 9 January 2017 at Kampar Campus.

The delegates were CELAP Division of Foreign Affairs Director Zhao Xiuhua and CELAP Department of Economics and Business Administration Lecturer Dr Yang Zhiqiang.

Present on the first day was IMLD Director Prof Dr Cheng Ming Yu, while the second day saw the presence of FBF Dean Dr Au Yong Hui Nee, FBF Head of Postgraduate Degree Programmes Dr Abdelhak Senadjki, and Chairperson of CES Dr Yii Kwang Jing.

Aimed at encouraging the interaction between UTAR academics and scholars from CELAP, the dialogue sessions emphasised on the aspects of socio-economic, educational, political and cultural development in Malaysia.

Dr Yang gave a talk titled "China's One Belt One Road

拉曼大学中华研究院暨孟子学院于2017年1月9日至15日在金宝校区举办了为期一周的“书法与刻字研习坊”，特别邀请了中国知名书法家、《中国刻字艺术网》站长兼总编杨宏朝前来为学员们进行授课与指导。

这次的活动获得了孟子学院、富贵集团和红木器有限公司的活动经费和木料赞助。研习营分为理论与书法刻字实践课，概括了刻字艺术、现代刻字的发展、刻字技法、刻字刀法举要、刻字立体与色彩构成等。

这项为期一周的研习坊旨在让学员们通过实践学习以对书法与刻字这一中华传统文化有更具体与深入的了解，并获得了25位学生与教职员的踊跃参与。值得一提的是，全体学员在这短短一周的集训中成功临摹与创造出了逾30部的木刻作品。

中华研究中心艺术组组长林志敏博士表示，“刻字艺术在马来西亚仍相当陌生，但相信这个研习营将为我国的中华刻字艺术历史埋下种子，寄望往后慢慢地发展开来。过往带领学生们进行了比较小型的木刻活动，这一次办得比较大型，也比较正式。短短一周的研习坊让学生们成长不少，例如完全没使用电钻经验的女学员在研习坊的尾声已对电钻的使用驾轻就熟，实在让人刮目相看。”

他指出，“美学课程在我国并不多见，因此期待这一方面在未来能够有更具

中华研究院暨孟子学院 书法刻字研习坊

观的发展，同时也寄望大学未来能够设立专属的工作室供刻字或其他艺术活动使用，进而让更多热爱艺术活动的学生有更具体的学习与实践体验。学生的学术表现固然重要，但学生的人文素养发展也应当受到重视，那么他们才能有更均衡及全面的个人发展。”

首次在马来西亚开课的研习坊导师杨宏朝在结业仪式上感谢拉曼大学中华研究院暨孟子学院的盛情邀请和安排，让他有机会来到马来西亚与同样热爱书法与刻字

艺术的知音们会面及分享。

他对学员们的表现大表赞赏，并在点评学生的自创木刻作品表现时指出，“学员们在创作方面都很有创意，并勇敢地在作品中表达自己的想法、喜好。”另外，他建议有意朝刻字艺术发展者应设法将中华刻字艺术与马来西亚此地的文化、人文接轨，因为他相信马来西亚多元文化的融合能够为创作者带来更丰富且独特的创作灵感。



学员们拿着各自的作品和导师在结业仪式上开心合影。

卓衍豪谈回眸家乡最美的风景

大马旅游达人兼My Road Planner创办人卓衍豪（左眼）于2017年2月20日受邀前来拉曼大学金宝校区主讲以“回眸家乡最美的风景”为题的分享会，成功吸引了逾100位校内与校外人士的踊跃出席。

这个分享会由拉曼大学中华研究院艺术研究组和摄影学会联合举办，旨在让出席者加深自己对身处的这片美丽土地的了解与情感。

卓衍豪首先以自我介绍为讲座拉开序幕。他讲述了自己开始背包旅行的渊源、踏足的地方、经历和体验。他特别提到了其中一段难忘的经历，因为当初在国外的旅途中无法好好地向其他旅客推荐马来西亚，而过后决定用心去发掘这片土地的美好，同时将这最美丽的马来西亚介绍给大家，特别是我国国民。

