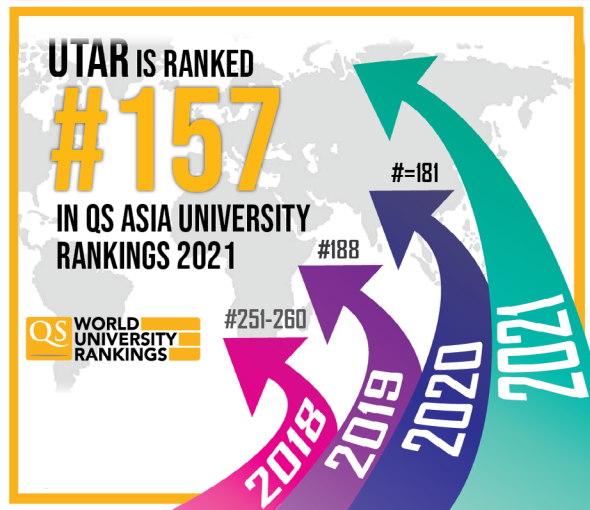


**UTAR IS RANKED**  
**#157**  
IN QS ASIA UNIVERSITY  
RANKINGS 2021

QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

#251-260 (2018)  
#188 (2019)  
#181 (2020)  
#157 (2021)



UNIVERSITI TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN

**5** **SETARA**  
2018/2019  
Mature University



**CIMA**  
Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman  
Awarded

Regional Bronze  
(Asia Pacific)

at  
CIMA Excellence Award 2020



BEST EMPLOYER BRAND

**GCA**  
GRADUATES'  
CHOICE  
AWARD

UTAR earns 2nd place  
in Education category  
for Most Attractive  
Graduate Employers To  
Work For in 2021



**SECOND RUNNER-UP**  
EDUCATION

gradmalaysia  
2020  
**MALAYSIA'S**  
**100**  
leading graduate  
**EMPLOYERS**

gti media



**UTAR Architecture students win second and third places at international design and construction competition**

**2ND PLACE**

THE GESTURE



**3RD PLACE**

RE: UNION BLISS





## UTAR moves up 24 Places in QS Asia University Rankings 2021

UTAR is now ranked #157 in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Asia University Rankings 2021, up 24 places from its ranking of #181 in the QS Asia University Rankings 2020. This is a significant increase for UTAR who has always aimed for excellence in its educational, research and internationalisation initiatives.

The QS Asia University Rankings is published annually to highlight top universities in Asia each year. According to QS, the criteria used for this Rankings is similar to that of the QS World Rankings except for some additional criteria and adapted weightings. This set of criteria is developed in consultation with regional experts and stakeholder and is designed to reflect key priorities of universities in Asia, drawing on as much data as possible.

The 11 indicators used to compile the QS Asia Rankings are Academic reputation (30%), Employer reputation (20%), Faculty/student ratio (10%), International research network (10%), Citations per paper (10%) and papers per faculty (5%), Staff with PhD (5%), Proportion of international faculty (5%) and proportion of international students (5%), Proportion of inbound exchange students (2.5%) and proportion of outbound exchange students (2.5%).

According to QS, the last two indicators are not used in the QS World Rankings but are used in the QS Asia Rankings to reflect the internationalisation activities of universities in Asia and to assess the relative size of international inbound and outbound exchange programmes of the universities. [Read here for more >>](#)

## UTAR wins CIMA Excellence Award

UTAR was awarded the Regional Bronze (Asia Pacific) 2020 CIMA Prize Winner Award at the first-ever CIMA Excellence Awards virtual ceremony on 11 December 2020. This award recognises the outstanding performance at the Strategy Case Study Exam for the exams taken in November 2019.

The CIMA Excellence Awards celebrate outstanding academic partners, tuition providers and students who have made significant contributions to the accounting profession and the Institute over the past year. These awards highlight the high-quality of teaching, research, and learning in accounting education across the world.

Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) Dean Dr Sia Bee Chuan said, "Our lecturers benchmark our programme contents with the latest developments in the industry and with professional bodies to fulfil the

necessary requirements to ensure that our graduates are trained for the industry. The Faculty is indeed thankful to CIMA for giving continuous support to UTAR."

Head of the Department of Accountancy Shamini Kandasamy encouraged the lecturers to work closely with CIMA and other professional bodies to make sure that students are continuously progressing in their studies to enhance the management and accounting profession.

According to Andrew Harding, FCMA, CGMA, Chief Executive, Management Accounting at The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, "The CIMA Excellence Awards honour institutions and individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the accounting profession and worked tirelessly to enrich their students, providing them with the best possible education and prepare the next generation of accounting professionals. The Regional Bronze (Asia Pacific) CIMA Award received by UTAR is a true testament of its commitment and dedication to building the future of our profession."

The CIMA Excellence Awards was sponsored by the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants. [Read here for more >>](#)

Three academics-cum-researchers from UTAR were ranked among the top 2% of scientists in the world by Stanford University, USA. The researchers were Emeritus Prof Dr Boo Nem Yun @ Mooi Nam Ying from the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, and Assoc Prof Ts Dr Bernard Saw Lip Huat and Dr Pang Yean Lin from the Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science.

Prof Boo was ranked for her research publication citation for the subject of pediatrics under the subfields of general and internal medicine for the year 2019, and life time contribution (as career scientist) in pediatrics research up to the year 2020. Dr Saw was ranked for his research publication citation for the subject of

## Ranked among the World's Top 2% Scientists by Stanford University



From left: Prof Boo, Dr Saw and Dr Pang

energy under the subfields of mechanical engineering and transports for the year 2019. Last but not the least, Dr Pang was selected for her research publication citation for the subject of general physics and energy for the year 2019.

Stanford University has listed over 150,000 scientists, whose published research manuscripts have accelerated progress in their respective fields. The scientists have been selected based on Scopus (abstract

and citation database of peer-reviewed literature) that ranks journals and gives a citation index. It is also ranked on the basis of standardised citation indications which include information on the number of citations, H-Index, co-authorship and a composite indicator of each scientist. The results have been published in PLOS Biology and have been classified into 22 scientific fields and 176 sub-fields in the report. [Read here for more >>](#)

Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) Ir Prof Dr Lim Yun Seng won the Malaysia Toray Science Foundation (MTSF) Science and Technology Award for the year 2020. Prof Lim was selected as one of the two recipients of the MTSF's Science and Technology Award which came with a cash prize of RM30,000 each. This award is given to two deserving Malaysian scientists/researchers each year in recognition of his/her outstanding achievements/discoveries/contributions in Science and Technology. The co-winners of the award were Dr Chua Kein Huat and Ir Dr Wong Jianhui. The award was based on the innovative research work on "Innovative Controllers of Energy Storage System for Solving Energy Trilemma (A Smart Grid Technologies)". Through the funding received from the government and British Council (AAIBE, CREST and Newton Fund), Prof Lim and his team successfully built the

## LKC FES academic won MTSF Science and Technology Award for the year 2020



From left: Prof Lim, Dr Chua and Dr Wong

first working utility-scale grid-integrated Energy Storage System (ESS) at the rating of 400 kW and 780 kWh in Malaysia on UTAR Campus (commercial building) under a real operating environment. A number of new controllers were developed to reduce the daily peak demands of the building under the intermittent power output of renewable energy sources as well as solving power quality issues caused by the penetration of photovoltaic systems.

This project has attracted the attention of the key industries. Tenaga Switchgear Managing Director Datuk Mohd Hisham Ab. Halim and his team visited the project on 10 February 2020. Sarawak Energy Berhad R&D Manager Dr Ng Sing Muk and his team visited the project on 7 January 2020 with the intention to adopt this low cost, highly efficient novel technology in the utility sectors as it is seen as a more economically viable option compared to overseas technology. [Read here for more >>](#)

Architecture students from Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) bagged several wins at "Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area: Association of Southeast Asia Nations (ASEAN) International Colleges Design and Construction Competition 2020 - Malaysian Stage" on 1 December 2020. Two teams from UTAR emerged as

# Architecture students bag several wins at design and construction competition

Champion; one team came in the second place while three other teams won the honorary mention. The two champion teams from UTAR also represented Malaysia at the International level of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area ASEAN Nations Design and Construction Competition 2020 on 19

December 2020. The champion teams won second and third places respectively.

Themed 'Waterfront Bird-Watching Pavilion', the competition aimed to provide the experience of designing real construction rather than 'computer modelling'.

The team members of the first champion team were Lim Chen Hee, Anderson Ting Guo Shen, Chong Zhen Hao, Chor Zhao Gen and Lau Chi Ying. The title of their project was "RE:Union Bliss on the Lotus Blossom" and they were supervised by Department of Architecture and Sustainable Design (DASD) Specialist I Abd Muluk bin Abd Manan. Besides qualifying for the International Level Bamboo Structure Competition, the team also walked away with a cash prize worth RM6,000, a trophy and certificates.



"RE:Union Bliss on the Lotus Blossom" was inspired by a blossoming lotus

The team which won the second place was guided by LKC FES DASD lecturer Abdul Rahim bin Mohd Zin. The team members were Lee Jun Huang, Lum Yeong Kang, Ho Song Sen, Amelia Low Chuan Yin and Tai Si Wei. They received cash prize worth RM2,000, a trophy and certificates for their project titled "Sanctuary".



The "Sanctuary" is a waterfront bird watching structure that combines nature and architecture



The other champion team was supervised by LKC FES DASD Specialist I Ar Loh Khang Yong. The team members were Chin Mann Yui, Ng Tze Way, Ow Kar Yong, Jonathan See Yu Hoong and Rachel Lee Thung Yan. This team too qualified for the International Level Bamboo Structure Competition; they walked away with a cash prize worth RM6,000, a trophy and certificates for their project titled "The Gesture".



"The Gesture" concept refers to basic bird watching using hand motions

Three teams from UTAR won the Honorary Mention and they walked away with cash prizes worth RM300 and certificates. The first team with their project titled "Sanctuary" was supervised by LKC FES lecturer Ts Tsao Khee Ern. The team members were Chrislyn Lau Chin Xi, Candy Chan Teng Min, Chai Zhi Zhong, Chong Jun Hao and Kim Zhe Ro.



The "Sanctuary" Bamboo Pavilion was inspired by the idea of birds flying back to their nest

The second honorary mention team members were Chan Nam Zhen, Chee Kai Meng, Kiew Si Ann, Ooi Zhong Min, and Sharon Thien Fang Jing. Supervised by Abd Muluk, the title of their project was "In Between".



The "In Between" space is an impersonation of mangrove roots



The third honorary mention team members were Cheah Yi Theng, Lu Yien Jun, Lee Kai Shin, Keng Pei Ni, and Tan Shin Jie. Their project "Attra Versiamo" was supervised by LKC FES lecturer Ar Sam Chin Sing.



"Attra Versiamo" concept illustrates the migration of birds to areas with better resources and nesting conditions

Besides UTAR, the competition saw the participation other nine other universities, namely Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Seni Bina USM-KPT (PPD), Taylor's University, Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM), Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Puncak Alam, Universiti Teknologi MARA Seri Iskandar Perak and Infrastructure University Kuala Lumpur (IUKL). UTAR, with the support of Malaysian Institute of Architects (PAM), Malaysia Architecture Students Association (MASA) and The Malaysian Bamboo Society (MBS) hosted the event. The competition is a joint collaboration between The South China University of Technology and Guangzhou Nan Sha Bird Park. [Read here for more >>](#)

KC FES academics received a gold medal and a certificate

## LKC FES academics earn gold at ITEX 2020

Under the Building and Construction category at the 31st International Invention, Innovation & Technology Exhibition (ITEX) 2020. The winning team members consisted of LKC FES lecturers, namely Dr Lee Foo Wei, Ts Dr Yew Ming Chian, Assoc Prof Ts Dr Bernard Saw Lip Huat, Assoc Prof Ir Dr Lim Siong Kang and LAr Ts Beh Jing Han. They were led by LKC FES lecturer Dr Yew Ming Kun.

Their winning project was titled "Ecological Floating Treatment Wetlands". The project aimed to investigate the floating type of lightweight foam concrete technique combination with greening technique to construct Ecological Floating Treatment Wetlands (EFTWs).

EFTWs are manmade ecosystems that mimic natural wetlands. It aims to create multiple social-ecological benefits that would restore existing pond water, regenerate microhabitat for wildlife, and revitalise the pond and nearby environment social activities of the local community. EFTWs are the innovative variant of the traditional constructed method for wetland that offers great potential for the treatment of urban stormwater and sediment ponds.

