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Participants engaging in various intriguing activities carried out at the Kuala Lumpur Engineering and Science Fair (KLESF) 2019



Robots playing football at myMaker Robotics Challenge 2019



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Promoting SDGs via international conference



Front row, from left: UTAR Vice President Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change Deputy Secretary General Dr Nagulendran Kangayatkarasu, UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat and IOI Properties Group General Manager of Corporate Communication and Sustainability Kristine Ng with participants and speakers during the opening ceremony

UTAR Department of Student Affairs, Department of Soft Skills Competency, Division of Community and International Networking and Student Representative Council jointly organised the "International Young Leaders Conference (IYLC) 2019" in collaboration with IYLC's international collaborative partner ENGAGE at Sungai Long Campus from 25 to 26 October 2019.

Themed 'Youth Empowerment and Inclusion in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)', the conference aimed to provide a platform for youths to discuss and share ideas on SDGs and harness the role of learning institutions in the implementation of SDGs in the Asia Pacific region.

The conference saw more than ten speakers from various organisations sharing their expertise on SDGs. Participated universities were UTAR, Universiti Tenaga Malaysia; Tunku Abdul Rahman University College; Xiamen University Malaysia; Tamkang University, Taiwan; Airlangga University, Indonesia; Manuel S. Enverga University Foundation, Philippines; University of Sanya, China; and Universiti Brunei Darussalam.



Dr Nagulendran giving a keynote presentation titled "Implementing SDGs in Malaysia in the Field of Environment"



United Nations Development Programme Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam Programme Manager Jun Jabar presenting her talk titled "The Accelerating Progress: An Empowered, Inclusive and Equal Asia and the Pacific"



Ecocentric Transitions Sdn Bhd Sustainability Facilitator Firdaus Nisha Muhammad Faizal presenting her talk titled "Living a Zero Waste Lifestyle"



ENGAGE Co-founder Simone Galimberti presenting his talk titled "Connecting the Dots: Linking the SDGs"



International Islamic University Malaysia Deputy Director of Sejahtera Center for Sustainability and Humanity Dr Irina Safitri Zen presenting her talk titled "The Role of Learning Institutions in Promoting and Achieving the SDGs"



Asia-Pacific University Community Engagement Network Executive Director Prof Dato' Dr Aileen Tan Shau Hwai presenting her talk titled "Reinvigorating the role of Universities for Community Change"



Ministry of Housing and Local Government Special Function Officer to Minister Chua Yee Ling presenting on "The Model Village: Achievements, Challenges and Way Forward"



APR Electronic Services Sdn Bhd Danny Ng presenting on "Marketing E-waste through E-Commerce"



Participants engaging in activities related to SDGs



A cultural night was held for the local and international participants to enjoy themselves

Building international consensus on BRI



Front row, from left: Kee, Prof Zheng, Prof Yow, YB Dr Ong, Tan Sri Chuah, Gu Li, Zhong and Prof Ma with participants

With the aim to promote academic interaction and collaboration between China and Malaysia on issues related to the development of Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), UTAR Belt and Road Strategic Research Centre (BRSRC) hosted the second seminar with Guangxi University for Nationalities (GXUN), China-Malaysia Qinzhou Industrial Park (CMQIP) and Malaysia-China Kuantan Industrial Park (MCKIP), and the "Belt and Road Initiative Forum 2019" with Anhui Normal University (ANHU) on 1 October 2019 at Sungai Long Campus. The event saw more than 100 participants from various universities, research institutes, industry and government agencies.

Present were Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry YB Dr Ong Kian Ming; CMQIP Investment Holding Group Co., Ltd., People's Republic of China Deputy Party Chief Gu Li; CMQIP Administrative Committee, People's Republic of China Director of Personnel Division Zhong Guilian; MCKIP Sdn Bhd Head of Operation Ir Kee Lian Cheng; GXUN College of Ethnology and Sociology, People's Republic of China Prof Zheng Yisheng; ANHU, People's Republic of China School of Economics and Management Vice-Dean Prof Ma Ji; UTAR Planning and Development Committee Chairman Ir Academician Emeritus Prof Tan Sri Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik; UTAR Vice Presidents

Ir Prof Dr Yow Ho Kwang, Prof Ts Dr Faidz bin Abd Rahman and Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, and BRSRC Chairperson Prof Dr Cheng Ming Yu.

YB Dr Ong said that the participation of Malaysia in the BRI would facilitate investors to integrate into the regional and global supply chain. This would complement Malaysia's commitment to providing a conducive environment for business and commercial activities. Prof Yow said that seminar and forum will provide better insight and understanding on how local Malaysians could benefit from China's symbol of peace and vice versa.

Widening research network at BAFE 2019



From left: Dr Au Yong, Prof Yu, Prof Choong, Prof Ariff and Dr Zam with participants

The 7th International Conference on Business, Accounting, Finance and Economics (BAFE) 2019 was held at Copthorne Hotel, Cameron Highlands, Pahang on 4 October 2019. It was organised by the Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) for the seventh consecutive year.

Themed 'Managing Uncertainties through Resilience', the conference was attended by over 60 participants comprising academics, researchers, students and working professionals from as far as China, India and Nigeria.

Officiating the opening ceremony were UTAR Vice President Prof Dr Choong Chee

Keong representing UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat; Keynote Speaker Prof Dr Yu Min-Teh from Taiwan's Providence University and National Chiao Tung University; and Research Speaker Prof Dr Mohamed Ariff Syed Mohamed from Sunway University. They were accompanied by FBF Dean Dr Au Yong Hui Nee and BAFE 2019 Organising Chairperson Dr Zam Zuriyati binti Mohamad.

Prof Choong stated that the conference's theme this year was indeed timely and relevant following the many uncertainties such as the US-China trade wars, the effects of the Fourth Industrial Revolution on small and medium-sized enterprises and economic

transformations among ASEAN countries. Dr Au Yong highlighted the significance of BAFE conference in times of global uncertainties and pressed on the need to study the revolutionary changes that are taking place currently.

Besides the presentation of over 50 research papers throughout three parallel sessions, the participants also had their views broadened via Prof Ariff's research talk titled "Exchange Rate Instability: Malaysian Ringgit vs Korean Won vs Developing Country Currencies" and also Prof Yu's Keynote Speech titled "Climate Changes and Catastrophe Bond Prices".

Traditional & Complementary Medicine (T&CM) Unit of National Cancer Institute (NCI), in collaboration with UTAR, conducted Herbal Pharmacy Workshop Series II from 7 to 9 October 2019. The workshop was inaugurated at NCI and was officiated by NCI Director Dr Mohd Anis bin Haron.

The workshop saw the participation of pharmacists from various institutes under Ministry of Health Malaysia, including T&CM Division; National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency; T&CM branch offices from Pulau Pinang, Johor, Terengganu, Perak, Sarawak and Sabah; Hospital Kepala Batas Pulau Pinang; Hospital Sultan Ismail Johor; Hospital Wanita & Kanak-Kanak Sabah and NCI.

The three-day workshop featured both theoretical and practical sessions, delivered by UTAR Centre for Research in Traditional Chinese Medicine Chairperson Assoc Prof Dr Te Kian Keong, Clinical TCM Programme Head Judick Yap Wei Hoong, and Department of Chinese Medicine lecturer Go Pei Heng. The first two days of the workshop was conducted at NCI, while the last day were held at Acupuncture and Tuina Training Centre of Sungai Long Campus.