“旅行的时候，所追求的不是拍照上载到个人社交网站打卡，甚至是护照上的盖章，真正的旅行是必须亲身去深入体验及感受。”旅途中的许多收获和经验，是需要旅者亲自走入当地去感受和发掘才能获得的。

在“了解自己的家乡吗？”的环节中，透过图片与影片分享，他为与会者介绍了马来西亚许多鲜为人知的景点，如柔佛嘉亨的观光稻田、沙巴淡布南的梯田、霹雳老港可贵的海豚、砂拉越姆鲁国家公园、沙巴的昆达山与珍珠岛、登嘉楼甘马仕的沙洲和直落玛聂的海龟等。大部分的出席者对这些景点都很陌生，通过主讲人的简介，皆萌起了想一游的念头。

“在淡布南的梯田随处停下时，你会发现好像就在巴厘岛、昆达山的农场与牛群让你仿佛身处纽西兰、姆鲁国家公园鹿洞的蝙蝠群出巡情景仿佛就像国家地理频道里所播映的情景一样震撼。这些景色不只是在外国才有，我们马来西亚也有。马来西亚拥有许多独特的文化、景点、地方非常值得推荐。”

最后的问答环节中，主讲人和与会者交流甚欢，一同探究与旅游、梦想、人生价值、家等相关的课题。分享会后，大会也安排了签书会，让出席者和主讲人有更近距离的交流。



卓衍豪用“说故事”的方式让出席者对我国鲜为人知的景点有全新的认识。

医学与保健科学学院新年午宴

拉曼大学医学与保健科学学院于2017年1月5日在双溪龙校区举办了新年午宴。这项年度庆祝活动旨在藉由全民同乐的佳节拉近与加强院内教职员和学生之间的联系。

医药与健康科学学院院长张顺景教授致欢迎词时向出席嘉宾表示感谢，同时对教职员与学生的精心筹备和付出表达谢意。席间嘉宾有拉曼大学校长拿督蔡贤德教授高级院士。

当天的表演包括了教职员和学生所呈现的舞台剧、歌唱和舞蹈表演。他们演绎的歌曲包括“月亮代表我的心”、“Nenje Ezhu”、“Best Friend Forever”、“You Raise Me Up”、“Terima Kasih Sahabat”等。舞蹈表演则包括了“灯舞”、现代印度舞蹈等。

蔡贤德校长在张景顺院长的陪同下进行鸣锣仪式。



学生们呈现了精湛的舞蹈表演。



毕义明（前排右六）与出席者的大合照。

中医药研究中心办步态评估与纠正课程

为了促进和带动马来西亚中医药学术界的发展，以及提升本地中医师的学术造诣和技术水平，拉曼大学中医药研究中心于2016年10月29日至31日假双溪龙校区多用途礼堂举办了由毕义明博士所指导的“步态评估与纠正课程”。

毕义明博士来自北京，这次是他相隔一年以后再次前来拉曼大学办专业的中医师操作课程。本次授课内容包括“人类步态特点、足弓与步态评估”、“步态诊断与矫正”以及“步态矫正运动处方的制定”。这次的学员除了有在临床上经常治疗骨伤的医生，还包括专业推拿师、瑜伽老师等。

老师的教学给学员们很大的启发，除了使用传统的针灸、推拿的治疗方式外，经过步态评估的专业分析和诊断后，也可以配合日常步态矫正和运动康复疗法来使患者恢复原本的健康与正常体态。



主讲人为学员们进行示范与讲解。

FMHS menganjurkan kempen kesedaran demam denggi

Sejajar dengan kenaikan kes demam denggi, Fakulti Perubatan dan Sains Kesihatan (FMHS) UTAR bersama-sama dengan Sanofi Pasteur telah menganjurkan sebuah kempen yang bertajuk Kempen Kesedaran Demam Denggi pada 16 Januari 2017 bertempat di Kampus Sungai Long.

Kempen tersebut bertujuan mendidik orang ramai mengenai nyamuk *Aedes* dan wabak denggi. Ia juga bermatlamat untuk meningkatkan kesedaran para pelajar dan kakitangan-kakitangan UTAR terhadap penyakit tersebut, bersama-sama dengan risiko peribadi dan langkah berjaga-jaga yang perlu diambil untuk mengawal penularan wabak denggi.