The international exhibition was virtually organised by the Malaysian Invention and



Clockwise, from top left: Dr Yew, Dr Lee, Ts Dr Yew, LAr Ts Beh, Dr Lim and Ts Dr Bernard Saw

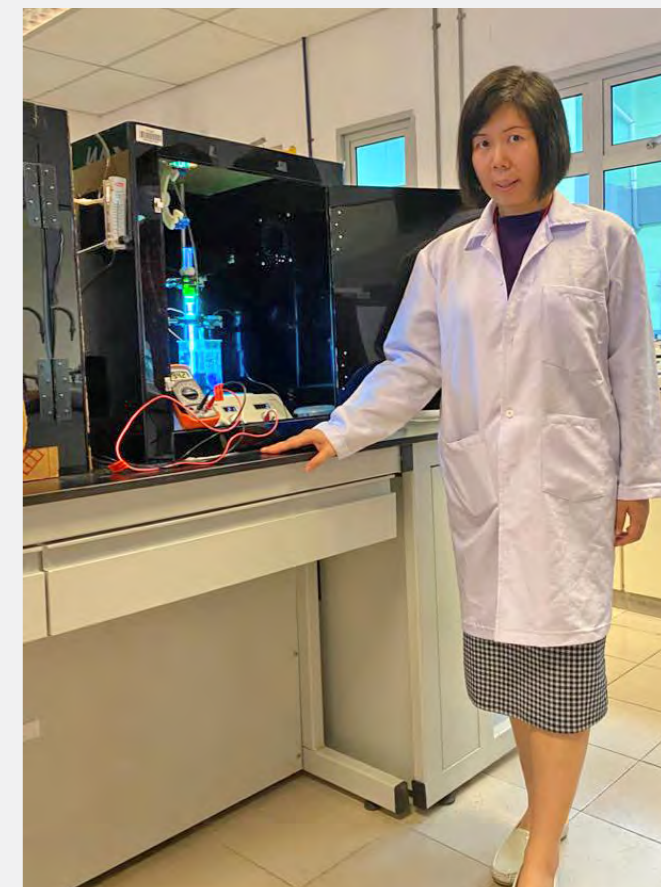
Design Society (MINDS) from 20 to 21 November 2020. ITEX 2020 featured a marketplace for commercialisation purposes within the fingertips. [Read here for more >>](#)

## Gold and silver medals at Pi-ENVEX 2020

Two teams from the Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) of Kampar Campus were awarded gold and silver medals in the Perlis International Engineering Invention Innovation Exhibition (Pi-ENVEX) 2020. The exhibition was co-organised by Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP), Center of Excellence Geopolymer and Green Technology and ENVEX Young Researcher Club UniMAP, MINDS Chapter from 18 to 21 May 2020 via online.

Both teams participated in Class A: Agriculture & Environmental and Renewable Energy. The gold medal-winning team, supervised by Assoc Prof ChM Ts Dr Lam Sze Mun, consisted of Environmental Engineering students Chai Yen Yi and Ng Hao Yu, and Master of Environmental Technology student Choong Man Kit. Their winning project was titled "Photocatalytic Fuel Cell for Sustainable Wastewater Treatment and Bacteria Disinfection Synchronized with Electricity Production".

The silver medal-winning team, supervised by Assoc Prof ChM Ts Dr Sin Jin Chung, consisted of Petrochemical Engineering students Low Yu Zheng and Chang Jia Cheng, and Doctor of Philosophy (Engineering) student Chin Ying Hui. Their winning project was titled "Advanced Photocatalytic Technology for Palm Oil Mill Effluent Degradation with Simultaneous Biogas Generation". [Read here for more >>](#)



Dr Lam posing with the photocatalytic fuel cell project that won the team a gold medal

## FBF alumnus wins second place in FinMO 2020



Jeff Tan

UTAR Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) alumnus Jeff Tan Heng Siang won second place in the global virtual competition CFI Financial Modeling Case Competition & World Championships (FinMo) 2020. The competition was held from 18 October to 26 October 2020. Tan was the only Malaysian among the Top Three winners in the global virtual competition. He walked away with a cash prize worth USD2,000.

Themed 'Financial Modelling', the participants were given one week to complete the cases. For the competition, the participants were required to build models for financial analysis, loan sizing, debt restructuring, valuation and many more.

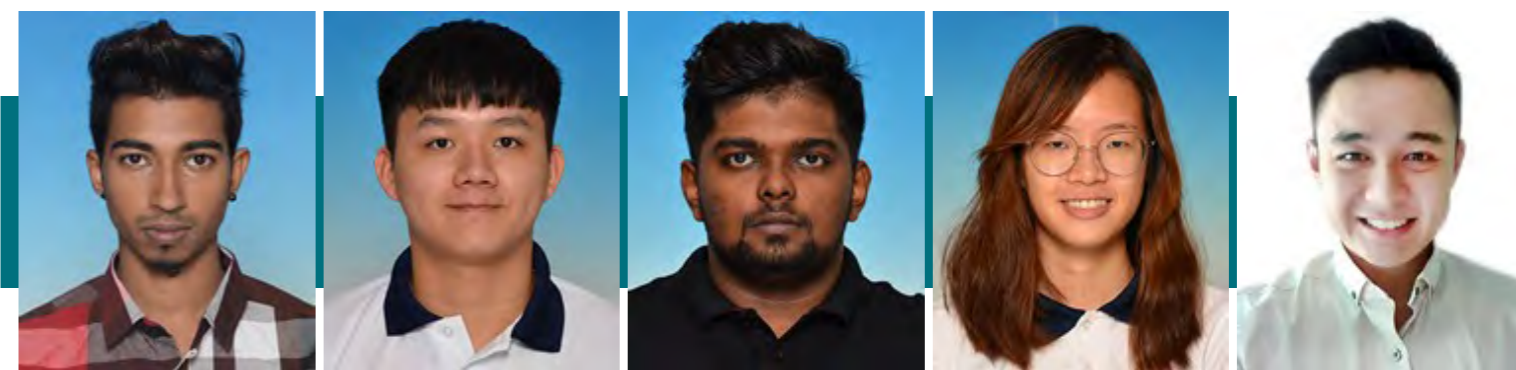
Tan's case study required him to understand the role of an Investment Banking Analyst to advise Coca-Cola with a pitching recommendation on Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) transactions. His case study model and recommendation were selected by the graders for the strong ideas and comprehensive investment rationale strategy.

Tan is currently a Corporate Finance Consultant in a well-established advisory firm. He has vast experience in Corporate Finance and various types of engagements, namely Business and Company Valuations, Financial Due Diligence, Financial Modelling, Independent Advisory, and Business Strategy Projects for both public and private sector companies.

Organised by Corporate Finance Institute (CFI), FinMo is an annual global case competition that tests analysts' financial modelling, valuation, strategic analysis and presentation skills. The competition attracted thousands of finance professionals and students across the world.

[Read here for more >>](#)

## Third prize in 1st International Student Competition on Tall Building Design, Creating Digital Model of Quarantine Center



From left: R. Sivanesan, Kuah, M. Puganesh, Chan and Fabian Wong

A team of Construction Management students from the Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) won third prize in the 1st International Student Competition on Tall Building Design, Creating Digital Model of Quarantine Center. Organised by UCITY and Centre for Student Development of Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP), the competition was held via virtual platform on 15 October 2020.

The winning team was comprised of R. Sivanesan, Kuah Wei Hang, M. Puganesh, Chan Xiao Lim and Fabian Wong Tching Tak. They were coached and guided by FEGT lecturers Dr Shalini Sanmargaraja and Ar Tan Seong Yeow. The team walked away with a cash prize worth RM200 and certificates of appreciation for their project titled "Green Quarantine Centre".

Their project titled "Green Quarantine Centre" aimed to design and develop a digital model of a permanent quarantine centre for suspected infectious people with Covid-19 in respect to Green Rating Systems with an eco-friendly approach towards the environment. The project incorporated solar panel system, energy-saving LED and germicidal lamps with dimming and motion sensors attached for a better energy-efficient performance of the building. The quarantine centre's thermal comfort is further stabilised by utilising the sunshield glass.

The competition saw participation from a total of 19 universities from economies including Malaysia, Indonesia, Pakistan and India.

[Read here for more >>](#)

"Red Wine Chicken", a film documenting the life, marriage

## Red Wine Chicken, a winning documentary by final year Broadcasting students

and love between a Vietnamese woman and a Malaysian man by two Bachelor of Communication (Honours) Broadcasting final year students from the Faculty of Creative Industries (FCI), has been named one of the five winning documentaries by the Visual Documentary Project (VDP) 2020.

Initiated in 2012 by the Center for Southeast Asian Studies (CSEAS) Kyoto University, the VDP aimed to provide a platform to deepen exchanges on Southeast Asia through documentary filmmaking, supplement academic research on Southeast Asia and create bridges between filmmakers and researchers working in the region. VDP has received a total submission of 1,066 documentary films since 2012.

The theme of VDP 2020 was "love". The Red Wine Chicken was selected from nearly 120 entries from Southeast Asian countries. The title of the 16-minute film refers to a traditional Fuzhou Chinese delicacy in and beyond Malaysia. Usually served during important family gatherings and festivals, the dish is an integral part of the film producer Angel Yuen Yi Qian's family tradition. The film director was Chung Lay Woei. The documentary was shot in early 2020 with support from the crews of Just Another Production (J.A.P), a local production company.



From the left: Angel Yuen, Chung, Kingking Tan and Jermenn Yip (Photo by Chee Ming Yeong, taken in early Feb 2020 during the production)

J.A.P Founder Jermenn Yip said, "I am very proud of Chung and Angel Yuen because it was never easy to make a film, moreover a documentary. Although the film was a student project, our team never skipped any important filmmaking steps, from planning to pre-production, shoot and lastly post-production." [Read here for more >>>](#)

UTAR Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) academics, namely Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Research Deputy Director

## Research paper awarded as top 25 most cited articles by Clarivate Analytics

Assoc Prof Dr Sumathi Sethupathi, the lead researcher and her associate Department of Environmental Engineering Head Assoc Prof Dr Mohammed J. K. Bashir, Master by Research (Graduate) Muhammad Younas and other fellow contributors who are UTAR graduates Leong Loong Kong, Humayun Nadeem and Areeb Shehzad, were awarded "Energy & Fuels Top 25 Most Cited\* Articles in 2016" for their research paper titled "Recent Advancements, Fundamental Challenges, and Opportunities in Catalytic Methanation of CO<sub>2</sub>", published in 2016.

The recognition was given by Energy & Fuels Journal based on Clarivate Analytics for the August 2020 most cited articles. Clarivate Analytics would usually name the world's most impactful research articles in each category based on the total number of citations.

Their research mainly investigated on an integrated system which converts CO<sub>2</sub> into value-added products such as methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) by using solar energy (photosynthesis) or surplus electrical energy in hydrolysis for production of reactant hydrogen to use in CO<sub>2</sub> methanation.

Master of Engineering Science graduate Younas is the first author of this article. He took a full-time master's



From left: Dr Bashir and Dr Sumathi displaying their certificate

programme at UTAR under the supervision of Dr Sumathi and Co-supervision of Dr Bashir in the year 2014 and graduated in the year 2016. His research was titled "A novel palm shell based activated carbon catalyst for carbon dioxide capture and reforming into methane". [Read here for more >>>](#)

UTAR Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) added yet another three awards to its growing list of accolades when it received two silver and one bronze medals at the National Innovation and Invention Competition through Exhibition 2020 (iCompEx'2020). The competition was organised by Politeknik Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah on 21 July 2020 via online. It served as a platform for participants to highlight their research findings to the public.

The winning teams were comprised of Petrochemical Engineering students Loo Gaik Eng, Ang Chin Wei and Master of Engineering Science student Tan Kor Yin in a

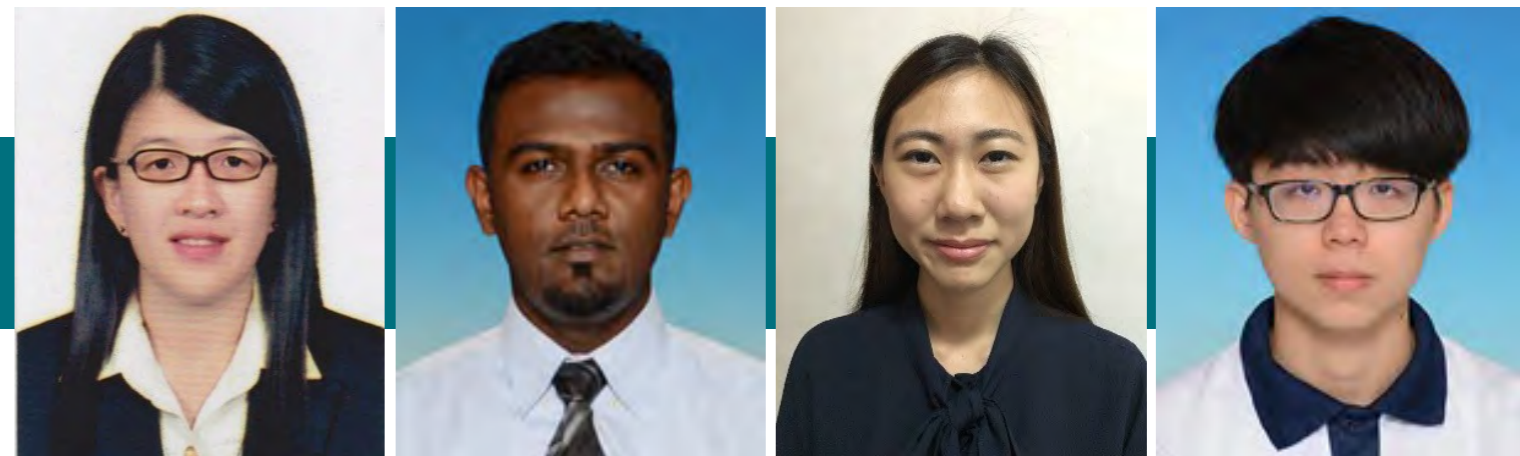
## UTAR FEGT earns two silvers and one bronze in iCompEx'2020

team; Petrochemical Engineering students Vanessa Ng Wen Yi and Loo Diing Khang in a team and Petrochemical Engineering students D. Krishnaah and N. Patmashini Saii in a team. The teams were supervised by Dr Toh Pey Yi; Ts Dr Teoh Yi Peng and Dr M. Mathialagan; and Assoc Prof Dr M. Yamuna and Dr Mathialagan respectively.