NCI Head of T&CM Unit-cum-Organising Chairperson Dr Teo Chiah Shean said that the workshop aimed to impart the knowledge of TCM to health professionals, giving them a deeper understanding of Chinese herbal medicine that could help them better serve their patients.

Strengthening T&CM knowledge amongst health professionals



Front row, second from left: Dr Teo, Dr Te and Dr Mohd Anis with participants

SASEM 2019 promotes knowledge exchange among researchers



Seated from left: Dr Cham, Farah Waheeda binti Jalaludin, Prof Cheng, Dr Hiram, Prof Marko, Prof Christian, Prof T. Ramayah, Dr Mumtaz and Dr Cheah with participants

UTAR and Sarawak Research Society (SRS) organised the International Symposium on Applied Structural Equation Modelling and Methodological Matters (SASEM) 2019 from 21 to 24 August 2019 at Novotel Melaka. It aimed to provide an opportunity for the global participants to share their ideas and experience in person with their peers, establish research relations and find global partners for future collaboration.

The symposium attracted more than 130 local and international participants from nine countries. Present at the opening ceremony were UTAR Faculty of Accountancy and Management Dean Dr Sia Bee Chuan, SASEM National Advisory Board member Prof Dr Cheng Ming Yu, SRS Chairperson Dr Hiram Ting, SASEM Chairperson Prof T. Ramayah, SASEM Co-chairs Dr Cham Tat Huei and Dr Cheah Jun Hwa.

Prof Ramayah said that the symposium benefitted the delegates as well as the academics and postgraduate students in Malaysia tremendously. Dr Sia said that the symposium was timely as it provided the researchers with the opportunity to use innovative modelling and methodology.

The symposium featured three prominent keynote speakers. Structural Equation Modelling expert Prof Dr Marko Sarstedt presented on "How to Deal with the Validity Threats of Unobserved Heterogeneity", SmartPLS Co-founder Prof Dr Christian M. Ringle presented on "To Predict or Not to Predict" and Psychometrics Prof Dr Enrico Ciavolino presented on "Entropy Methods for Measurement and Structural Modelling".

Bridging eCommerce gap through conference



Front row, from left: Lau, Koh, Raja Segaran, Prof Ewe, Prof Choong and Then with participants during the opening ceremony

The Second Industrial Business Conference 2019 was organised at Sungai Long Campus from 11 to 12 November 2019. The conference focused on eCommerce and the use of digital platform among industry players.

Themed 'Social Commerce, O2O, AI, IoT, Big Data, Blockchain: The Next Wave of Digital Revolution', it was jointly organised by Student Development and Alumni Relations, UTAR Alumni Association of Malaysia and UTAR Centre for Computing and Intelligent Systems. The two-day conference featured various talks, forums, sharing session as well as "Single 11.11 Day Mega sale".

Present at the opening ceremony were UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Vice President Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, Malaysia Digital Economy (MDEC) Head of Strategy and Research Raja Segaran,

BizPorter, MCM eCom Global Venture Sdn Bhd Chief Executive Officer Then Ikh Choo, Bizporter Chief Financial Officer Lau Chai Yap, Alumini Association President Koh Fook Huat, speakers, participants, students and staff.

Prof Ewe said in his welcome speech, "It is good to hear what the industry experts have to say so that we are kept updated and are in the network loop for changing trends, challenges and future developments." Raja Segaran said during his keynote address titled "Digital Economy: The Journey and Way Forward", "The three critical skills for the future are technical skills, social and emotional skills and higher cognitive skills. It's important for us to keep innovating, drive digital adoption and build skilled talents."

Going through the historical tin mining journey

UTAR, the Kinta Tin Mining (Gravel Pump) Museum and the Perak Chinese Mining Association organised the Tin Mining Festival 2019 - 'Tin Glory' (锡日好风光) for the fifth time at Kinta Tin Mining (Gravel Pump) Museum, Kampar from 26 to 28 October 2019.

Invited to officiate the event was UTAR Council Member-cum-Director of the Kinta Tin Mining (Gravel Pump) Museum Hew Fen Yee. Also present at the event were UTAR Vice President Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, Institute of Chinese Studies Deputy Dean Assoc Prof Dr Wong Wun Bin, Kampar Local District Council representative Khumaizah binti Aziz, Deputy Director of the Kinta Tin Mining (Gravel Pump) Museum-cum-Organising Chairperson Jacky Chew, tin mining veteran Leong Kam Fook, and Art Gene Studio Dean Eric Lai.

Prof Choong said that the Tin Mining Festival is not just celebrated to commemorate the contribution of tin mining, but more importantly to preserve and discover the precious cultural heritage left from the industry. Chew introduced the activity highlights and said that the Tin Mining Festival has become one of the annual activities that the Tourism Perak is considering to include in Visit Malaysia Year 2020.



Front row, from left: Lai, Chew, Prof Choong, Hew, Khumaizah, Leong and Dr Wong with participants and visitors during the opening ceremony

One of the new additions to this year's festival includes an art exhibition which was a joint initiative with Art Gene Studio showcasing the paintings by autistic children on tin mining activities. There was also another exhibition on Sin Chew Daily which featured the write-up series of Malaysia's old tin mining towns.

Huawei Technologies (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd scholarships for UTAR students

From left: Siew, Heu, Kang, Prof Choong, Zhu Rui, Prof Ewe, Fu Dan, Prof Yow, Derrick Gan and Teh during the scholarship presentation ceremony



Five UTAR students received scholarships at the Huawei Technologies (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd Scholarship Presentation Ceremony which was held at Sungai Long Campus on 4 November 2019. The recipients were Cheah Jing Hui, Heu Jun Fai, Siew Tze Hung, Teh Junjie and Kang Hui Mei. Each recipient received RM10,000 per year which will go into the payment of tuition fees.

Present at the presentation ceremony were UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, UTAR

Vice Presidents Prof Dr Yow Ho Kwang and Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, Malaysia Representative Office HR Director of Huawei Fu Dan, Southern Pacific Recruitment and Allocation HR Director Zhu Rui, Southern Pacific Recruitment and Allocation HR Manager Derrick, students and staff. Prof Ewe hoped that the financial assistance will motivate the recipients to excel further in

their studies and encourage them to look forward to a good career with Huawei Technologies. Zhu Rui said that UTAR has always been one of Huawei's top collaboration university in Malaysia, especially in young talent development. He also expressed his hope to support UTAR in enhancing its IT infrastructure by using Huawei's latest ICT networking technology.

BMMB provides financial aid for needy and deserving students



Prof Choong (middle) and Sister Fu Han (twelfth from left) with guests, staff and recipients

UTAR and Bodhi Meditation Malaysia Berhad (BMMB) collaborated once again to bring hope to a total of 35 needy and underprivileged students by providing them with financial aids on 22 October 2019 at Kampar Campus.

Organised by the Division of Examinations, Awards and Scholarships, the ceremony was attended by UTAR Vice President Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, representing UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe

Hong Tat, and BMMB Board of Trustees Member Sister Fu Han. Also present were the 35 bursary recipients, Dean of Faculty of Business and Finance Dr Au Yong Hui Nee, Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology Deputy Dean Ir Dr Ng Choon Aun, Head of Information Systems Department Ts Dr Rehan Akbar, BMMB Board of Trustees Member Sister Fa Gong, BMMB Committee Members Sister Dong Cao, Brother Wen Jun and Brother Huai Chao, UTAR staff and students.