Antara tetamu jemputan yang telah menghadirkan diri pada hari tersebut ialah Dekan FMHS Emeritus Prof Dr Cheong Soon Keng, Pensyarah merangkap penceramah dari FMHS Dr Mohammed Abdulrazzaq Jabbar, Dr Gary Low Kim Kuan dan Dr Kyaw Ko Latt serta kakitangan-kakitangan FMHS. Kempen tersebut turut dihadiri oleh Pengurus Bersekutu Perakaunan Utama Sanofi Pasteur c/o Sanofi-Aventis (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd Danial Md. Yusof serta diiringi oleh beberapa kakitangannya.

Demam denggi adalah sejenis penyakit jangkitan virus yang merebak melalui gigitan nyamuk *Aedes aegypti*. Cara penyebarannya ialah melalui gigitan nyamuk *Aedes* orang yang berpenyakit virus denggi kepada orang yang sihat. Virus denggi selalunya berada di dalam badan pesakit selama tiga hingga 14 hari, dan secara puratanya empat hingga enam hari sebelum menunjukkan tanda-tanda. Pesakit mungkin akan mengalami demam mengejut diikuti dengan pelbagai tanda dan gejala yang tidak khusus. Statistik juga menunjukkan bahawa bilangan kes demam denggi yang dilaporkan di Malaysia telah meningkat secara drastik daripada hanya 7,103 kes pada tahun 2000 kepada 120,386 kes pada tahun 2015.

Dalam ceramah yang disampaikan oleh Dr Mohammed, beliau berkata, "Salah satu daripada punca kes denggi meningkat sekarang adalah disebabkan keadaan cuaca hujan dan suasana lembab yang sedang melanda. Suasana tersebut ditambah pula dengan tiadanya kerjasama daripada para penduduk yang dilanda masalah denggi. Para penduduk juga didapati hanya bergantung kepada aktiviti *fogging* yang dijalankan oleh jabatan kesihatan sahaja. Manakala, aktiviti membenteras pusat pembiakan nyamuk *Aedes* tidak



Prof Cheong (kiri) dan Danial di majlis perasmian kempen

dilaksanakan sepenuhnya oleh para penduduk." Beliau menambah, "Setiap orang perlu memainkan peranan penting untuk memerangi penyakit ini. Kita harus meningkatkan tahap kesedaran yang tinggi secara konsisten melalui media, kempen dan aktiviti-aktiviti lain untuk memerangi penyakit ini secara bersama."

Dalam sesi perkongsian yang disampaikan oleh Dr Low pula, beliau membincangkan mengenai tanda-tanda beserta dengan rawatan yang bersesuaian untuk seseorang itu melawan demam denggi, diikuti dengan fasa jangkitan demam denggi, remedi-remedi buatan sendiri, prognosis dan pencegahan virus denggi.

Manakala Dr Kyaw pula berkongsi, "Secara keseluruhannya, kes demam denggi menunjukkan peningkatan yang mendadak sejak ia dikenalpasti pada 50 tahun yang lalu. Penyelidikan juga memberi anggaran bahawa sebanyak 390 juta kes demam denggi berlaku setiap tahun. Oleh itu, ia adalah penting untuk meningkatkan kesedaran dalam kalangan orang ramai mengenai risiko dan langkah-langkah pencegahan denggi." Beliau juga berkata, "Semua orang harus memastikan tiada kawasan pembiakan nyamuk *Aedes* di persekitaran tempat tinggal anda. Jika semua orang mengambil bahagian, aktiviti kawalan ini akan menjadi lebih berkesan. Para peserta juga dinasihatkan supaya meluangkan masa 10 minit setiap minggu untuk memeriksa dan memastikan tiada tempat pembiakan di rumah masing-masing.

Selain daripada ceramah, pelbagai aktiviti lain turut dianjurkan oleh pihak penganjur. Antaranya ialah, stesen-stesen permainan, tapak pameran, kuiz, bengkel langkah pencegahan denggi dan sebagainya. Para pelajar dan kakitangan UTAR digalakkan untuk mengambil bahagian dalam aktiviti-aktiviti yang dianjurkan khususnya untuk meningkatkan kesedaran mengenai wabak denggi.



Antara aktiviti yang dijalankan semasa kempen



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