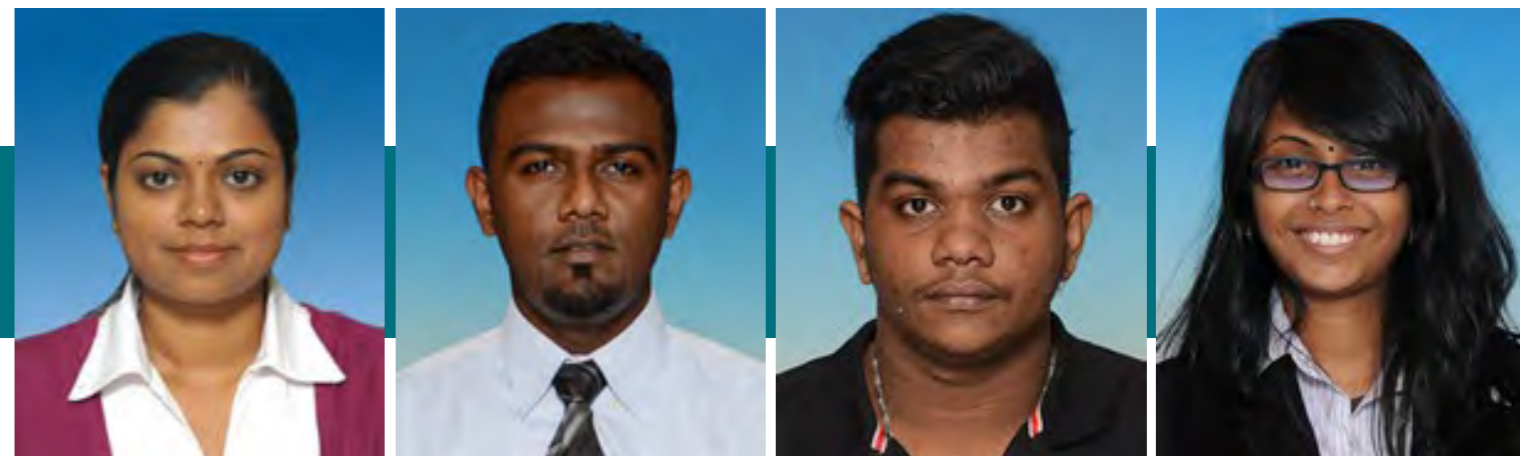
The winning teams participated in two categories, namely Category B: Construction and Material, and Category G: Agriculture, Environment and Renewable Energy. [Read here for more >>>](#)



From left: Team supervisor Dr Toh and Petrochemical Engineering students Gaik Eng, Ang and Master of Engineering Science student Tan



From left: Team supervisors Ts Dr Teoh and Dr Mathialagan, and Petrochemical Engineering students Vanessa Ng and Diing Khang



From left: Team supervisors Dr Yamuna and Dr Mathialagan, and Petrochemical Engineering students Krishnaah and Patmashini Saii

Three teams, namely MDR Observers from Faculty of

Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS), Alchemist from Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT) and Cells-at-Work from Faculty of Science (FSc) walked away with first prize, third prize I and third prize II respectively in the "SIMS Challenge 2020 - Innovative Application of Game Technologies" held on 5 November 2020.

The SIMS Challenge 2020 (Finals) was organised by Serious Games Association, a not-for-profit volunteer driven transnational society registered in Singapore, and SingHealth Duke-NUS Institute of Medical Simulations (SIMS). Out of 38 submissions from six different economies, namely India, Thailand, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea and Malaysia, six teams were shortlisted to move to the final round; three winners were from UTAR.

## UTAR wins top prizes in SIMS Challenge 2020



Prof Ngeow (left) from MDR Observers and her virtual game Total Defence (right)

The champion team, MDR Observers was comprised of FMHS academics Dr Aw Kar Men and Prof Dr Ngeow Yun Fong, and Prof Ngeow's son Shong Way Sern. They walked away with a cash prize worth S\$500 and a trophy for their game titled "Total Defence".

The first team to win the third prize was named Alchemist from FICT and the team was comprised of Computer Science students Lim Jia Jun, Goh Xin Yun, Alisa Yap Yi Hui and Tan Jia Phei; Information Systems Engineering student Chai Zhi Kong; and FSc's Master of Science student Chen Sook Ngoh. The team was

supervised by FICT lecturer Ts Saw Seow Hui and they walked away with a cash prize worth S\$75 and winner's trophy for their game titled "Perfect Potion".

The second team who won the third prize was named Cells-at-Work from FSc. The team was comprised of Master of Science students Yeap Yee Hung, Chen and Lim Zhi Meng; and they were coached by FSc lecturer Dr Saw Seow Hoon. They walked away with a cash prize worth S\$75 and winner's trophy for their game titled "Towers of Immunology".

[Read here for more >>](#)

Research papers by three academics from Faculty of Business and Finance, namely Assoc Prof Dr Lee Voon Hsien, Dr Leong Lai Ying and Hew Jun Jie, were recently awarded the "Hot Paper" and "Highly Cited Paper" awards for May/June 2020 by Clarivate Analytics.

The paper titled "Time to seize the digital evolution: Adoption of blockchain in operations and supply chain management among Malaysian SMEs" was awarded the "Hot Paper" and "Highly Cited Paper" awards. It was co-authored by Dr Leong and Hew, with UCSI academics Dr Garry Tan Wei Han and Prof Ooi Keng Boon, and Xiamen University Malaysia academic Dr Wong Lai Wan.

This paper was published in the *International Journal of Information Management*. It was cited for 14 times in total according to the Web of Science database. Getting the "Hot Paper" award indicates that this paper has earned enough citations in the most recent bimonthly period to

## FBF academics awarded Hot Paper and Highly Cited Paper by Clarivate Analytics



From left: Dr Lee, Hew and Dr Leong

place it in the top 0.1% when compared to papers in the same field (i.e., Social Sciences, general) and added to the database in the same period.

Meanwhile, the paper titled "Mobile social tourism shopping: A dual-stage analysis of a multi-mediation model" was awarded the "Highly Cited Paper" award. It was co-authored by Dr Lee, Dr Leong, and Hew, with Prof Ooi and Dr Tan.

Published in the *Tourism Management*, the paper received 39 citations in total according to the Web of Science database, qualifying it to be placed in the top 1% of the academic field of "Social Sciences, general" based on a highly cited threshold for the field and publication year, as well.

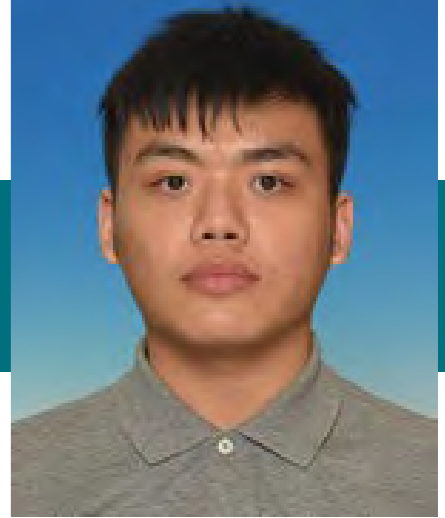
[Read here for more >>](#)

## Second prize in Industry-University Challenge 2020

UTAR Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) Electrical and Electronic Engineering student Chew Yan Zhe and Applied Mathematics with Computing student Seow Khaiwen earned second prize in the virtual grand finale of "Industry-University Challenge 2020 - Smart City: Pandemic Management". Held on 5 December 2020 via ZOOM, the challenge was jointly organised by Intel and CREST.

The team participated in the Pre-Pandemic category. They walked away with a Garmin Forerunner 245 smart-watch each for their winning project, titled "Sentinel Integrated Thermal Surveillance System (SENTRY)". The team was supervised by LKC FES lecturer Ir Ts Dr Tham Mau Luen.

Their project aimed to develop a general sentinel surveillance system by jointly utilising thermal and face detection methods, and predict outbreak trends by using automatic data collection and artificial intelligence methods. To summarise the prototype, a thermal sensor and camera are



From the left: Chew and Seow

used to detect faces and corresponding temperatures. Recorded cases of fever in an area will be recorded and analysed using conventional statistical techniques as well as artificial intelligence methods to determine whether a possible disease cluster is formed.

The Industry-University Challenge 2020

is a national innovation challenge that focuses on innovating Smart City solutions using Internet of Things technology for pandemic management. The challenge was divided into three categories, namely Pre-Pandemic, Pandemic and Post-Pandemic.

[Read here for more >>](#)

## LKC FES students win first and consolation prizes at EPSSCom 2020



Team Two, from left: Ariana Chin, Fong, Lew, Chow and Ho

Two teams from UTAR Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) took part in the Electrical Power System Simulation Competition 2020 (EPSSCom) 2020 on 17 November 2020 via Microsoft Teams. The teams respectively won the first prize and the consolation prize.

The two teams were coached by LKC FES lecturers Dr Chua Kein Huat, Ir Dr Wong Jianhui, Assoc Prof Dr Lim Boon Han and Ir Prof Dr Lim Yun Seng. The teams' presentation was titled "Electrical Power System Simulation".

Team Two won the first prize and they were supervised by

Dr Wong. The winning team consisted of Year Two Electrical and Electronic students, namely Ariana Chin Sue Rei, Chow Zhi Onn, Fong Chien Yoong, Ho Jun Kin and Lew Yanzhe. They won cash prize worth RM3,000.

The consolation prize was won by Team One. They were supervised by Dr Chua. The team consisted of Year Four Electrical and Electronic students, namely Chua Xin Rong, Eddy Sii Yao Ing, Lee Yao Dong, Low Kai Han and Low Mun Seng. They won cash prize worth RM250.

[Read here for more >>](#)

## Second place in RISM QS Virtual Symposium 2020

UTAR Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) Bachelor of Science (Honours) Quantity Surveying (QS) students won second place in RISM QS Virtual Symposium 2020 for their project titled "Preparation of Final Accounts".

The symposium, conducted via Cisco Webex, was jointly organised by the Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia (RISM) Quantity Surveying Division and Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Sarawak on 11 November 2020. The symposium aimed to provide a platform for QS undergraduates to exhibit their ideas on professional practice. The symposium also served as a platform for the QS undergraduates to work as a team with lecturers and industry mentors in enhancing the current QS core competency in the construction industry.

The theme of the symposium was 'Back to the Principles'. It was open to School of Built Environment



The winning team was announced during the award ceremony of RISM QS Virtual Symposium 2020

undergraduates from all semesters. Participating the event on behalf of UTAR was a team of ten QS undergraduates, together with their advisor Dr Wong Phui Fung and their mentor Sr Yow Li Ping who are lecturers from LKC FES. The QS

students were Kelvin Koh Hoong Ren, Chong Zhen Hua, Lim Win Yee, Wong Jia Yee, Yee Soo Ling, Yee Lee Chien, Saw Jui John, Lim Mei Shin, Lai Li Xuan, and Bernice Hoon Chien Yi. [Read here for more >>](#)

## SDG Merit Award and SDG Special Mention Awards for outstanding students



From left: Ariff, Choo, Lim and Teoh

As part of the effort to adopt and promote the Sustainable Development Goals, UTAR Department of Students Affairs Sungai Long Campus and Kampar Campus presented UTAR Student Awards 2019/2020 to further inspire students to excel and seek greater achievements for the benefit of the students on campus and the community. Among the awards given were SDG Merit Awards and SDG Special Mention Award. The awards were presented to four students, namely Biomedical Science student Anwar Ariff bin Mohd Khairie, Accounting student Choo Pao Ling, Chemical Engineering student Lim Chong Meng and Master of Engineering Science student Teoh Han Wei.