Prof Choong said, "This financial assistance will certainly provide a sense of financial security for the recipients while motivating them to excel further in their studies without much worries." Sister Fu Han said, "With the aid that they received today, I hope that it will help them become role models for the future generation and to contribute towards the betterment of society."

UTAR signs MoU to enhance international collaboration

UTAR and the College of Humanities and Sciences of Guizhou Minzu University, China (HSGMU) officially signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on 25 November 2019 at Sungai Long Campus. The MoU aimed to facilitate academic development exchanges, study visit, student exchange and internship between UTAR and HSGMU.

The signatories were UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat and HSGMU Vice President Prof Huang Wei. It was witnessed by UTAR Vice President Ir Prof Dr Yow Ho Kwang and HSGMU Office of International Exchange and Cooperation Deputy Director Li LiYa.

Also present at the event were HSGMU Faculty of Economics and Management Head Chen Weihong, Culture and Communication Faculty Head Zhou Lingyu, UTAR Division of Community and International Networking (DCInterNet) Director Assoc Prof Dr Lai Soon Onn, UTAR Deputy Deans Assoc Prof Dr Tee Boon Chuan, Ir Dr Lim Jee Hock and Lee Lih Su, and Head of Soft Skills Competency Department of Sungai Long Campus Fook Oi Yee.



From left: Prof Ewe and Prof Huang displaying the signed MoU

Establishing mutual cooperation



UTAR signed an MoU with Henan Finance University on 28 November 2019 at Sungai Long Campus to boost collaboration between the two.

Signing the MoU were UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat and Henan Finance University Vice-principal Prof Zhang Fengge; while witnessing the signing were UTAR Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) Dean Assoc Prof Dr Yap Vooi Voon and Henan Finance University Personnel Office Director Prof Yang Shaowei.

Also present at the ceremony were Henan Finance University's College of Engineering and Economics Secretary Prof Guo Lijun, Department of Foreign Affairs Deputy Dean Prof Li Xiaoyu, Department of Student Affairs Prof Li Zhao and Beijing Yisheng Zhongxing Information Technology Co., Ltd. (北京易盛中兴信息科技有限公司) Deputy General Manager Fang Lei.

From left: Prof Ewe and Prof Zhang exchanging the MoU documents

MoU signed to advance healthcare research

UTAR inked an MoU with Inbit Biotech Sdn Bhd on 18 October 2019 at Sungai Long Campus. The MoU aimed to initiate joint projects involving collaborative research and to share expertise and joint development of research between both parties.

The signatories were UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat and Inbit Biotech Sdn Bhd Executive Director Dato' Tan Chee Hong. It was witnessed by UTAR Vice President Ir Prof Dr Yow Ho Kwang and Inbit Biotech Sdn Bhd Group Chief Financial Officer Choy Cheng Choong.

Also present at the event were Inbit Biotech Sdn Bhd Executive Chairman Dato' Loke Yeu Loong, Director Zadey Che Wan, IP Development Consultant Mohd Nasir Shafion, Darell Chen, Vivien Wong, Jin Lai, Daniel Lee, Joanne Tee, Eric Chin, Yap Chin Hong, Kinki Law, Suzanne Lim and Ng Lai Cheng; UTAR Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Dean Emeritus Prof Dr Cheong Soon Keng, Centre for Cancer Research Chairperson Prof Ts Dr Lim Yang Mooi, DCInterNet Director Assoc Prof Dr Lai Soon Onn, staff and students.



Prof Ewe (second from left) and Dato' Tan (second from right) exchanging the MoU documents, while Prof Yow (left), Dato' Loke (centre) and Choy look on



▲ From left: Tiong, Teoh, Dr Lai, Prof Yow, Prof Ewe, Dr Ali, Yong, Lim and Savitha

UTAR sealed agreement with CourseNetworking Asia Pacific

UTAR and CourseNetworking Asia Pacific officially inked a collaboration agreement on 18 November 2019 at Sungai Long Campus. The signatories were UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat and CourseNetworking Asia Pacific Director Yong Mien Dee. It was witnessed by UTAR Vice President Ir Prof Dr Yow Ho Kwang and CourseNetworking Chief Executive Officer Dr Ali Jafari. Also present at the event were Software Development & Multimedia Centre Director Teoh Boon Chiat, Software Development & Multimedia Services Centre Head of Multimedia Development Unit Tiong Chiong Hieng, Centre for Extension Education Director Lim Guat Yen,

Division of Community and International Networking Director Assoc Prof Dr Lai Soon Onn and CourseNetworking Asia Pacific Client Service Manager K. Savitha. The MoU aimed to initiate joint projects involving collaborative research and to share expertise and joint

development of research especially in the area of development of new university culture for all students to develop a lifelong ePortfolio (CN Portfolio) that would assist them in employment and assist UTAR in higher graduation employment ranking.

Agreement inked for HSK Chinese proficiency test



▲ Seated, from left: Prof Yow, Prof Ewe, Dato' Goh and Datin Lee
Back row, from left: Hemalatha, Lim, Dr Lai, Dr David Tneh, Dr Chong, Alex Yong, Mini Goh, Christopher Mar and Evone Koo

UTAR and Han Culture Centre Malaysia (HAN) officially inked a collaboration agreement on 25 October 2019 at Sungai Long Campus. With this agreement, UTAR would become the first university recognised by HSK Test Centre (a centre established by HAN to promote Chinese language learning) in Malaysia. Signing on behalf of both institutions

were UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat and HAN President Dato' Goh Hin San. It was witnessed by UTAR Vice President Ir Prof Dr Yow Ho Kwang and HAN Managing Director Mini Goh. Also present at the signing ceremony were HAN Vice President Datin Lee Ngeok Lan, General Manager Alex Yong; MunHoe & Mar Lawyer Christopher Mar Sze Wei,

assistant lawyer Evone Koo; UTAR Institute of Chinese Studies Dean Assoc Prof Dr Chong Siou Wei, Faculty of Creative Industries Dean Dr David Tneh Cheng Eng, Division of Community and International Networking Director Assoc Prof Dr Lai Soon Onn, Centre for Extension Education (CEE) Director Lim Guat Yen and CEE staff Hemalatha Naranasamy.

Of heavy-hearted adieu and warm welcome

A ceremony marking the farewell for UTAR's immediate past President Ir Academician Emeritus Prof Tan Sri Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik and welcome for current President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat was held at Kampar Campus on 16 October 2019. The farewell-cum-welcome ceremony was graced by UTAR Chancellor Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik and spouse Toh Puan Ena Ling; UTAR Education Foundation Board of Trustees Chairman Tan Sri Dato' Dr Sak Cheng Lum and spouse Puan Sri Dr Irene Sak; UTAR Council Chairman Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Ting Chew Peh; UTAR Council Members Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan, Tan Sri Datuk Seri Dr Fong Chan Onn, Datuk Lim Si Cheng, Datuk Lee Leck Cheng and Hew Fen Yee; UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat; and UTAR Planning and Development Committee Advisor Tan Sri Hew See Tong and spouse Puan Sri Woon Mun Fah. Recalling his first encounter with Prof Chuah as a junior in Penang's Chung Ling High School which later led to teacher-student as well as final year project supervisor-supervisee relationship during university days and then as colleagues, Prof Ewe shared the many opportunities of being able to work closely with Prof Chuah in the field of higher education. Tan Sri Chuah highlighted the importance of integrity as a foremost trait for anyone taking over as UTAR's President in the future. Proclaiming his "102% level of confidence" in Prof Ewe as the succeeding President, Prof Chuah reassured that UTAR will continue to move on to greater heights under the leadership of Prof Ewe and full support from the UTAR team.



