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(From left) Ivan Scott, Editorial Director, Engr. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik, UTAR President, and Zuzana Kazdová, Project Manager, during the interview session.

## BRITISH AIRWAYS INTERVIEWS THE PRESIDENT

On 1 December 2008, two Special Report representatives from the British Airways Media came and interviewed UTAR President, Engr. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik at the Petaling Jaya Campus.

The interview was for a special report and feature on Malaysia to be published in the British Airways' *High Life* in-flight magazine which has a global readership annually of over 43 million.

During the interview, Prof. Chuah talked about the progress of UTAR and his aspirations for the University.

Emphasising a strong feature of UTAR, Prof. Chuah said, "UTAR is unique compared to many other private universities because it is a not-for-profit organisation that runs on contributions made by the public. Without the need to focus on making profits, the University can channel its revenues to continuously enhance the quality of its programmes for the benefit of the students."

He added, "UTAR programmes are designed to train students to think critically, problem-solve effectively and use the knowledge they gain from their University experience to update themselves with new skills to meet the changing needs of the respective industries. The ability will then enable them to excel in their chosen careers."

Prof. Chuah also aspired to bring UTAR to greater heights in the international education arena. He said, "I do hope that UTAR will have 10% of international students in the next 5 years. It is good to create an international environment for our students so that they will have the opportunity to learn about different cultures, improve the way they think and network with friends from different countries."

"UTAR is currently in the midst of building its international connections. As part of the University's effort in going global, UTAR has forged collaborations with various institutions of higher learning worldwide."

He expressed his desires for UTAR academics to continue developing their skills and talents to be at par with international standards by producing research journals and obtaining research grants on a regular basis.

When asked to name a UTAR achievement that would make him most proud of if it were to occur during his stewardship in UTAR, he smiled and said, "I would very much like UTAR to become the preferred University of all Malaysians. When that happens, I can then retire happily."

### UTAR CAMPUSES

#### Petaling Jaya

13 Jalan 13/6

46200 Petaling Jaya  
Selangor Darul Ehsan

#### Perak

Jalan Universiti  
Bandar Barat  
31900 Kampar

#### Kuala Lumpur

Jalan Genting Kelang  
Setapak 53300  
Kuala Lumpur

#### Bandar Sg. Long

Lot PT 21144  
Jalan Sungai Long  
Bandar Sg. Long  
Cheras, 43000 Kajang



UTAR delegates take the opportunity to pose for a photo with Tun Dr. Siti Hasmah, wife of former Prime Minister Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohammed.

### UTAR STUDENT LEADERS AT THE PERDANA DISCOURSE SERIES

On 12 November 2008, nine members of UTAR Students' Representative Committee attended the Perdana Discourse Series on *Bangsa Malaysia* at Putrajaya.

This event was jointly organised by the Perdana Leadership Foundation and Universiti Teknologi MARA. The attendees comprised students and academics from various education institutions including schools, as well as members of the media.

The UTAR delegates were Ivan Ooi Jieun Vei, Jessica Khiu, Poh Lim Ching, Roland Chooi Chan Yew and Lim Tzy Meng from the Bandar Sungai Long Campus; Norshahima Saharuddin, Yap Zi Hang and Wong Yu Jin from the Petaling Jaya Campus; and Pearly Yuen Sook Mei from the Kuala Lumpur Campus.

The former Prime Minister, Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohammed presented the keynote address. In his address, he touched on the different aspects and perspectives of *Bangsa Malaysia*.

After his address, the participants had the opportunity to pose questions to Tun Dr Mahathir.

In addition to attending the talk, the participants also attended group discussions and group plenary sessions where they were placed in groups and discuss among themselves the issues and their views on the topic from the perspective of young Malaysians.

For one of the participants, Jessica Khiu, taking part in this event and listening to the talk from the former premier has been an amazing experience. "It was also an unforgettable experience meeting students from the other institutions and be part of this Series. I cannot deny that I have had such an interesting learning experience on that day."

### UTAR Students Shared Their Views at the *Rukun Negara* Convention

From 30 November – 2 December 2008, seven students from the UTAR Students' Representative Committee participated in the *Konvensyen Rukun Negara*, held at the A Famosa Resort, Melaka. This event was jointly organised by the Department of National Unity and Integration and the Ministry of Higher Education.

UTAR was represented by Adrian Lai Tjun Kong and Mark Woo Mun Kit from the Petaling Jaya Campus; Ivan Ooi Jieun Vei from the Bandar Sungai Long Campus; Amie Lau Kar Yee, Amelia Wong Kar Huey, Ng Jean Ling and Terence Sasitheran from the Perak Campus.