Ariff, who volunteered as a RELA team member, was awarded

the SDG Merit Award for combating exhibitionist, or also commonly known as flashers, for the safety of the students and the community in Kampar. Choo was the first award recipient for SDG Special Mention Award. Choo was awarded for her active contribution in the Orang Asli Project 5.0. Choo was the vice chairperson for Orang Asli Project 5.0.

The second award recipient of SDG Special Mention Award was Lim, who actively contributed in the "Fireflies Project". Lim was the chairperson for the "Fireflies Project". The third award recipient of SDG Special Mention Award was Teoh, who was actively involved in organising the "SDGs Competition 2019: Stand up for the Change". Teoh was the organising chairperson for the SDGs Competition 2019: Stand Up for the Change. [Read here for more >>](#)

Two teams of students from the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT) and Faculty of Science (FSc) emerged as the second prize winners in Session Two and Session Three of "TAR UC e-Data Hackathon 2020 - When Data Meets AI" respectively.

Held on Google Meets from 23 to 25 October 2020, the hackathon was organised by Tunku Abdul Rahman University College (TAR UC). The hackathon was organised for students from Premier Digital Tech Institutions (PDTI) including UTAR, TAR UC, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Taylor's University, Sunway University, Multimedia University, Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation, HELP University and International Islamic University Malaysia.

The winning team from FICT, named B11 was comprised of Computer Science students Lim Sin Hui, Neow Zhi Chin; and Business Information Systems student Lee Zhi Liang. Coached by FICT lecturer Dr Aun Yichiet, the team walked away with a cash prize worth RM400 for the project titled "Production

## FICT and FSc win second prizes in TAR UC e-Data Hackathon 2020 - When Data Meets AI



FICT team, from left: Dr Aun, Lim, Neow and Lee



FSc team, from left: Looi, Ng, Zheng Ning and Pang

Demand Prediction Using Transaction Data".

Meanwhile, the winning team from FSc, named C12 was comprised of Statistical Computing and Operations Research students Looi Zheng Ning, Ng Geet Lim and Pang Wan Chee. Coached by

FSc lecturer Looi Sing Yan, the team walked away with a cash prize worth RM400 for the project titled "A Cloud Dashboard with Personalized Recommendations". [Read here for more >>](#)

## LKC FES Architecture students emerge as top winners in design competition



From left: Lau, Lim, Chong and Terrance Tian

Architecture students from Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) emerged as top four winners in the "UTOPIA Architecture Students Design Competition 2020" held from 30 December 2019 to 18 January 2020. The competition was organised by the Malaysia Architecture Students Alliance (MASA). The winners were announced on 18 January 2020. The award ceremony was held at Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM) office. Presenting the award were judges Ar Muhammad Qhwarizmi Norhisham and Ar Adrianta Aziz.

The competition aimed to look for an adaptive design capable of intelligent growth through the self-regulation of its own systems. Themed 'Utopia', the competition provided participants with an opportunity to present their ideas on the visions of our future imagined world as 'UTOPIA' can be on defining their own definition of a 'perfect' place.

The first prize winners were Lau Chi Ying and Lim Chen Hee, who won RM300 and certificates for their project titled "Dandelion Dream". It was designed by applying the metaphor of dandelion flower

as a modular to redefine a new interpretation of a future city in terms of implementation of future technologies, materials, planning and organisation.

The third prize winner was Chong Wai Xuan, who won RM100 and a certificate. His winning

project was titled "Metempsychosis". The fourth prize winner was Terrance Tian Kai Wei, who won a certificate. His winning project was titled "Flugel", which means wings in German. [Read here for more >>](#)

## First and second prizes in Duit Together- Cabaran Mencipta Slogan (Fasa Terakhir)



From left: Yip and Chan

**B**achelor of Business Administration (Honours) Entrepreneurship student Yip Mee Kuan and Bachelor of Science (Honours) Biotechnology student Chan Shu Ting won first prize and second prize respectively in the "Duit Together- Cabaran Mencipta Slogan (Fasa Terakhir)" which was held from 1 April 2020 to 30 June 2020. Yip walked away with RM5,000 cash whereas Chan won RM3,000 for the second prize.

The competition was organised by the Agensi Kaunseling Dan Pengurusan Kredit (AKPK) which aims to help potential brides and bridegrooms to manage their finances by providing financial education materials on the proper use of credit and basic money management as well as tips on how to use credit responsibly. [Read here for more >>](#)

## Champion in Pitch It Right! 2020 Competition



Allan Chong



Ng

**U**TAR Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) students emerged as champion on virtual competition titled "Pitch It Right! 2020 on 28 November 2020 via Microsoft Teams. The theme of the competition is Zero Waste: A Dream or Reality.

The winning team, named Group 8, was comprised of Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) Chemical Engineering students Allan Chong Han Lin and Ng Jian Min. They walked away with cash prize worth RM3,000, research grant allocation worth RM20,000, internship and job opportunities at the company and e-certificate for their project titled "Waste to Wealth - A Worm Business".

Dr Shuit said the competition helped to enhance the students' understanding of the field of Chemical Engineering. The ideas and knowledge that they gained throughout the competition process will be beneficial for them especially when they reached Year Four for process and plant design subject as well as final year project.

The virtual competition was organised by IChemE, University of Nottingham Malaysia and co-organised and sponsored by Green Lagoon Technology (GLT) Sdn Bhd. The competition aimed to utilise or convert the wastes generated on-site into value-added products. [Read here for more >>](#)

**U**TAR Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT) student won the fourth place in "Build On, Malaysia 2020 - Empowering Your Future".

Held via a virtual platform on 17 September 2020, the virtual hackathon was organised by Amazon Web Services (AWS), together with their esteemed partners, namely MDEC, Smart Selangor Delivery Unit and Smart Selangor. The competition was also supported by organisations such as Fintech Academy, Healthcare Fintech Alliance and DreamCatcher.

The winning team, named Brain Hacks was comprised of Information Technology students How Wei Jiat, Derrick Teh Zhi Xian, Chen Yu Xuan; Information Systems Engineering student Yap Wen Song; and Computer Science student Tan Jing Jie. Supervised by FICT lecturer Ts Dr Cheng Wai Khuen, the team won a cash prize worth USD750, a trophy and a silver medal each for their project titled "An Interactive Dashboard for People with Disability (PWD) Analytic".

The team aimed to create an application that would help the PWD board on public transport. The ultimate aim for this application was to gather all PWD information such as trajectory movement and PWD distribution. This

## Brain Hacks team from UTAR won fourth place in cloud computing competition



Clockwise, from top left: Dr Cheng, How, Teh, Chen, Yap and Tan

information could help urban planners to make decisions in urban planning.

"Build On, Malaysia 2020 - Empowering Your Future" is an annual competition that focuses on

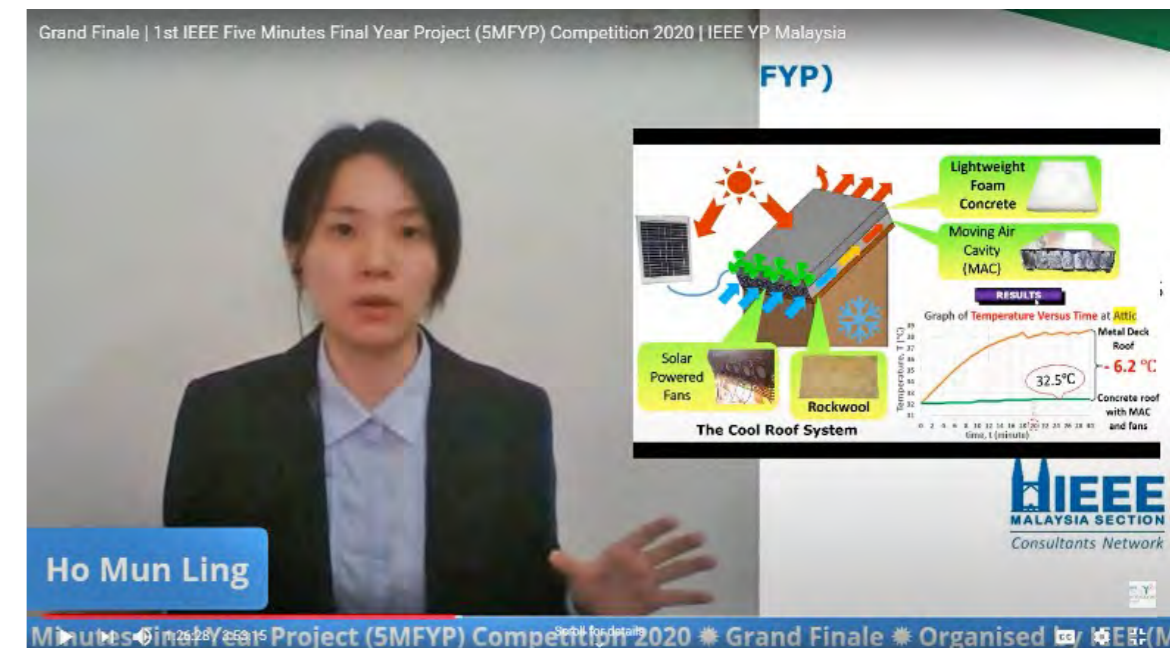
cloud computing technology innovations led by AWS for students across Malaysia. The competition saw a total of 40 teams comprising students from the field of ICT. [Read here for more >>](#)

**U**TAR Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) Mechanical Engineering student Ho Mun Ling beamed with joy when she won the second place in 1st IEEE Five Minutes Final Year Project (5MFYP) Competition 2020. She walked away with RM300 cash prize and award certificate for Bachelor Category. Her award-winning project was titled "Integration of Solar Powered Fans and Moving-Air-Cavity for Attic Temperature Reduction".

The competition was organised virtually by IEEE Young Professionals (YP) Malaysia in collaboration with IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES) Malaysia Chapter and IEEE Consultants Network Malaysia on 20 November 2020 via LIVE at Facebook & YouTube.

The 1st IEEE 5MFYP Competition 2020 aimed to cultivate students' academic,

## LKC FES student Ho Mun Ling won second place in 1st IEEE 5MFYP



Ho presenting her FYP titled "Integration of Solar Powered Fans and Moving-Air-Cavity for Attic Temperature Reduction"

presentation and research communication skills and train, educate and groom the participants with essential skills of presentation and communication. The Grand Finale saw the participation of 21 contestants from

various universities in all over Malaysia who presented their Final Year Project (FYP) within just five minutes using a Single Static Slide. [Read here for more >>](#)



In view of the Covid-19 pandemic and the standard of procedures by the government, this year's Kuala Lumpur Engineering Science Fair (KLESF) goes virtual for the first time. The opening ceremony of e-KLESF 2020 took place on 12 December 2020, hosted at Zoom and shared at Facebook saw more than 2,600 views.

The engineering science fair which takes place from 12 until 20 December 2020 is an initiative with various programmes and activities that aims to promote interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) among primary and secondary school students. e-KLESF hopes to generate an interest in and excitement about STEM for students, the general public and parents as well as participants from other economies.

The e-KLESF 2020 was organised by AAET, UTAR, MIGHT, IEM, MCMC and TAR UC, and supported by the Academy of Sciences

Malaysia (ASM), Ministry of Education (MOE) Malaysia, the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry Malaysia (ACCCIM) and Malaysian Institute of Physics (IFM).

The opening ceremony also witnessed some sharing from the industry players. Variety of activities were held throughout the science fair such as webinars, workshops, quizzes that focused on areas such as pollution, climate change, future habitat, human anatomy, heritage and culture preservation through virtual reality, Jupyter Notebook in Anaconda, principles of cheese making, the usage of Microsoft Publisher and many more. These programmes were part of the effort to promote children's interests in STEM education and to raise the awareness of the public on the importance of STEM in socio-economic well-being and sustainable development. [Read here for more >>](#)

KLESF Steering Committee Co-Chairman-cum-TAR UC President Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei said,

“KLESF started in 2013. This year we are doing things differently because of the Covid-19. Nevertheless, we managed to organise and promote the interest in STEM among younger generation through the virtual platform. Over the past 10 months, the general public and fellow students are aware of the importance of science. This pandemic is a challenge where we would not be able to overcome without science. I encourage all students to think more about how science can help society and improve their lives.”



KLESF Steering Committee Co-Chairman-cum-MIGHT President and CEO Datuk Dr Mohd Yusoff Sulaiman added,

“Although we are not able to meet face to face, it doesn't mean it would be less fun or educational. In fact, we would be able to connect to more STEM group around the world. Through KLESF we have shown that STEM is not only fun and interesting but is the answer to many issues and problems faced in the world today. Let's use this platform to increase our knowledge and sharing, work together closely and pull resources together for a better future.”



IEM President Ir Ong Ching Loon mentioned,

“KLESF is an initiative with various programme that aims to promote interest in STEM. Today's event sets a significant milestone as this the first time a virtual event is being hosted for KLESF. We at IEM believe that this science fair is an important factor to motivate the students towards science in engineering. The science fair project is a great learning experience as it involves more than just science; it involves conceptualisation of idea, execution of plan, problem-solving, meeting timeline and dynamic of teamwork.”