▲ Tan Sri Chuah (right) thanking Tun Ling for the appreciation plaque



◀ LKC FES Dean Ir Prof Dr Goi Bok Min (left) presenting a fruit basket as a welcome gift to UTAR President Prof Ewe

A firm believer that UTAR's efforts of elevating itself are in the right direction, FMHS Dean Emeritus Prof Dr Cheong Soon Keng is hopeful that UTAR will one day become a birthplace of a Nobel Laureate



◀ 2019/2020 Student Representative Council (Kampar Campus) Chairperson Lam Jen Yee expressed her gratitude to Prof Chuah for transforming UTAR into a higher learning institution promoting societal impact and expressed her admiration of Prof Ewe for being the epitome of strategic leadership with compassion and love



From left: Tan Sri Chuah, Tan Sri Ting and Prof Ewe singing *The River Runs Red*



From left: Ah Yong, Tan Sri Sak, and Chow Kam Leong forming the guitar ensemble



Performance by choir group Toh Puan Ena Ling (third from right) and friends comprising Puan Sri Lee San Choon, Datuk Tan Swee Lai, Lee Yee Wee, Tan Kai Yong, Bao Ming, and Chan Ngim



Farewell luncheon at Sungai Long Campus

Arena for innovations and ideas in support of STEM education



Tun Ling placing a cube on the Persistence of Vision (POV) display that resembles STEM to launch KLESF 2019. From left: Prof Ewe, Tan Sri Chuah, Datuk Hong, Tun Ling, Datuk Yusoff, Ir David Lai and Gerard Lim

With the goal to encourage school students' interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects, the Kuala Lumpur Engineering and Science Fair (KLESF) and Malaysia Festival of the Mind (MFotM) staged another comeback at the Mines International Exhibition and Convention Centre (MIECC) from 1 to 3 November 2019.

KLESF 2019 was organised by ASEAN Academy of Engineering and Technology (AAET), UTAR, Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT), Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM) and Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) and supported by the Academy of Sciences Malaysia, Ministry of Education Malaysia, Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change, the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry Malaysia and Malaysian Institute of Physics whereas MFotM was jointly organised by Malaysia Mental Literacy Movement, UTAR and KLESF.

Present at the opening ceremony were UTAR Chancellor Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik and his spouse Toh Puan Ena Ling, KLESF Steering Committee Co-Chairman Datuk Ir Academician Hong Lee Pee, President & CEO of MIGHT and Co-Chairman of KLESF Steering Committee Datuk Dr Mohd Yusoff Sulaiman,

AAET President Ir Academician Emeritus Prof Tan Sri Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, IEM President Ir David Lai Kong Phooi, Malaysian Invention & Design Society President Academician Tan Sri Emeritus Prof Datuk Dr Augustine Ong, Tunku Abdul Rahman University College President and KLESF Steering Committee Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei, UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, MCMC Chief Digital Officer Gerard Lim Kim Meng, Malaysian Nuclear Agency Vice President Datin Dr Zuriati Zakaria, invited guests, partners, sponsors, schools, universities, participants and the public.

This year's event was more interactive and fun with exciting activities for parents, students and the public to familiarise with STEM. The event had active participation with booths from STEM-related industry corporations, more than 50 universities, non-government organisations and government organisations, and more than 400 schools, both local and international.

In addition to participants from local schools, universities and organisations, the fair also welcomed international participants from ASEAN and other Asian economies including Taiwan, Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand.



Seated, from left: Prof Faidz, Datuk Lim, Prof Ewe, Tun Ling, Ena Ling and Prof Lee with winners of MFotM Mind Competitions 2019



Robot Band from Japan introduced robots that could play xylophone, drums and foretell future luck



4x4 built have to go through challenging path and overcome obstacles



From left: Lee Jun Hui, Lim Qi Yong and Tan Yenyi from SJK (C) Puay Chai 2, Selangor came complete with scrubs as their attire for their project "Blood Sample Preparation (High Risk Disease)"



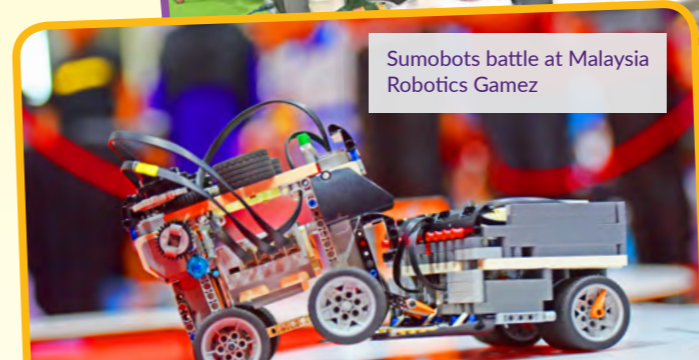
Norzehan Ngadiron and her kids enjoying Construction Management Workshop by UTAR Faculty of Engineering & Green Technology



From left: Sinead Dylan Vallester, Sofia Andrea Oliveros and Zeidrich Monares from Philippines Science High School Main Campus, Philippines provided an idea to aid nurses in the hospitals



MCMC Head of Community Empowerment Department John Tay Jin Kiong (front row, left) with the Tatami Musical Band from Japan



Sumobots battle at Malaysia Robotics Gamez



Visitors creating their "mushroom papers" using mushroom fibres at Centre for Foundation Studies of Sungai Long Campus booth



Visitors taking interest in 3D printing products





The event embodies the idea of learning, accessible to all regardless of age or background

The Fair ignites a fire for education among students from young age onwards



The event encourages family bonding and togetherness

SJKC Pei Chih students making their own moss terrarium



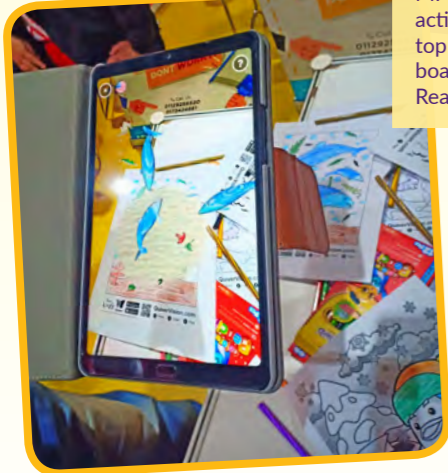
Thousands of quick-handed players participated in the Sport Stacking Challenge



Annaas Azzunrahman from SMA Negeri 10 Samarinda, Indonesia found a method to detect the presence of plastics in cooking oil - a hazardous practice to preserve fried food



MFotM offered various exciting activities such as (clockwise, from top left) brick building, origami, board games, and Augmented Reality colouring



In Search of Excellence

Tan Sri Chuah Awarded WFEO Medal of Excellence in Engineering Education



▲ Tan Sri Chuah receiving the award from WFEO President Dr Marlene Kanga during the WFEO Gala dinner in Melbourne

Our heartfelt congratulations to Ir Academician Emeritus Prof Tan Sri Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik who was awarded the 2019 World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) Medal of Excellence in Engineering Education on 23 November 2019 at the WFEO Gala dinner held in Melbourne, Australia. The award ceremony was held in conjunction with the World Engineers Convention (WEC) Australia 2019 held in Melbourne from 20 to 22 November 2019.