This convention attracted more than 300 participants from different institutions of higher learning from all over the country. Many events were held in conjunction with this convention.

Among them were forums and question and answer sessions involving academics and participants. The topics were divided into separate modules in relation to the concept, roles and significance of the *Rukun Negara*.

The convention also covered other modules under the subjects of national unity, the constitution and national integration. A field trip to the Pusat Aktiviti Perpaduan Masjid Tanah in Malacca was included as part of the convention programme.

In addition, the students took part in the group plenary session where they held discussions on the topics related to the core theme of the convention and bring forth their opinions as young Malaysians.

For Ooi, the convention had indeed been an inspiring event. "Meeting other student leaders from other institutions around the country is also an unforgettable experience as we shared and debated our opinions on things that matter the most to us as Malaysian, our unity," he concluded.



UTAR SRC members at the convention.



## UTAR Students' Creative Works Shortlisted for Film Festival

Two teams from UTAR were named as the top five teams in both the documentary and short film categories in the Super Pitch qualifying round of the *Anugerah Perdana* of the *Festival Filem dan Video Pelajar Malaysia Keenam* (FFVPM6) on 10 November 2008 at Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). Being in the top five gives the two teams a chance to secure the top prizes and awards at the Festival in January 2009.

FFVPM is a project created to help develop the Malaysian film industry as well as to acknowledge the excellent film works of students. The event was organised by the National Film Development Corporation Malaysia (FINAS) in collaboration with Malaysian institutions of higher learning.

To participate in the FFVPM6, one must be a student from a public or private institution of higher learning in Malaysia. To make it into the finals of the *Anugerah Perdana*, all contestants must submit their proposals consisting of original stories that have not been aired or submitted in any previous FFVPM to the organisers.

The teams with good proposals are selected to pitch their ideas in front of a panel of judges consisting of professionals from the broadcasting and production industry at the Super Pitch qualifying round. Only the best five teams from each category are chosen to compete in the final round of the *Anugerah Perdana*.

A total of 40 teams from public and private institutions of higher learning participated in the Super Pitch. A team from UTAR with its story entitled *Rewind* was shortlisted and awarded RM2,500



Quek (bottom row, second from left), Chin (bottom row, third from left), and other winning team members with their mock-up cheques posing with organisers of the Festival.

to produce their short film while another team from UTAR with its story entitled *Witty Wings* was shortlisted and awarded RM2,000 to produce their documentary. Both teams will have to produce their stories from 15 November to 14 December to compete in the final round.

In describing his experience at the Super Pitch, Gareth Chin Fui Hian, UTAR team leader for the short film said, "The pitch happened to be my first time presenting to a group of industry professionals. Through this experience, I found out that the difference between presenting to industry professionals and presenting to my lecturers is that I need to try harder in convincing the professionals to accept my ideas."

Quek Shio Chuan, UTAR team leader for the documentary team expressed, "Before the pitch, my team mates and I did a lot of research on the documentary topic that we proposed. With all the effort taken, I was able to present our topic to the judges confidently. The presentation was done in a PowerPoint format and it included photos of the people that we would be interviewing, the locations of the documentary as well as our proposed production schedule."

The production of both the teams from UTAR will be aired in UPM during the three-day Festival from 8-10 January 2009. At the Festival, the teams' entries will stand a chance to win awards and/or prizes from the *Anugerah Perdana*. Results of the *Anugerah Perdana* will be announced on the final day of the Festival.



Happy winners with their prizes at the Festival.

## EXPOSURE TO BUSINESS WORLD AT UTAR BUSINESS WEEK

From 10 - 12 November 2008, UTAR's Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) held a Business Week at the Bandar Sungai Long Campus. 'Forging Achievable Milestone' was selected as the theme for this event.

Business Week was jointly organised by the Students' Representative Committee and the various course-based societies in FAM. Among them were the Accounting Society, the Business Administration Society, the Marketing Society, the Economics Society, the Banking and Finance Society, and the Entrepreneurship Society.

The opening ceremony was graced by Tun Dr. Ling Liong Sik, UTAR Council Chairman. UTAR President, Professor Engr. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik was also present at the ceremony and gave the keynote address.

Among activities lined up during the Business Week were various talks, an investment board game competition, an exhibition and a speaker's corner



Tun Dr. Ling (in batik shirt) and (on his right) UTAR President, Prof. Engr. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik with committee members during the opening ceremony.

where students could discuss issues pertaining to current economic and business situation. Various experts from different fields were also invited as speakers for the different talks.

The talks held during this event touched on many contemporary issues related to business and finance. Among them were 'Global Financial Turmoil', 'Million Dollar Plan for Youth' and 'Economic Crisis'.