AAET President Ir Academician Emeritus Prof Tan Sri Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik said,

“We've conducted KLESF for the past few years with the aim to promote STEM education and to spark STEM interest among young students. This year, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are now doing the e-KLESF with a lot of webinars, workshops, quizzes and demonstrations. We hope students and the general public can visit e-KLESF and participate in all the activities. We also hope to see participation from the ASEAN counterparts, China and other economies. We hope you enjoy e-KLESF.”



UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat said,

“I would like to offer my warmest welcome to all participants to the e-KLESF 2020. KLESF is an initiative with various programmes and activities that aims to promote interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) among primary and secondary school students. I would also like to congratulate all winners of the KLESF International Challenge 2020 and the 3-minute video (3MV) Competition on "Innovative Young Educator". Keep up the good spirit and enjoy STEM education as STEM is everywhere; it is all around us in our everyday lives.”



Deputy Director General of Education Malaysia Teacher Professional Development Dr Ahmad Rafee Bin Che Kassim emphasised,

“On behalf of the Ministry of Education Malaysia, I wish to congratulate the organising team, sponsors, founders and the industry of KLESF for the continuous effort in promoting interest in STEM education. The e-KLESF resonates with the aspiration of the country in developing high skills talents to push the country further in the high technology area. This connection would hopefully spark their curiosity in STEM subjects and pursue further leading in STEM career later especially in the era of the fourth industrial revolution.”



The National Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia (NCCIM) and The Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia (ACCCIM) President-cum-Sunsuria Berhad Executive Chairman Tan Sri Datuk Ter Leong Yap said,

“I'm delighted to see KLESF continues to promote interest in STEM among primary and secondary students over the years. This remarkable event has gained such recognition and is now in its seventh year. It is great to see so many incredible young talented people getting involve and demonstrating their abilities as well as enthusiasm for STEM. STEM change our lives and it is the hands of inspiring people like you to make big changes to the world.”



## Khor Jun Bin won Best FYP Project Award for robot project



Certificate of Merit received by Khor

A project related to robot service by UTAR Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science student Khor Jun Bin caught the judges' attention at the 2020 IEEE EMBS Malaysia Chapter Final Year Project (FYP) Competition as he won the Best FYP Project Award on 1 November 2020. The project titled "Implementation of Machine Vision on Service Robot" was selected as the research track winner for Track 5: Biomedical Robots & Smart Implant.

The 2020 IEEE EMBS Malaysia Chapter Final Year Project (FYP) Competition was an online submission competition, held in September 2020. It had nine categories and was open to undergraduates who have completed or currently doing their FYP in the year 2020.

His project focuses on "Robot Eyes" which allow the robot to understand their environment through their robot "eye", a camera. This includes face detection, object detection and localisation, gesture detection and others through the latest deep learning technology and traditional method of image processing. The project will delve into the adoption of game engines such as Unity and the concept of domain randomisation to synthesis of high-quality labeled data for the training of detection model. [Read here for more >>](#)

## Second Place in Education Category for 2021 Most Attractive Graduate Employers to Work For



UTAR was awarded second place in the Education category for the Most Attractive Graduate Employers to Work For in 2021. This was announced at the Graduates' Choice Award (GCA) which was organised for the third year by Talentbank. Over 24,000 undergraduates from public and private universities all over Malaysia voted for the best employer brands to work with from among 700 companies across 26 industries. The GCA is Malaysia's Most Authoritative Graduate Employer Branding Award with 100% of the results determined by votes of university students nationwide.

The GCA recognises excellence in the graduate recruitment landscape, acknowledging the efforts of universities in bridging the gap between the graduates and the industry. The award also recognises the commitment of universities in enhancing their employer branding in the country.

Talentbank is a Malaysian based career discovery centre focused on helping career-ready candidates of all disciplines and helping them kick-start their careers by connecting them with industry leaders that welcome prime talent. The GCA is supported by the Ministry of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resources, Jabatan Pendidikan Politeknik dan Kolej Komuniti (JPPKK), Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation Sdn Bhd (MDEC) and the Career Development Centre Club Malaysia. [Read here for more >>](#)

## FMHS Clinical Professor selected as one of the best presenters at IVCPH 2020



◀ Clinical Professor Dr Retneswari Masilamani

UTAR Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences' (FMHS) Department of Population Medicine Clinical Professor Dr Retneswari Masilamani was selected as one of the "Best Presenters" under the category of Oral Presentations at the International Virtual Conference on Public Health 2020 (IVCPH 2020).

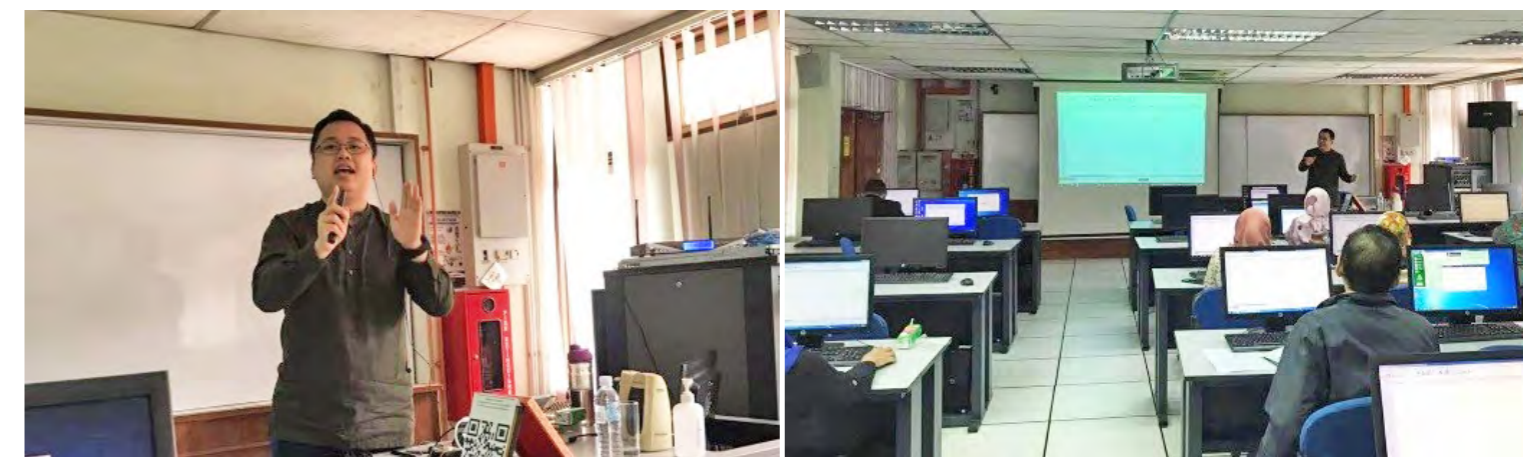
Organised by The International Institute of Knowledge Management, the conference was held on 28 August 2020. Dr Retneswari received a certificate of participation. Her winning

paper, titled "Organisational and Operational Stressors Associated with Police Stress" was co-authored by a professor from University of Malaya (UM) Datuk Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud.

The research aimed to determine the association between the organisational stressors and operational stressors and police stress. Based on the results of the study, it was recommended that policemen should be trained in communication skills, educated to recognise signs of stress and seek assistance in stressful situations.

[Read here for more >>](#)

## FAM lecturer appointed as research advisor for IKM



Dr Cham conducting the workshop at IKM

Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) Head of Programme for (PhD and MPhil) Dr Cham Tat Huei has been appointed as a research advisor for Institut Koperasi Malaysia (IKM). Dr Cham will be involved as an advisor for the research projects by IKM and conduct research training for IKM staff.

Part of the collaboration will include Dr Cham as an advisor for the research projects at IKM whereby he will be giving inputs on the planning and execution of research projects, determining strategic and operational challenges faced by research members of IKM as well as coaching and developing members of the research team at IKM.

Following his duties at IKM, Dr Cham has recently conducted a workshop on SPSS Data Analysis (Intermediate Level) which saw the participation of more than 60 participants. The workshop took place on 29 June 2020 at IKM, Selangor. It was also hosted through Google Meet platform for IKM members to join from other zones in Malaysia.

At the workshop, participants were exposed to the introduction of research methodology, basic statistics using SPSS, explored data analysis, parametric and non-parametric tests, factor analysis, mediating and moderating. [Read here for more >>](#)



## Ranked third (Education Category) at Malaysia's 100 Leading Graduate Employers Awards Presentation

The Malaysia's 100 Leading Graduate Employers Awards Presentation 2020 was held virtually on the gradmalaysia's official YouTube channel on 17 December 2020 to celebrate the results and triumph of the leading graduate employers in Malaysia. UTAR was ranked third in the education category.

Yang Berbahagia Prof Dato' Seri Dr Mohamed Mustafa Bin Ishak, Director General of Higher Education, Department of Higher Education in the Ministry of Education, graced the event along with Mr Isaac Hee, the Managing Director of GTI Media, in celebrating the victors at the virtual event.

With the aim to recognise the best and most proactive graduate recruiters in the country, the Malaysia's 100 ranking was formed by responses gathered from 26,654 respondents nationwide. [Read here for more >>](#)

## Architecture student wins Miss Grand Selangor 2020

Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) Architecture student K. Lishalliny won the Miss Grand Selangor 2020. She was crowned at the coronation night which was held at MATIC Mini Auditorium Hall on 25 July 2020. Aside from the Miss Grand Selangor 2020 title, Lishalliny also won the subsidiary title of Miss Body Beautiful.

Lishalliny said, "I feel so honoured and thankful to be chosen as Miss Grand Selangor 2020. Through this beauty pageant, I've learnt to discover my hidden talents and be more confident about myself. I also practised a healthy lifestyle and self-discipline which impacted me physically and mentally in a healthier way. It also helped me to think wisely in areas concerning my life as well as my studies." "In five years from now, I would want to see myself settled with my passion until the internationals and also create a strong path for my career in Architecture," said Lishalliny.

Lishalliny's next step would be advancing to the National Level which is Miss Grand Malaysia 2020. [Read here for more >>](#)



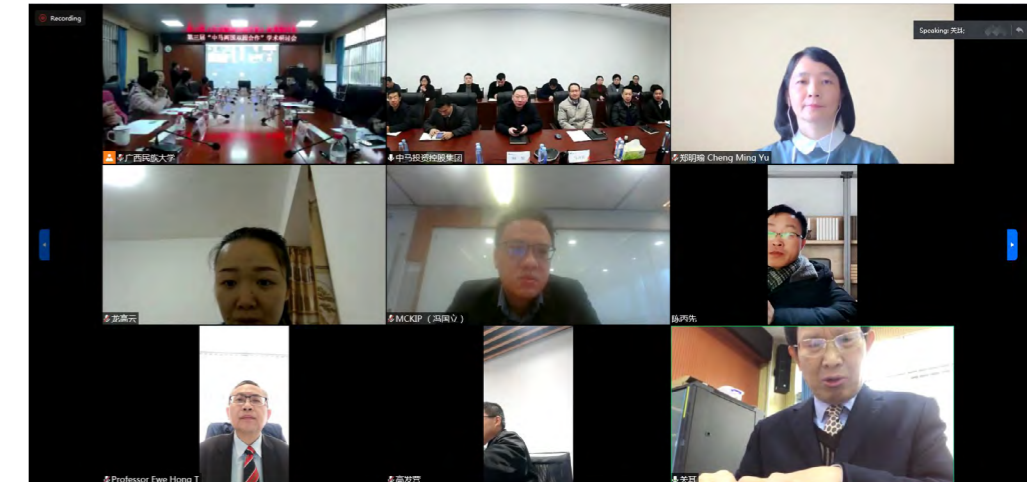
K Lishalliny

The Third Seminar on the Twin Parks Cooperation between China and Malaysia (Two Countries, Twin Parks) (第三届“中马两国双园合作”学术研讨会) was jointly organised by Guangxi University for Nationalities (GXUN), UTAR, China-Malaysia Qinzhou Industrial Park (CMQIP) Administrative Committee, CMQIP Group Holding Co. Ltd., and Malaysia-China Kuantan Industrial Park (MCKIP) on 18 December 2020 at GXUN, China. The seminar was also conducted through VOOV Meeting.

"Two Countries, Twin Parks" seminar was co-organised by the National Ethnic Affairs Commission of the People's Republic of China Research Center for Political Culture and Public Governance of ASEAN Countries (中国国家民委东盟国家政治文化与公共治理研究中心); GXUN's College of Ethnology and Sociology, College of ASEAN Studies, School of Politics and Public Administration, School of Management, and Guangxi Overseas Chinese Culture Research Center.

UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat said, "UTAR is honoured once again to be one of the organisers of the seminar and to contribute to this seminar to promote economic cooperation and development

## Seminar promotes Two Countries, Twin Parks cooperation



Prof Ewe (third row, far left) taking group photo with guests, speakers and participants from China and Malaysia

between Malaysia and China."