This Medal of Excellence was presented to Tan Sri Chuah to honour his contributions and services in both the academia and the engineering profession. His leadership has led to many initiatives and has inspired those around him. Tan Sri Chuah's illustrious career and tremendous achievements in engineering, not just within the country but also regionally and internationally, have earned him much respect from many in the profession and the industry. He is also an eminent technical leader with vast technical expertise and numerous scholarly achievements.

UTAR is indeed proud to congratulate its former president and is happy to share this memorable moment with Tan Sri Chuah on this Medal of Excellence awarded by WFEO.

The WFEO Medal of Excellence in Engineering Education was created in Madrid, in November 1999, during the 18th General Assembly of WFEO. The Medal was to be presented biennially to help direct world attention to the importance of continuing improvement in the quality, delivery and relevance of engineering education and training. The recipient of the award is chosen based on his or her noteworthy contributions to the improvement of engineering education and significant educational accomplishments.

UTAR confers Emeritus Professor title upon Tan Sri Chuah

UTAR's immediate past president Ir Academician Tan Sri Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik was conferred the title of Emeritus Professor during a conferment ceremony at Kampar Campus on 16 October 2019. UTAR Chancellor Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik officially conferred the Emeritus Professorship on Tan Sri Chuah with all the rights, honours and privileges of the award.

Gracing the ceremony were Tun Ling; UTAR Education Foundation Board of Trustees Chairman Tan Sri Dato' Dr Sak Cheng Lum; UTAR Council Chairman Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Ting Chew Peh; UTAR Council Members Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan, Tan Sri Datuk Seri Dr Fong Chan Onn, Datuk Lim Si Cheng, Datuk Lee Leck Cheng and Hew Fen Yee; UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat; and UTAR Planning and Development Committee Advisor Tan Sri Hew See Tong.

Prof Ewe said, "As an engineer, Tan Sri Chuah is well known and well respected in Malaysia, ASEAN, Asia and the Pacific. Such a feat is certainly accompanied by strong leadership qualities that saw many fortunate universities and professional bodies receiving his valuable guidance. He has also served and held significant decision-making and mentoring positions in 30 professional bodies and national committees; has obtained fellowships in 11 professional bodies locally and internationally; and most of all, has



▲ Tun Ling (left) congratulating Tan Sri Chuah on the conferment

garnered a total of 40 titles, awards and professional recognition."

Describing the acceptance of UTAR's Emeritus Professorship as a "single pleasure, double honour, and triple privilege", Tan Sri Chuah extended his deepest gratitude to the Chancellor, Board of Trustees, Council, Senate, University's management team, staff, alumni as well as students for the acknowledgement and also unwavering support throughout his tenure as the President.



◀ **MBOT Supportive University/College Award:** UTAR was awarded “MBOT Supportive University/College Award” by the Malaysian Board of Technologists (MBOT) during the MBOT Townhall Session held at Concorde Hotel, Shah Alam on 25 November 2019. MBOT’s ultimate goal is to uplift and honour the profession of technologists in the country. UTAR has given support to MBOT through membership application drive for staff and programme accreditation by MBOT.



▲ **World’s top peer reviewer:** Dr Garry Tan Wei Han from UTAR Faculty of Business and Finance was recently named as one of the world’s top peer reviewers in 2019 for two categories, namely Cross-field and Social Sciences, by Publons (Web of Science Group). He was among the top one per cent reviewers in both fields.



▲ **SCEJ Award for Outstanding Asian Researchers and Engineers 2018:** (From left) President of Society of Chemical Engineers, Japan Tadafumi Adschiri presented the “Society of Chemical Engineers, Japan Award for Outstanding Asian Researchers and Engineers 2018” to Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) academic Assoc Prof Ir Dr Lee Tin Sin at the Asia Pacific Confederation of Chemical Engineering Congress 2019, Sapporo Convention Centre, Japan for his significant contribution in engineering research and technological developments in the field of chemical engineering. The award ceremony was held from 23 to 27 September 2019.

▶ **MEF Employer Excellence Award:** UTAR received Bronze Award at the MEF Employer Excellence Awards by the Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF) on 8 October 2019. Division of Human Resource Director Marchie Lim Pin Sim and Manager We Chin Yong received the award on behalf of UTAR. The Award recognised UTAR for its compliance to the Malaysia Employee Act and the additional benefits it offered. (From left) MEF President Tan Sri Azman Shah Haron, We, Minister of Human Resources YB Tuan M. Kulasegaran, Deputy Human Resources Minister YB Dato’ Hj Mahfuz Omar and Lim.



▶ **Second Runner-up at GCA 2019:** UTAR was voted Second Runner-up in the education category at the Graduates Choice Awards (GCA) 2019. The award was presented to UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat during an award ceremony held at Sunway Hotel Resort and Spa on 18 October 2019. The GCA was organised by Talentbank with undergraduates from more than 100 universities voting for their preferred employer brands among a total of 83 companies across 23 categories.



▶ **Asian Women Entrepreneurs Leadership Award:** Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) lecturer ChM Ts Dr Lam Sze Mun was awarded the Asian Women Entrepreneurs Leadership Award 2019 by the Malaysia Chinese Women Entrepreneurs Association (MCWEA), for her expertise in the science and environment as well as her research efforts in dealing with greywater treatment and electricity generation, on 12 November 2019 at Sunway Hotel Resort and Spa. (From left) Miss Fashion World President Isabelle Liow, Dr Lam and MCWEA President Datin Sri Jessie Wong.



▶ **Merit Award at APICTA 2019:** LKC FES students, namely Lim Wen Qing, Yap Sheng Yao, Khor Jun Bin, Au Jin Cheng, and Tan Kai Siang were awarded Merit Award at the Asia Pacific ICT Alliance (APICTA) Awards at Ha Long, Vietnam for their invention titled “IoT Detachable Waterway Monitoring Device with LoRa and Self-Sustainability”, a device deployed in major waterways to monitor water pollution. Held from 18 to 23 November 2019, the team was supervised by their advisor Ir Danny Ng Wee Kiat.

▶ **Merit Award at MSC Malaysia APICTA:** Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) Electronic and Communications Engineering students, namely (from left) Yen Pei Ting, Koe Jia Chi, Wong Jun Yong, Liew Wei Hong and Chea Jing Hui won the Merit Award at the MSC Malaysia Asia-Pacific ICT Alliance Awards. Their award-winning project was titled “IoT Motor Monitoring and Control System for Industrial Application”. Jointly organised by Multimedia Development Corporation and the National ICT Association of Malaysia (PIKOM) on 19 September 2019 at PIKOM, Selangor, the competition aimed to promote the development and market deployment of ICT products.