## LEARNING BUSINESS SKILLS THE FUN WAY

The cafeteria of UTAR Bandar Sungai Long Campus was filled with cheer and laughter from participants and supporters of the Cashflow 101 board game competition held on 11 November 2008.

Organised by the Entrepreneurship Society in conjunction with the Business Week, the competition aimed to promote a risk-free approach for students to acquire new business and entrepreneurship skills by participating in the Cashflow 101 board game.

Cashflow 101 is an educational board game created by Robert Kiyosaki, an investor, motivational speaker and a self-help author who is best known for his *Rich Dad, Poor Dad* series of motivational books and materials. The board game teaches its players the concepts of investing by having them make their money work for them.

"We wanted to introduce a fun way to get students to build their entrepreneurship skills. The Cashflow 101 board game helps students to sharpen their financial planning and investment skills while giving them a good time," said Yew Ding Yan, Chairman of Entrepreneurship Society and the Cashflow board game competition.



The students having fun at the board game competition.

Four board game sets were used during the competition. Each set of game accommodated four to six participants. The player who reached his/her goal the fastest compared to all the other players from all four game sets won the competition.

The champion of the Cashflow 101 board game competition was Ho Yan Ling, a second year Entrepreneurship student from UTAR. In sharing her experience, Ho expressed, "I really enjoyed playing the game. It taught me how to utilise my finances to make the right choices when buying and selling shares and properties to make profit. If given the chance, I would definitely want to play this game again."



## UTAR Forges Future Tie-up with University of Westminster

To further encourage future collaborative efforts, UTAR ushered in the arrival of two visitors from the University of Westminster, UK, to the Petaling Jaya and Bandar Sungai Long Campuses for a friendly one-day visit on 7 November 2008.

The two visitors were Prof. George F. Chadwick, representative for the University of Westminster in Malaysia and Alan Murphy, Head of the Department for Business and Management (Postgraduate) of the University.

During the visit, Prof. Chadwick and Murphy met with several UTAR senior officials and UTAR President Engr. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik.

The visitors and UTAR senior officials exchanged information about their respective Universities and discussed collaborative efforts to be carried out in future for the benefit of both Universities.

"A collaborative effort that we can consider is in conducting joint research on climate change. Our Vice-Chancellor, Professor Geoffrey Petts, is a well-known expert in global warming and can guide us in our research projects in this area," Murphy commented.

When enquired about the possibility of having a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between both universities, Murphy revealed, "Westminster and UTAR are actually in the process of finalising the MoU."

Prof. Chadwick and Murphy also met with the second and final year students from the Faculty of Accountancy and Management at the Bandar Sungai Long Campus. In the meeting, Murphy shared with the students about study life in bustling London, the courses offered by University of Westminster and the scholarships available to deserving students.

University of Westminster, situated at the heart of London, was founded in 1838. It was Britain's first polytechnic and the fourth college to award degrees in England.



(From left) Prof. Chuah, Murphy and Prof. Chadwick.

## UTAR Sealed MoU with The University of Hong Kong



(From left) Prof. Lee, Tun Dr. Ling, Prof. Chuah and Dr. Goh after the MoU signing ceremony.

UTAR Centre for Extension Education (CEE) and The University of Hong Kong (HKU) School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPACE) sealed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 8 November 2008 at the Eastin Hotel, Petaling Jaya.

Signatories on the MoU were Dr. Prudence Goh Eam Cheng, Director of CEE and Prof. Dr. C F Lee, Director of HKU-SPACE. Signing as witnesses for the MoU were Sia Ka Ngan, Senior Manager of CEE and Dr. John A. Cribbin, Secretary and Registrar of HKU-SPACE.

The MoU signing ceremony was also witnessed by some 200 participants who attended the 'Three Gorges Dam' talk/seminar declared opened by Tun Dr. Ling Liong Sik, Council Chairman of UTAR.

In his opening speech, Tun Dr. Ling expressed, "Today's MoU with HKU-SPACE marks another milestone for UTAR in creating an international footprint as well as to share and to grow."

According to UTAR President, Engr. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik who was also present at the ceremony, the MoU will spearhead collaborative efforts to initiate student exchange and study visit programmes for postgraduate and undergraduate students between UTAR and HKU, future developments in the areas of new teaching and learning technologies, research and development, and academic development and exchange.

The MoU will also create new and exciting opportunities for staff development through staff exchange programmes and in organising conferences, workshops, publications and seminars.

## UTAR Students Dazzle at Singing Competition

Ten contestants captivated the hearts of the audience with their singing during the final of the Singing Competition 2008 held at the UTAR Bandar Sungai Long Campus on 20 November 2008.