GXUN's Vice President Prof Dr Huang Xiaojuan said, "CMQIP and MCKIP are world's first sister parks to build industrial parks in each other's country, which is also a pilot demonstration project of the 'Belt and Road' Initiative."

The seminar aimed to promote the

development of China-Malaysia economic cooperation in a better and faster direction and strengthen the connections and exchanges between CMQIP and MCKIP (Twin Parks). The event saw more than 110 participants from various universities, research institutes, industry, and government agencies from both China and Malaysia. [Read here for more >>](#)

The Second China-ASEAN Forum on Computer Science, Technology Development and Cooperation (CACSF 2020) (第二届中国——东盟计算机科技发展与合作论坛) hosted by China Computer Federation (CCF) was held on 5 December 2020 through VOOV Meeting.

CACSF 2020 was organised by CCF Nanning and Nanning Computer Society and co-organised by Guangxi University for Nationalities-UTAR International Joint Laboratory of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Big Data, and UTAR. It was supported by the Guangxi Association for Science and Technology, and Nanning Association for Science and Technology. UTAR Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT) Dean Assoc Prof Ts Dr Liew Soung Yue was one of the Chairpersons of CACSF 2020.

The forum aimed to strengthen in-depth exchanges and cooperation between China and ASEAN countries in the fields of computing and information technology, create a platform for computer technology exchange and cooperation with ASEAN characteristics, promote talent exchange and cooperation between China and ASEAN countries and further promote exchanges and cooperation between higher education institutions and industries.

There were two highlight sessions in CACSF 2020, namely an academic report session called "Network Communication and AI", and a thematic forum titled "China-ASEAN Exchanges and Cooperation under the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Framework".

## International forum on computing and technology development



Dr Liew (second row, third from left), Dr Chang (third row, third from left), Prof Ewe (fourth row, second from left), Dr Au Yong (fourth row, far right) and Prof Cheng (fifth row, far left) with the guests, speakers and participants

UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, as the ASEAN Academy of Engineering and Technology Secretary General and Fellow was invited to present at the thematic forum. Other speakers from UTAR include LKC FES Head of Electrical and Electronic Engineering Department Assoc Prof Ir Dr Chang Yoong Choon, Institute of Management and Leadership Development Director Prof Dr Cheng Ming Yu, Faculty of Business and Finance Dean Dr Au Yong Hui Nee and FICT Deputy Dean Dr Choo Peng Yin. [Read here for more >>](#)

UTAR Student Development and Alumni Relations (SDAR), in collaboration with UTAR Alumni Association of Malaysia (UAAM) and GenYouth, organised the Third Industrial Business Conference 2020 from 15 October 2020 to 17 October 2020. The conference included keynote addresses, talks, forums and an exchange session called "Get to Know New Villages. More than 370 participants attended the conference.

The theme of the conference was "The New Norm in Business Transformation: The Rise of Gig Economy & Digital Business Revolution". It provided a platform for the intellectuals from various fields and disciplines to discuss and address the current issues worldwide and industry trends, as well as to exchange and share their knowledge with others. The 3rd Industrial Business Conference 2020 was held throughout three days with different sessions addressing different topics. Each

## Third Industrial Business Conference focuses on Business Transformation, Gig Economy and Digital Business Revolution



Clockwise, from top left: Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Logistic Worldwide Express (M) Sdn Bhd Ng Shern Yau, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Convedge Sdn Bhd Stan Lee, Faculty of Accountancy and Management Deputy Dean Dr Hen Kai Wah, CEO of Bitle Tech Sdn Bhd Chew Jing Yao and Senior Associate Business Development Team of Shopee (M) Sdn Bhd Michelle Than during "Digital Business Revolution" forum

session was live-streamed and conducted via Zoom. Invited to deliver a welcome speech for the conference was UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat. In his speech, he pointed out that Covid-19 pandemic has changed the landscape of not just

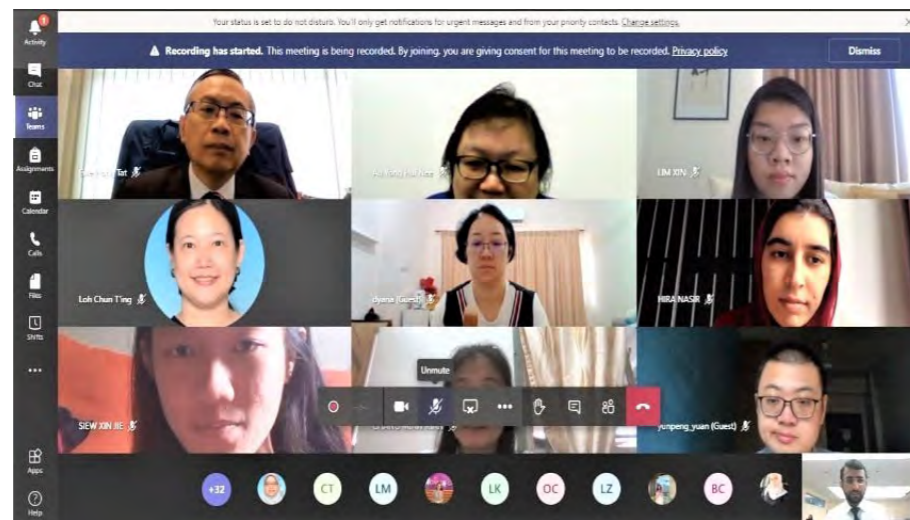
education but also many businesses globally. He then highlighted the need for students and employees to equip themselves with the necessary skills to work more independently. [Read here for more >>](#)

## BAFE 2020 - Navigating the 4th Industrial Revolution with a Sustainable Development Mindset

The eighth International Conference on Business, Accounting, Finance and Economics (BAFE) 2020 was virtually organised for the first time by the Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF), Centre for Accounting, Banking and Finance, Centre for Business and Management, and Centre for Economic Studies of Kampar Campus on 16 October 2020. The opening ceremony of BAFE 2020 was conducted via Microsoft Teams and was attended by over 50 presenters. They were academics, researchers, students and working professionals from as far as India, Indonesia and Pakistan.

The one-day virtual conference was themed 'Navigating the 4th Industrial Revolution with a Sustainable Development Mindset'. It aimed to provide a platform for scholars and researchers from different institutions, sectors, and regions to exchange ideas and information on critical research issues. The conference also aimed to bring the researchers together for the presentation of up-to-date work that contributed to new theoretical, methodological and empirical knowledge, as well as promoting research development, linkages and knowledge mobilisation among disciplines.

Officiating the virtual opening ceremony of BAFE 2020 were UTAR President Ir



Top row: Prof Ewe (most left) and Dr Au Yong (centre) with participants

Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, FBF Dean Dr Au Yong Hui Nee and Organising Chairperson of BAFE 2020 Dr Choong Yuen Onn. Two educative keynote addresses titled "Future Forum 2020 - Retail in a Time of Disruption" and "Potentials, Risks, and Sustainability of the Fourth Industrial Revolution" were also given by Assoc Prof Dr Sean James Sands from Swinburne University of Technology and UTAR FBF Adjunct Prof Dr Lai Yew Wah respectively.

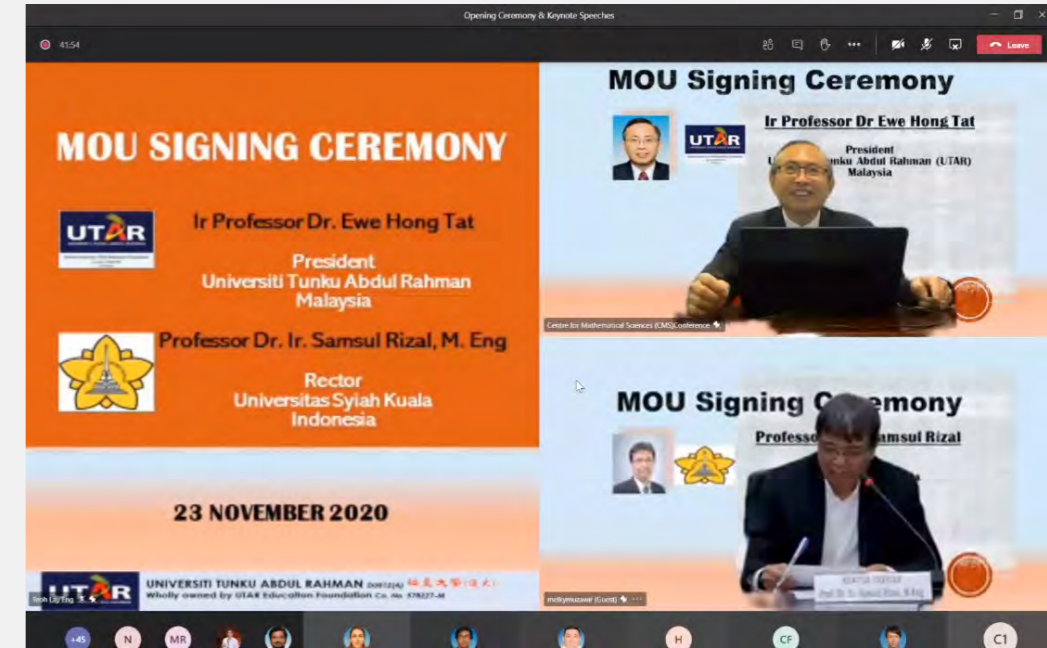
The conference saw a total of 57 presentations that covered various topics, including Financial Performance and Sustainability; Moving towards Digital Economy; Organisational Behaviour; Digital Technologies; Effective Governance and Taxation; Economic Sustainability; Tourism and the Environment; Organisational Strategy, Education Management. [Read here for more >>](#)

## Knowledge sharing at 16th IMT-GT ICMSA 2020

UTAR Centre for Mathematical Sciences (CMS) hosted the virtual 16th IMT-GT International Conference on Mathematics, Statistics, and Their Applications (ICMSA 2020) from 23 to 24 November 2020. It was held via Microsoft Teams. The conference saw a total of 50 presentations from 28 local and overseas universities from 11 economies, namely Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Japan, India, Tunisia, Nigeria, Turkey, the United States of America, Kuwait and South Korea. The event was sponsored by Tan Sri Dato' Lim Guan Teik, CorePlus Advisory Sdn Bhd, Malaysian Mathematical Sciences Society (PERSAMA) and Management Science/Operations Research Society of Malaysia (MSORSM).

Initiated by IMT-GT (Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle) consortium to promote mathematics and statistics in the region, the conference aimed to bring together scientist, mathematicians, statisticians, and academicians to share knowledge, expertise and the recent development of mathematics and statistics in the form of plenary presentations and scientific workshops.

In conjunction with the ICMSA 2020 was a memorandum of understanding



Prof Ewe (top) and Prof Samsul during the MoU signing ceremony

(MoU) signing ceremony between UTAR and Syiah Kuala University, Indonesia. The signatories were Prof Ewe and Prof Universitas Syiah Kuala, Indonesia Rector-cum- IMT-GT Uninet Chairman Prof Dr Ir Samsul Rizal. The MoU aimed to share expertise and joint development of research between both universities and exchange publications and academic material.

The conference saw three keynote speeches

by King Mongkut University of Technology, Bangkok Assoc Prof Dr Nuanpan Lawson, Universiti Teknologi MARA Assoc Prof Dr Adibah Shuib and Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember, Indonesia Assoc Prof Dr Suhartono. It also featured presentations, talks, award-giving ceremony for Best Paper Awards and Best Virtual Presentation Awards and post-conference scientific workshops. [Read here for more >>](#)

With the aim to discuss the international collaboration activities during the Covid-19 period and to take collaboration between universities to the next level, an international forum titled "COVID-19: Current & future trends of international collaboration" was organised by UTAR Division of Community and International Networking (DCInterNet) via Zoom on 18 November 2020.

The international forum aimed to link all the economies in South East Asia, India, Pakistan and Africa. The forum saw 80 participants including guest speakers who came from 29 partner universities. All attendees were given the opportunity to discuss and propose any virtual collaboration activities during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Invited to grace the opening ceremony was UTAR Vice President Ir Prof Dr Yow Ho Kwang. The forum continued with two sharing sessions by the invited speakers. The theme for the first session was 'The current situation of international collaboration during the COVID-19 pandemic'. It covered topics such as student and staff mobility, research collaboration and staff professional development. The second sharing session was a round table

## Forum addresses the current and future trends of international collaboration



Second row, most left: Prof Yow with speakers and attendees during the forum

discussion themed 'Post Covid-19 new international collaboration model and possible collaboration'.

The speakers proposed various interesting collaboration programmes and wished to see participants from ASEAN and Asia economies take part in the programmes. [Read here for more >>](#)

## Virtual conference on mindfulness, science and life

UTAR and Journey Within Studio (JWC) co-organised the inaugural virtual International Mindfulness Conference 2020 (IMC 2020) titled "Mindfulness, Science and Life" on 7 and 8 November 2020 via Zoom.