First Place at Intel Challenge 2019:

Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) student Teoh Han Wei won first place at Intel Industry-University Challenge 2019 for his project titled "Violation Detection System for Illegal Pedestrian Crossing (ViSion)" on 23 September 2019. Besides winning two laptops with backpacks, he also received an invitation to participate in the "CREST The Great Lab Design Challenge 2019" with a project seed fund of RM1,500, sponsored by Collaborative Research in Engineering, Science and Technology. (From left) CREST Research Management Senior Vice President Dr Nor Azmi Alias, Project Advisor Dr Tham Mau Luen, Teoh and Intel Corporation Senior Director Tan Teng Wang at G Hotel Gurney, Penang.



Researcher selected for ATYSP: Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) academic Dr Lee Ying Loong was appointed as a distinguished researcher in computer science by Guangxi University for Nationalities. Working under the ASEAN Talented Young Scientist Guangxi Programme (ATYSP), Dr Lee is currently engaged in a project called "Artificial Intelligence (AI)-Based 5G Heterogeneous Network Resource Management" which aims to develop innovative schemes for radio resources management built upon AI. Lee was one of the few Malaysians selected to join the ATYSP.



Double victory: Dr Manoranjitham Muniandy from the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology received "Best Poster Award" and a gold medal for her research titled "21st Century Learning Design Activities to Improve Student-Centred Approach: A Study among University Students" at the Teaching and Learning Innovation Festival 2019, held on 4 October 2019 at Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP). The research was co-authored by FICT academics Ts Lim Ean Heng and Ts Anbuselvan Sangodiah, and UTP academic Dr Savita K. Sugathan.

Champion at Solidworks Skills Competition:

Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) Mechanical Engineering student Low Xu Guang (right) was the Champion in the Solidworks Skills Competition 2019 (Central Region) hosted by SolidWorks Malaysia - IME Authorized Reseller and IME Group of Companies. Low walked away with RM500, a trophy and a certificate as well as SOLIDWORKS Advanced Training voucher worth RM3,200 and SOLIDWORKS Professional Certification Exam Voucher worth RM1,800.



Gold Award at PECIPTA: Three academics and a PhD student from LKC FES, namely Dr Ir Wong Jianhui, Prof Ir Dr Lim Yun Seng, Alvey Hau Lee Cheun and Dr Chua Kein Huat won Gold Award at the International Conference and Exposition on Inventions by Institutions of Higher Learning 2019 (PECIPTA 2019), held from 22 to 23 September 2019 at Dewan Sultan Ibrahim of Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia. The team received a certificate and a medal for their winning entry titled "Novel Controller for Grid-Integrated Energy Storage for Maximum Demand Reductions and Frequency Control on Power Grid under High Photovoltaic Systems". Present to receive the award were (from left) Dr Wong, Prof Lim and Alvey Hau.



Best Presentation Award at ICFE 2019, Japan: Master of Science (Computer Science) student Ling Yi Jun (right) was awarded "Best Presentation Award" in oral (student) category at the International Conference on Fisheries Engineering 2019 by Vice President of Japanese Society of Fisheries Engineering Dr Nobuo Kimura (left) at Nagasaki University, Japan. The conference was held from 21 to 24 September 2019. Ling presented her research titled "Comparison of Feature-based Classifier and CNN-based Deep Learning for Fish Monitoring in Complex Environment".



Silver Awards at i-fame2019: Faculty of Creative Industries lecturers, namely (from left) Ng Pong Jue, Chong Hwei Teeng and Mohd Fairuz bin Ali won two Silver Awards at the 2019 Inventors' Hall of Fame, International Competition of Ideas, Inventions & Innovations (i-fame2019), held from 27 to 28 September 2019. Their projects were titled "Educational Mobile Game of Malaysian Traditional Game: Wau" and "A Malaysian Folklore Game Design As a Tool of Culture Preservation and Entertainment: Toyol". The projects aimed to bring the traditional game Wau and local myth toyol to the screen of smartphones.

IEEE Malaysia FYP Competition:

The IEEE Malaysia FYP Competition, held at Malaysian Global Innovation & Creativity Centre on 12 October 2019 saw six LKC FES students, namely (from left) Lim Han Xian, Tay Yu Jun, Shanon Tan Cheng Yuan, Kho Yi Yung (sixth), Lee Jai Hua (seventh) and Tee Kai Feng winning awards at the competition. They won awards for several tracks which include Recent Trends in Computational Intelligence, Geoscience and Remote Sensing, Electronic Packaging and Sensors & Nanotechnology. Also present were IEEE Chairman Malaysia Section Dr Fawnizu Azmadi Hussin (middle) and UTAR Head of Civil Engineering Department Dr Ling Lloyd (third from right).





◀ **Winning three prizes at NACES 2019:** Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) students, namely Chum Chinson, R. Dhivesh, B. N. Udayanair and Vincent Loo Lien Kai won first runner-up in the Technical Case Study Competition; Allan Chong Han Lin, Chan Xu Yao, Lim Chong Meng and Yap Jun Weng came in as the second runner-up for Technical Presentation Competition and Chai Yi Jun emerged as the second runner-up for the Technical essay writing competition at the National Chemical Engineering Symposium 2019 (NACES 2019) competitions, held by Chemical Engineering Students' Society of Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) in collaboration with Institute of Chemical Engineers, from 4 to 6 October 2019 at UMP.

▶ **Best Paper Award at IEEE Conference:** Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) lecturer Ir Dr Lim Boon Han (right) and his master's student Keen Yip Lai (left) won the Best Paper Award at the 6th IEEE Conference on Sustainable Utilisation and Development in Engineering and Technology. The award-winning paper was titled "Comparative Study for Time-specific Ross Coefficient and overall Ross Coefficient for Estimation of Photovoltaic Module Temperature". Held at Rasa Sayang Resort & Spa of Shangri-la, Penang from 7 to 9 November 2019, the conference aimed to provide researchers and students a channel to present their research projects and to be recognised by the industry.



▶ **Highly Commended Paper:** Three academics, namely (from left) Dr Tan Luen Peng, Dr Abdelhak Senadjki and alumni Dr Samuel Ogbuibe were recently awarded "Highly Commended Paper" award in the 2019 Emerald Literati Awards, by Emerald Publishing. The award-winning paper was titled "An organisational culture and trustworthiness multidimensional model to engender employee creativity". It aimed to empirically advocate and demonstrate the generalisability of the organisational culture and trustworthiness multidimensional model to engender employee creativity.



▶ **Fashionpreneur competition:** The first-ever Fashionpreneur competition held at W_ARE_HOUSE, Subang Jaya on 24 August 2019 was organised by UTAR Unovate Centre, in collaboration with The T-Shirt Company, MCM eCOM Global Venture, BizPorter, and Cringeworthy clothing & Co. UTAR team, named Starwood Vista emerged as the first runner-up and took home 30 T-Shirts including the printing worth RM1,050. The show event aimed to inspire and encourage passionate students who have the dreams to build their own fashion brand and showcase their creative fashion design.



▶ **Emerald Outstanding Paper Award:** UTAR LKC FES academic Ir Dr Jeffrey Yap Boon Hui (left) was recently awarded the Outstanding Paper 2019 by Emerald Publishing for his paper titled "Housing affordability in Malaysia: perception, price range, influencing factors and policies". The award was presented by Emerald Publishing representative Elvin Cheah (right). The paper which was published in the *International Journal of Housing Markets and Analysis*, appraised the prevalent issues affecting housing affordability within the Malaysian housing market.