Themed 'Transforming Your Mind, Transforming Your Life', the conference aimed to understand the potential impact of introducing mindfulness practices in the context of our local community and professional lives. It also aimed to provide an opportunity for the participants to explore how mindfulness is viewed in the modern world, trace its traditional origins and understand the differences between these two views.

UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat was invited to officiate the virtual opening ceremony. Also present at the ceremony were Organising Chairperson of IMC 2020 Angus Ng Foo Yek, esteemed keynote speakers, namely Griffith University School of Medicine, Australia senior lecturer, Dr Chan Kwong Chee, JWC Founders Calvin Onn and Michelle Tai, Just Life CEO



Dr Chan (bottom, right) elaborating on MaRIS model, its components and outcomes

Representative Chang Lay Hon, as well as other local and international speakers.

The conference featured three keynote address titled "Why Mindfulness Took the World by Storm?", "Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy for Cancer (MBCT-Ca)" and "Cultivating Mindful Physicians: The MaRIS Model for developing medical students' human capabilities

and personal resilience". It also included forum and workshops.

The conference attracted more than 170 local and international participation, including participants from Australia, Austria, Canada, China, Germany, Greece, Italy, New Zealand, Singapore, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

[Read here for more >>](#)

Budget 2021, unveiled on 6 November 2020 by the Finance Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz, was undoubtedly an expansionary budget that aimed to revitalise the economy and help Malaysian tide over the difficulties of the Covid-19 pandemic. Budget 2021 was indeed expansionary as it came with an allocation of RM322.5billion, the highest in Malaysia's history. It also saw an increase of 8.6% compared to Budget 2020 which was RM297billion.

Themed 'Resilient as One, Together We Triumph', Budget 2021 was formulated based on three integral goals, namely Rakyat's wellbeing, Business Continuity and Economic Resilience. The Budget 2021 was also said to be a Rakyat-centric budget that strived to achieve a balance by managing the government's financial sustainability, ensuring social well-being, and reviving the economy.

In view of this matter, UTAR Institute of Management and Leadership Development (IMLD),

## Forum provides insight into Budget 2021



Clockwise, from top left: Chin, Dato' Tai and Stefanie Low

Belt and Road Strategic Research Centre (BRSC) and the Department of Economics jointly organised a forum titled "Malaysian budget 2021: A Rakyat-Centric Budget during the Pandemic?" on 13 November 2020.

The forum saw around 140 participants and it was conducted via Zoom. The speakers were Deloitte Tax Services Sdn Bhd Executive Director Stefanie Low

Geok Ping and SME Association Malaysia National Vice President Chin Chee Seong. It was moderated by Faculty of Accountancy and Management lecturer Prof Dato' Dr Tai Shzee Yew.

The forum saw the two panellists, Stefanie Low and Chin highlighting the key measures of Budget 2021 and sharing their thoughts on how the budget benefitted the rakyat. [Read here for more >>](#)

## Improving the financial literacy of young people

UTAR Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) and the Centre for Sustainable Development and Corporate Social Responsibility in Business (CSDCSR) in collaboration with Private Pension Administration Malaysia (PPA), the central administrator for the Private Retirement Schemes (PRS) co-organised a financial education webinar on 3 September 2020 via Zoom.

The talk, titled "YOLO: You Only Live (Longer) Once - Want to Have Enough When the Time Comes?", was given by PPA PRS Learning and Engagement Manager Farith Jamal. The webinar aimed to help the students and staff recognise the importance of money management and retirement planning and learn personal finance concepts applicable to savings and investing.

Farith began the talk by



Farith (top left) explaining PRS

defining "YOLO" using a video clip, where it stated, "You Only Live Once". Farith then spoke about the two types of financial planning; short and medium financial planning, which should be done by youths so that they can save money. He also shared some

tips with the participants on saving retirement money. Last but not least, he explained the Private Retirement Schemes (PRS); the framework and features of PRS and its benefits for young adults.

[Read here for more >>](#)

The Department of Student Affairs (DSA) and Department of Soft Skills Competency (DSSC) organised the third International Youth Development Conference (IYDC) 2020 via Zoom and LinkedIn platforms from 21 to 22 November 2020. This year's conference was also co-organised by IOI Properties Group Berhad.

The conference saw more than 600 participants, including 221 international participants from China, Philippines, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Thailand, Mexico and Taiwan. It featured keynote forum, plenary sessions, talks and workshops.

Themed 'Resilient Youth in a Post-Pandemic World: Digital Transformation and Urban Living', the virtual IYDC 2020 aimed at creating a greater platform for students from different backgrounds and economies to learn and engage in the youth development programme. The two-day conference also aimed to instil the participants with valuable knowledge and understanding on the importance of digital transformation and urban living and how the transformation could be utilised to recover from the global pandemic and

## Preparing youths for digital leadership



The virtual conference saw more than 600 participants, including 221 international participants

continue to grow.

Present at the virtual IYDC's opening ceremony were UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, General Manager of Group Corporate Communication and Sustainability of IOI Properties Group Berhad Kristine Ng, UTAR Vice President -cum-Organising Chairperson of IYDC 2020 Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, Keynote

Speaker Dr Sumitra Nair, DSA Kampar Campus Head Chiang Jeng Fong, DSA Sungai Long Campus Head Loh Nyuk Leung, DSSC Kampar Campus Heads Hee Chwen Yee and Fook Oi Yee, sponsors, forum panellists, guest speakers and participants. [Read here for more >>](#)

UTAR and MCM eCOM Global Venture Sdn Bhd launched the E-Commerce Fulfilment Centre (ECFC) at Sungai Long Campus on 28 September 2020 with the aim to create a complete e-commerce ecosystem that comprises the full cycle of the buying and selling of goods electronically. This is the brilliant initiative of UTAR Unovate Centre with great collaborative support and contribution from MCM eCom Global Venture Sdn Bhd (BizPorter).

The ECFC will serve as a warehouse and e-commerce delivery centre that provide fulfilment service such as storing merchandise and preparing merchandise to be shipped out to e-commerce merchant, using the Warehouse Management System to manage and control the warehouse operations from the time goods received until the goods are shipped out. The ECFC also enables students to experience real e-commerce processes from theory to practice and operations by dealing with real products and customers. Aside from that, the centre is also used by UTAR academics for research purpose.

In conjunction with the launch was the exchange ceremony of the

## MCM eCOM Global Venture unveils E-Commerce Ecosystem in UTAR



Prof Max Shangkar (left) and Prof Ewe with the signed documents (Photo taken on 28 September 2020)

memorandum of agreement (MoA) between UTAR and MCM eCOM Global Venture Sdn Bhd. Under the MoA, MCM eCOM Global Venture Sdn Bhd will sponsor a student start-up from the Unovate Centre to support the operation of ECFC and a Doctor of Philosophy student to carry out a research project on "Commerce 4.0" which studies the processes that involve Industry 4.0 technologies.

The MoA was signed by MCM Group Executive Chairman Adjunct Prof Max in the presence of MCM eCOM Global Venture Sdn Bhd Chief Executive Officer Then Ikh Choo while UTAR was represented by its President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat in the presence of Vice President Prof Ts Dr Faiz bin Abdul Rahman. [Read here for more >>](#)

The Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS) organised a strategic planning workshop from 1 to 2 October 2020 at Sungai Long Campus to brainstorm the 2021-2025 Strategic Plan for the faculty.

The strategic plan involved education, community outreach activities, industry network and R&D direction in the years ahead. The workshop saw the participation of dean, deputy deans, faculty staff and consultants as well as specialists. They gathered to brainstorm and formulate ideas for strategic growth, innovation and enhanced quality education to meet future challenges.

The workshop, led by experts from various field, allowed members of the team to work together to create a clear and concise strategy for five areas identified by the faculty, namely Undergraduate Programmes, Postgraduate Programmes, Basic

## FMHS organises workshop to brainstorm 2021-2025 Strategic Plan



FMHS Dean Emeritus Prof Dr Cheong Soon Keng (third from right) with (from left) Prof Lim, Prof Ng, Prof Ngeow, Prof John Paul and Prof Alan Ong

Medical Science Research, Clinical Research and Clinical Trial, and Community Outreach and Industry Network. Their presentations were led by Centre for Research on Non-Communicable Diseases Chairperson Prof Dr John Paul Evangel Judson, Centre for Research on Communicable Diseases Chairperson Prof Dr Ngeow Yun Fong, Centre for

Stem Cell Research Chairperson Prof Dr Alan Ong Han Kiat, Head of Programme for Postgraduate Programmes-cum-Centre for Cancer Research Chairperson Prof Ts Dr Lim Yang Mooi and FMHS Deputy Dean for Academic Development and Undergraduate Programmes Prof Dr Ng Teck Han respectively. [Read here for more >>](#)

## Huawei Malaysia CEO delivers an insightful lecture

A public lecture by the CEO of Huawei Technologies (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd, Michael Yuan was held on ZOOM platform on 5 November 2020. With the aim to learn how to build a connected world together with Huawei and explore the digital world of this new millennium, the webinar titled "Digital Economy and New Infrastructure" was organised by UTAR Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT) and Division of Community and International Networking (DCInternet).

The event kick-started with an opening speech by UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat. Complementing Huawei's effort in building a better connected Malaysia, Prof Ewe said that the topic of the webinar was relevant



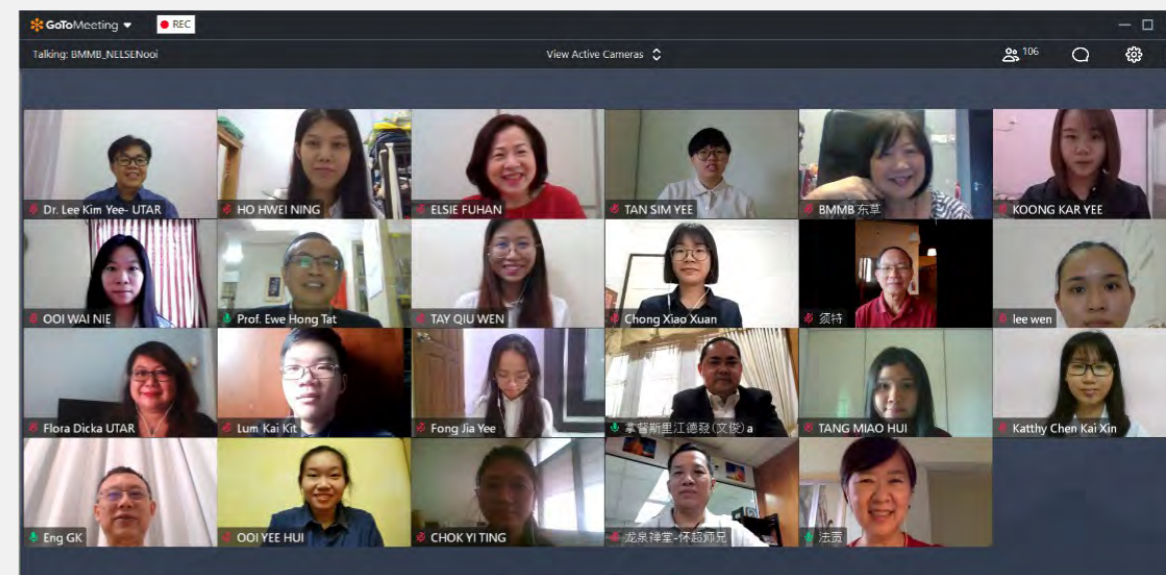
Michael Yuan emphasising on the importance of digital economy and new infrastructure

for all, especially since Huawei is a key global player in the ICT infrastructure and smart devices industry.

UTAR FICT Dean Assoc Prof Ts Dr Liew Soung Yue was the moderator of the webinar. The webinar

focused on insights, advice, and experiences about Huawei, the industry and how we can make full use of new technology and IoT. It was participated by more than 480 participants. [Read here for more >>](#)

## Sixteen students received bursary amounting RM400,000 from BMMB



Prof Ewe (second row, second from left) and Teacher Ling Shan (fourth row, most left) with UTAR staff, BMMB members and 16 UTAR JinBodhi Bursary Award recipients

UTAR JinBodhi Bursary Online Award Presentation Ceremony 2020 was held virtually on 28 November 2020 via GoToMeeting. The ceremony saw a total of 146 attendees. Among the attendees were 16 UTAR students who received the bursary award from Bodhi Meditation Malaysia Berhad (BMMB).

The recipients were Ooi Yee Hui, Kathy Chen Kai Xin, Fong Jia Yee, Gan Jie Min, Koong Kar Yee, Ho Hwei Ning, Lai Yin Sheng, Lim Ling Chie, Tan Sim Yee, Tay Qiu Wen, Lum Kai Kit, Chong Xiao Xuan, Ooi Wai Nie, Tang Miao Hui, Chok Yi Ting and Chai Lee Wen.

Also present were Chairman of BMMB Teacher Ling Shan and Vice Chairman of BMMB Brother Xu Te. They were welcomed by UTAR

President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science Deputy Dean Ts Dr Lee Kim Yee, Registrar's Office Manager Flora Dicka, BMMB committee members, bursary award recipients and UTAR staff.

UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat expressed his gratitude to BMMB and advised students to be grateful and try to return the favour to those who may need such similar assistance in life in the future.

BMMB Chairman Teacher Ling Shan congratulated the recipients and urged them to continue to strive hard in their studies.

[Read here for more >>](#)

Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Penang Dr Lu Shiwei and Vice Consular of the People's Republic of China in Penang Liang Lu visited Kampar Campus on 9 September 2020. Welcoming the delegates were UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, accompanied by Vice President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong.

Extending his warm welcome to the delegates, Prof Ewe gave a brief introduction about UTAR and thanked the Consulate General of China in Penang and the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Malaysia for their timely help in donating face masks to UTAR students for prevention purposes, as well as 'health packs' for the Chinese international students. He also thanked Dr Lu for taking the time to visit Kampar Campus during the Movement Control Order (MCO) in April to understand the situation and extend regards to the students.

Visiting UTAR for the first time, Consul General Dr Lu expressed his gratitude to UTAR for the arrangement and gave a brief introduction about the Consulate General of China in Penang and its role. According to him, his visit here was to gain an in-

## Consulate General of China in Penang visits Kampar Campus



Prof Ewe (left) and Dr Lu exchanging souvenirs

depth understanding about the development of UTAR and to better play the role of the Consulate General of China in Penang in promoting the

educational cooperation between UTAR and higher learning institutions in China.

[Read here for more >>](#)

UTAR and Public Bank Berhad (PBB) are preparing for collaborations that will bring numbers of benefits to UTAR community in the near future. The fruitful meeting took place in UTAR Sungai Long Campus on 1 October 2020. One of the possible collaborations discussed was the industrial attachment opportunity at Public Bank Berhad. The PBB internship programme provides structured learning at the side of job attachment.

Another initiative to get students involved in the industry is the PBB & UTAR Innovation Focus Group which allows students to engage in products or campaigns by PBB and harvest the experiences first hand. PBB also provides special financial packages called PBB Financial Journey. The package is a series of programmes designed to assist individual and non-individual clients in their journey with PBB, be it students, fresh graduates, families, retirees, entrepreneurs or SME businesses.

In recognising the great achievements of UTAR students, PBB will also reward the top three students with best academic achievement from Faculty of Accountancy and Management and Faculty of Business and Finance.

Present were PBB Deputy CEO Dato' Chang Kat Kiam, UTAR President Prof Ewe, Vice President Ir Prof Dr Yow Ho Kwang, PBB Senior General

## UTAR and Public Bank Bhd plan collaboration to benefit students



From row, second from left: Prof Yow, Prof Ewe and Dato' Chang with UTAR and PBB staff (Photo was taken on 1 October 2020)

Manager of Knowledge and Learning Centre Koay Seok Khim, PBB General Manager of Human Capital Management Mary Ng Poh Lyn, PBB Director of Wealth Management and Transaction Banking Carene Khoo Geok Kheng, PBB Senior General Manager of

Retail Financial Services Chan Chiew Peng, PBB Head of Business Enhancement and Service Design Dennis Lai Koah Vui, PBB Bandar Sungai Long Branch Manager Angel Lee Kwai Eng and UTAR staff.

[Read here for more >>](#)

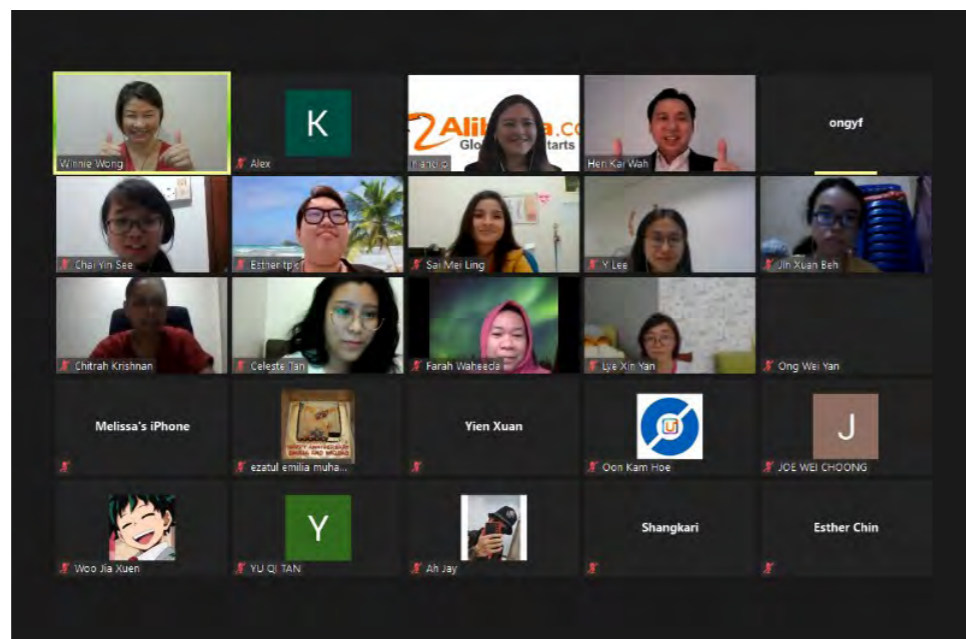
To educate UTAR students and staff on the importance of e-commerce principally for the current climate, UTAR Division of Community and International Networking (DCInterNet) collaborated with Alibaba Group to hold a webinar titled "International Export and Trade: E-Commerce Platform Insights" on 9 September 2020 via Zoom.

Speaking at the webinar were Regional Marketing and Business Development Lead of Alibaba Malaysia and Thailand Nianci Phang and UTAR Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) Deputy Dean Dr Hen Kai Wah. The moderator was UTAR Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science academic Dr Wong Whee Yen. The webinar mainly aimed to enlighten the participants on the current situation of the e-commerce business in Malaysia and also how Alibaba has helped small and medium enterprises to grow their business on e-commerce platforms.

Nianci Phang focused on three main topics, namely Alibaba's digital evolution throughout the years, the impact of Covid-19 on online business-to-business (B2B) transactions, and buyer behaviour and solutions created by Alibaba to help Malaysian SME's digital export.

Dr Hen discussed "Cross-border E-commerce:

## Webinar provides insights into international export and trade



Top row, from left: Dr Wong, Nianci Phang (third) and Dr Hen (fourth) with the participants

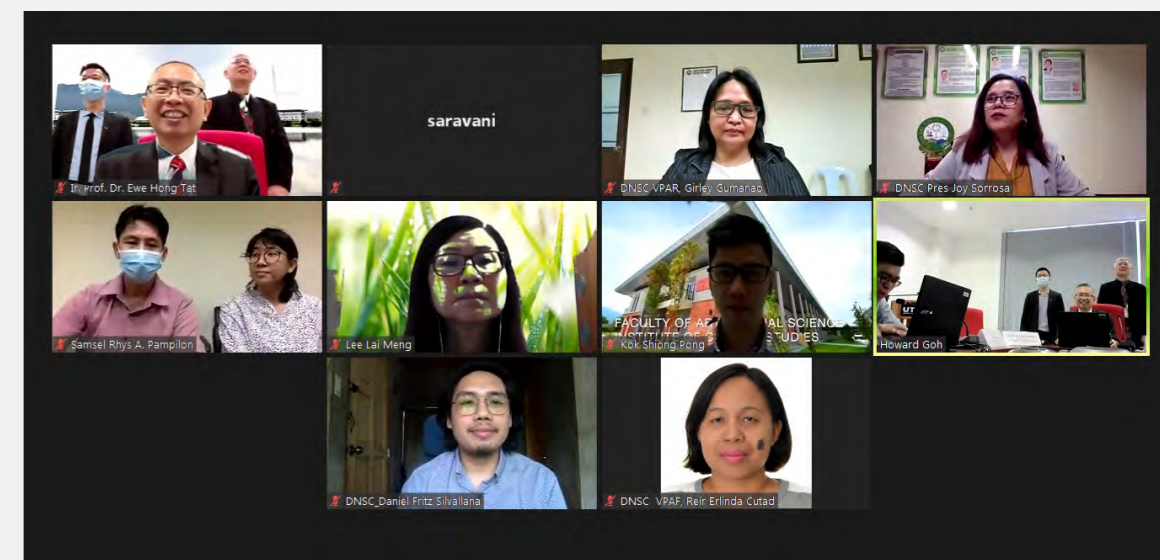
Opportunities and Challenges" and briefly addressed the following topics; the six thrust areas of the National e-commerce strategic roadmap, the 12 programmes of the said strategic roadmap, Malaysia's Digital Free Trade Zone (DFTZ), and the power of social media influencers in e-commerce. [Read here for more >>](#)

## UTAR inks MoU with Davao Del Norte State College

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between UTAR and Davao Del Norte State College (DNSC) of Philippines via ZOOM on 14 December 2020 to formalize the partnership.

Signing the MoU were UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat and DNSC President Dr Joy M. Sorrosa, while witnessing the signing were UTAR Vice President for Internationalisation and Academic Development Ir Prof Dr Yow Ho Kwang and DNSC Vice President for Academic and Research Dr Girley S. Gumanao. Also present were Dean of DNSC Institute of Education Dr Arnold M. Duping, Representative of DNSC Department of Communication Daniel Fritz V. Silvallana and staff from both UTAR and DNSC.

Emphasising on the importance of international collaboration among the higher learning institutions,



Top row, from left: Prof Ewe, Dr Girley, Dr Joy and staff from both UTAR and DNSC

Prof Ewe in his speech said, "We welcome Davao Del Norte State College as our new partner and we look forward to initiating more collaborative activities in research, and students and staff exchanges."

Echoing the sentiment of Prof Ewe, Dr Joy enthused, "I hope the partnership between UTAR and Davao Del Norte State College could support each

other to generate new ideas and collaborative projects where both parties could share the positive results and benefits."

With the signing of this MoU, UTAR and DNSC will officially begin their strategic partnership to initiate joint projects/researches, staff and student exchanges, study visits, industrial placement opportunities, co-supervision of

the postgraduate studies and et cetera. The MoU will enable both parties to work even more closely in creating platforms which will enrich both staff and students' academic experience, as well as empowering them to explore learning opportunities beyond the classrooms.

[Read here for more >>](#)

# UTAR partners with One Doc for aesthetic research

UTAR and 1 Doc Holding Sdn Bhd (One Doc) officially inked a memorandum of agreement (MoA) on 14 December 2020 at Sungai Long Campus.

The MoA was signed by 1 Doc Holding Sdn Bhd Chairman Tengku Dato' Seri Baderul Zaman Ibni Almarhum Sultan Mahmud and UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat. The signing was witnessed by 1 Doc Holding Sdn Bhd Co-Founder-cum-Managing Director Dr Terrence Teoh Tean Chun and UTAR Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Research Director Assoc Prof Dr Yong Thian Khok.



From left: Dr Terrence Teoh, Tengku Dato' Seri Baderul Zaman, Prof Ewe and Dr Yong

The signing of the MoA thrusts collaborative aesthetic research between the two corporations on the effectiveness and safety evaluation of the beauty grade device One Doc Picopulse™ for the treatment of melasma among Malaysian women. This initial research will be conducted at One Doc centre located

at Klang Valley.

Also present at the event were Tengku's spouse To' Puan Seri Hidayah Wan Ismail, 1 Doc Holding Sdn Bhd Director Dato' Loke Yeu Loong, Co-Founder and Director Dr Michael Ong Hong Keat, Director Joel Yap and UTAR staff. [Read here for more >>](#)

"Mr. Ng Chin Kiat S.M.J. Scholarship" signing ceremony was held at Sungai Long Campus on 19 June 2020. Signing the agreement were UTAR President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat and Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS) Prof Dr Jenny Parameshvara Deva while witnessing the signing were UTAR Vice President Ir Prof Dr Yow Ho Kwang and FMHS Prof Dr M Parameshvara Deva.

Under the scholarship, RM50,000 will be given to UTAR as a scholarship for UTAR Year One Trimester One Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (M.B.B.S.) students from Foon Yew Chinese School, Johor Bahru and Kulai campuses. UTAR would award RM10,000 to each scholarship recipient (one-off scholarship) starting from year 2020 to 2024. The scholarship also aims to award the best admission result for newly registered students under the Bachelor of M.B.B.S. programme.

## Mr. Ng Chin Kiat S.M.J. Scholarship to benefit UTAR M.B.B.S. students



From left: Prof Ewe, Prof Yow, Registrar Yim Lin Heng, Prof Deva and Prof Jenny during the agreement signing ceremony

The scholarship was named after Prof Jenny's late father, who was among the initial team of Johor Bahru, Chinese Prominent

Business Persons at the time of the Foundation of Foon Yew Chinese School in 1913.

[Read here for more >>](#)





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