▶ **Champion at PNB 2019:** Two Actuarial Science students, namely (from left) Tan Wei Jia and Andy Teo Wei Ming won the champion title at the "Pertandingan Kuiz Pelaburan Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) 2019" in the higher education institution category. The competition was held on 3 October 2019 at Kinrara Resort. They received RM12,000 in the form of Amanah Saham Nasional Bhd unit trust. It was participated by 79,072 people. The competition, organised by PNB, aimed at promoting awareness and appreciation among Malaysians of the merits of prudent investing.





◀ **One Gold and Six Silver Awards at IYSEC 2019:** Seven teams from Faculty of Business and Finance participated in the International Young Social Entrepreneurs Competition 2019. Held at Multimedia University, Melacca on 26 September 2019, the teams took home one gold and six silver awards. The team which secured gold also won the Best Booth Award. The team consisted of (from right) Ang Xin Peng, Ng Pei Yin, Sing Xiao Jie and Chang Wei Bin. They were among the 20 finalists in the competition. Led by their supervisor Khor Hoi Ching, their product named SANcare aimed to convert food wastes into compost. The other six teams won silver awards.

▶ **MICPA Excellence Award:** Three UTAR alumni from the Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) received awards at the MICPA Excellence Award held at Sime Darby Convention Centre on 17 October 2019. Ivan Tay Khai Zhang (middle) was selected as the winner of Best Accounting Graduate for 2018 while Young Teng Wai (far left) and Loi Pei Wen (second from right) were awarded the Certificate of Meritorious in recognition of their outstanding academic performance. Also present at the award ceremony were FAM Dean Dr Sia Bee Chuan (second from left) and FAM Department of Accountancy Head K. Shamini.



▶ **MTSF Award 2019:** Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences academic Prof Dr Ngeow Yun Fong (left photo, middle) was awarded the MTSF Science and Technology award 2019 at Malaysia Toray Science Foundation (MTSF) 26th Prize Presentation Ceremony, held at Intercontinental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur on 25 November 2019. At the same time, Postdoctoral Research Fellow (right photo, from left) Dr Ng Hien Fuh and academic Tan Yin Qing were each awarded the MTSF Science and Technology Research Grant which carries a grant of RM20,000 funded by Toray Science Foundation, Japan. Prof Ngeow won RM30,000 for her advancement of scientific knowledge in microbial pathogens. Also present at the MTSF prize presentation ceremony was (right photo, most right) UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat.



▶ **Two wins at China-Malaysia Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition:** Two teams from UTAR Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science achieved third place in the 1st China-Malaysia Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition. The prize-giving ceremony was held in China Cultural Center, Kuala Lumpur on 23 October 2019. The students were (from left) Tan Juen Joau, Soong Shao Yuan, Yap Swee King, Lee Jiun Yih, Pang Chong Xian, Sue Jun Hong and Chen Shi Ching. Also present were UTAR Vice President Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong (second from right) and Head of Master of Information Systems Programme Dr Wong Whee Yen. In total 169 university students participated and showcased their innovation projects at the event.



▶ **MDEC Premier-Pride Challenge 2019:** UTAR clinched the overall winner title "Winner of Premier-Pride Challenge 2019" and four awards at the Premier-Pride Challenge 2019 by Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC). The four awards included Intel - Best University in Curriculum Embedment, AWS - Early Adopters Institute (1st Place), Microsoft - Top Lecturer for Artificial Intelligence (AI) by UTAR Centre for Computing and Intelligent Systems Chairperson Dr Ng Oon-Ee and Top Lecturer for Data Science by UTAR Faculty of Information and Communication Technology Dr Pradeep Isawasan. The prize-giving ceremony was held on 28 November 2019 at the Prism & Spectrum Connexion Bangsar South. (From left) Head of Internet Engineering & Computer Science Department Ts Dr B. N. Madhavan, Dr Ng, UTAR Vice President Prof Ts Dr Faiz bin Abd Rahman, Head of Mechatronics and BioMedical Engineering Department Dr Kwan Ban Hoe, Faculty of Information and Communication Technology Deputy Dean Ts Dr Cheng Wai Khuen and Dr Pradeep.

▶ **Triple win at Penang Green Journalism Award 2019:** Bachelor of Communication (Hons) Public Relations alumnus Lo Tern Chern swept three awards at the Penang Green Journalism Award 2019 held at The Wembley - A St Giles Hotel Penang on 21 November 2019. Lo walked away with Excellent Award for Hard News report category, the Special Award for Feature Writing category and Champion in Photojournalism category. His winning article for the Hard News report category was "Baffled over illegal dumping". The winning stories and photos were chosen among 90 submissions from journalists and photographers from different media houses.



Nurturing students' interest in Science and Technology

The Faculty of Science organised a "Science Education and Outreach Programme" for Westlake International School (WIS), Kampar, Year 10 students on 14 November 2019 at UTAR Kampar Campus. A total of 57 WIS students participated in the programme.

Led by Department of Laboratory Management and Safety Administration Head Dr Ooi Zhong Xian, the programme aimed to provide a platform for school students to further explore their interests in Science and Technology, as well as to enlighten participants on the applications of Science and Technology in the industry.

Dr Ooi said, "It is my pleasure to welcome our participants from WIS, and we are more than excited to be able to host this interactive day. I am also happy to know that our young generation, like our participants here today, are interested in Science and Technology. There are certainly more things to learn and understand when you are able to be hands-on in doing experiments. Therefore, I hope you will use the time you have here and enjoy today's lesson in our science laboratories."



▲ Dr Ooi (third from left) with participants

The programme consisted of four stations for the participants to conduct various experiments. Each group spent a minimum of

one hour at each station before moving to the other stations. Each station was related to a specific area of Science.

UTAR Megathon 2019 raises funds for UTAR Hospital

More than 500 runners joined UTAR Megathon 2019 to raise fund for the UTAR Hospital project. The run was held on 17 November 2019. The eight-kilometre run started at UTAR Sungai Long Campus and ended at BMC Mall, Bandar Mahkota Cheras.

Present to officiate the event were UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Vice President Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, BMC Mall Director Tee Xun Hui, UTAR Megathon 2019 Chairperson Lim Swea Jen and Head of Department for Student Affairs (Sungai Long Campus) Loh Nyuk Leung.

A closing ceremony was also held after the run. Present at the closing ceremony were UTAR Chancellor Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik and his spouse Toh Puan Ena Ling, BMC Mall Director Daniel Chan, Prof Dr Choong, Lim, Loh, Director of Yu Noodle Alex Yu, participants, staff and students.



Participants starting their eight-kilometre run after the flag off by Prof Ewe

Thanking everyone for their generous act, Tun Ling said that the not-for-profit hospital will house 500 beds for Western Medicine and 100 beds for the Traditional and Complementary Medicine to benefit the communities. Besides providing affordable services, the hospital is also set to be a teaching hospital.

"We were glad to be part of this run. We strongly support events organised by the community and UTAR and I hope you all would do the same for us. We are looking forward to more events by UTAR so that we can help and support the students in various channels," said Tee.

優大視野

由拉曼大学中华研究院及中华研究中心之马来西亚华人与文化研究组联合主办的“史料与田野调查：拿督公研究”研讨会于2019年11月2日和3日在金宝校区举办，获得来自国内外学者、民众与高校师生的踊跃参与。

这项为期两天的研讨会是马来西亚首个以“拿督公信仰”为主题的研讨会，以严谨的学术方式，并从不同学科的角度，如历史学、人类学、社会学、民俗学、宗教学和文学等，来探讨拿督公信仰特质和内涵。

研讨会筹委会主席陈爱梅博士致词时感谢各方的鼎力支持与协助，并简介了研讨会的筹办缘起与目的，“拿督公信仰盛行于马新等东南亚各地，是华人民间信仰本土化的一个典型。目前已有不少学者，通过人类学、社会学的角度做关于拿督公信仰的研究，同时也曾发表相关的期刊论文。因此，我们希望通过跨学科研究的分享，以全方位了解拿督公信仰，进而为这项研究打开新的视角。”

中华研究中心主任黄文斌副教授简介中华研究中心及各研究小组的发展概况并表示，“拿督公信仰是我国非常普遍的民间信仰，与本土研究密切相关，而我们的师生多年来也从事了许多以本土研究视角出发，与宗教相关的研究，涵括佛道儒教、民间信仰、基督教、天主教、伊斯兰教等。”

中华研究院院长张晓威副教授为与会者简介了金宝与拉曼大学的发展概况，“金宝从一个昔日锡镇转型成为了一个培育知识、学

金宝拉曼大学办首届拿督公研究研讨会



▲ 研讨会嘉宾、主讲人和出席者的大合照。

术分子的教育重镇。因此，本校希望透过举办各类学术活动，为参与者提供一个集思广益、拓宽视野，吸收更多新知识，并激荡研究火花的平台。”

代表祥兴塑料有限公司执行董事兼巴里文打拿督公蓝帛古庙主席拿督张文忠致词的财务经理黄联顺表示，“历史讲究实事求是，但华人历史鲜少记载在正规的历史里。陈爱梅博士和团队正努力地在全马进行实地考察，同时收集历史文物。其实收集历史文物犹如和时间赛跑，非常具有挑战性。我们也借出了

两鼎拥有百年历史的香炉供展出，借此希望与会者学会珍惜历史文物，因为珍惜历史文物也是我们对后代的责任之一。”

研讨会共分成百年回顾、研究概述、个案研究、文本与区域、宗教对话和跨域比较六个场次，并获得21位国内外学者发表。《拿》梳理了各种传闻和猜测，对这个民间信仰做了学术性的分析，同时随着研讨会的结束，也为“拿督公研究”开启了新的篇章，一个有待进一步开拓的研究领域。

合作家周芬伶谈散文创作与理论

拉曼大学中华研究院、中华研究中心和中文研究协会于2019年11月20日在金宝校区联合举办了以“散文创作与理论”为题的文学讲座，并邀请了台湾著名作家，同时也是拉曼大学中华研究院客座教授的周芬伶教授前来主讲。

周芬伶教授是台湾东海大学中文系特聘教授，跨足多种艺术创作形式，著有散文《绝美》、《热夜》、《汝色》；小说《妹妹向左转》、《粉红楼窗》；剧本《新白蛇传》、《摩洛哥》等。她曾以《花房之歌》荣获中山文艺奖、《兰花辞》荣获首届台湾文学奖散文金曲奖，更于今年获东海图书馆选为“东海文学大师”。

首先，她简介了东海大学中文系的创作课及本身的创作历程，“我在14岁的时候创作了自己的第一篇散文《遗书》，后来被老师把作品投稿到校刊。《遗》写一封父亲藏在衣柜里的遗书，当时这封遗书给自己带来了很大的震撼。后来我也开始写诗，到了大学则开始写小说。”

她表示，“真实是散文的第一要义，但为求真要付出莫大的代价，除了会袒露自己的许多事情，也有可能曝露被写的家人、朋友的事情。但我认为散文应写真人实事，因为它以真实的人事物、真实的感情感动人心。”

“透明是散文的第二要义，但透明不是裸露，而是贴近作者的个性。透明即是勇敢地表白自己，透过自己看待自己，无保留地抓住大部分的真实，但真实不



▲ 周芬伶在中华研究院后方的树林里开讲，分享了关于散文创作与理论，给出席者带来了一场别开生面的文学讲座。

等于现实，文中的自己是经过选择和修饰的，主要是感情的真实，与大部分的客观真实。”

她也分享了关于散文语言、技法、文类跨界、创作境界、文字锻炼、与学生的相处、文学奖评委经历等。最后，她勉励有志于散文创作的学生多阅读、丰富个人文字库，同时细心观察周遭的人事物，以及大量书写以锻炼文字。

Pupuk minat ilmu STEM dalam kalangan pelajar sekolah rendah

Seramai 40 orang pelajar sekolah rendah dari kawasan Kampar telah meluangkan masa secara berkualiti dengan menyertai program “Kem Sains Cuti Sekolah” bertempat di Kampus Kampar UTAR pada 7 Disember 2019.

Julung kali dianjurkan bersama Pusat Pendidikan Lanjutan dan Fakulti Sains UTAR, kem tersebut bermatlamat untuk memupuk minat dalam kalangan kanak-kanak khususnya pelajar-pelajar sekolah rendah kepada ilmu Sains, Teknologi, Matematik dan Kejuruteraan (STEM). Selain memupuk minat dalam ilmu STEM, Kem Sains ini juga memberi pengalaman cuti sekolah yang berfaedah serta menyeronokkan kepada para pelajar tersebut.

Kem Sains yang berteraskan pelbagai aktiviti praktikal STEM tersebut memberi peluang kepada pelajar-pelajar sekolah mempelajari kaedah-kaedah sains yang terlibat dalam bidang penanaman, penternakan, pemprosesan makanan dan pemprosesan bahan gunaan harian seperti sabun. Kem tersebut juga memberi peluang kepada semua peserta untuk melawat dan mengendalikan eksperimen mereka di tapak pertanian UTAR



Para peserta bergambar dengan pihak penganjur dan ahli-ahli akademik UTAR



Pelajar-pelajar berseronok melakukan aktiviti-aktiviti sains amali



dan juga di dalam makmal sains makanan.

Sebagai sebuah Universiti yang mengutamakan kepentingan pengetahuan dan pendidikan STEM, Kem Sains Cuti Sekolah UTAR ini juga mendidik para peserta mengenai kepentingan amalan pertanian yang mampan dan keselamatan makanan. Antara aktiviti kemuncak yang memberi manfaat kepada para peserta ialah aktiviti tanaman pasu, pengenalpastian tumbuhan herba, pengeluaran makanan ikan, kepelbagaian penghasilan plankton dan pemerahan susu kambing serta diagnosis kehamilan kambing.

Kem Sains Cuti Sekolah tersebut dibahagikan kepada tiga stesen utama, iaitu pemeriksaan mikroorganisme melalui mikroskopik, penerokaan herba, dan eksperimen telur ayam. Selain daripada itu, kem tersebut juga membimbing para peserta mempelajari cara pemakanan yang betul, pengamalan gaya hidup sihat, dan memahami kandungan gula dalam makanan serta kesan sampingannya.

Kem Sains Cuti Sekolah tersebut kemudiannya berakhir dengan sesi penyampaian sijil penyertaan kepada seluruh para peserta.



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