Themed 'Soul of Music', the competition was organised by the Music Club and open to students from the UTAR Bandar Sungai Long Campus. Over 70 students participated in the competition but only the best ten were selected to compete in the grand finale.

Swinging in their fabulous outfits, the finalists dazzled at the grand finale as they sang victoriously with the hope of walking away with prizes from the competition. Every contestant had his/her own set of fans. This was clearly shown by the amount of screaming and cheering as fans gathered in support of their favourite singer.



Tan showcasing her talent at the finale.

Emerging as the Champion of the Singing Competition 2008 was Joyce Tan Yoke Ting, a second year Accounting student. The cheerful 21-year-old from Setiawan, Perak shared, "My father is a musician and my mother is a vocal trainer who used to sing in a local band. As a child, I was brought up watching bands performing live. My mother also taught me to sing at a very young age."

When asked about her mother's role in training her for the Singing Competition 2008, Tan laughed, "My mother would tutor me via the phone all the way from Setiawan just to help me prepare for this competition."

In revealing the secrets behind the powerful voice that she demonstrated at the competition, Tan said, "It took me a lot of time and effort to sing well for this competition. During my preparation, I had to specially schedule my time to practise singing every day."

"Through practising, I began to identify my weaknesses and learned to improve myself right until the competition day," she added. Tan plans to pursue her singing interest but wishes to concentrate on her studies at UTAR until she graduates.

## UTAR Career Days : A Bridging Avenue

In collaboration with the Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) Career Development Club, UTAR's Department of Alumni Relations and Placement organised a career day at the FAM in Bandar Sungai Long on 12 November 2008.

Such an event had also been held at the Faculty of Creative Industries in UTAR Petaling Jaya Campus on 5 November 2008.

The FAM Career Day brought together about 25 organisations and companies as participants. Among them were accounting firms like DBO Binder, Deloitte Kassim Chan and Ernst & Young, and accounting professional bodies like Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) Malaysia and Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA). In addition, there were financial companies like CIMB Bank, EON Bank Group, OSK Investment Bank and Public Bank and other multinationals like Genting Berhad, Marcus Evans, Sunrise Berhad and KPMG.

Many of the companies held interviews on the spot

to recruit the students. Many UTAR final year students did not pass up the opportunity to attend some of the interviews.

Apart from career counselling, career talks were also held. Some of talks were conducted by speakers who are professionals from various bodies and organizations. Personal financial management, interview skills, accounting career prospects, and resume writing were some of the subjects of the talks.



Students seeking career advice during Career Day.



## Recycling the Buzz Word of the Day at FCI

The Final Year Public Relations students decided that the best way to get their peers to recycle was to turn recycling into a fun and easy activity. They came up with a unique campaign called 'Save Nature for Our Future: Recycle!', which was launched on 26 November 2008 at the Petaling Jaya Campus.

"We want to create an interesting campaign to get students to realise their crucial roles in saving the environment. The fun activities were aimed at motivating students to recycle more," explained Dannie Than Yip Mun, Campaign Director.

Present to launch the campaign was Dr. Tan Beng Hoe, Assistant Director from the National Solid Waste Management Department of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Dr. Carmen Nge Siew Mun, Dean of the Faculty of Creative Industries, was also present during the ceremony. She stressed, "Always think before you buy. Remember, not all products can be recycled. Strive to buy recyclable products and do not buy unnecessarily."

During the launching event, the students were made aware of the importance of recycling as well as the simple methods of recycling through interactive games, quizzes, exhibitions and competitions.

Chan Chee Kong shared his experience on recycling. He said, "My friends and I always collect our old newspapers, cans and bottles and send them to the recycling collection centre for charity purposes. I also make handicrafts and home decorations with my unused items."

"I like to recycle very much and believe that everyone should recycle to save our environment," he commented.



(From left) Chai Shu Hui, Head Usher; 'Recycle Boy', official mascot of the campaign; Dr. Tan, Dr. Nge and Than during the launching ceremony.

## FCI Students' Internship Recognised

24 November 2008 was a memorable day for 23 students of the Faculty Creative Industries as CyberCare, an initiative and a non-profit community service organisation under Lions Club of CyberCare Kuala Lumpur, accorded recognition to their work during the closing ceremony to mark the completion of their internship with Cybercare.

The students went through "The Student Industrial Training and Assessment Programme" (SITA) which is part of the UTAR-CyberCare SITA community partnership.

Dr. Carmen Ng Siew Mun, Dean of FCI; Chin Yee Mun, Deputy Dean; Hasmiza Abdul Majeed, Head of Department of Psychology, Sociology and Political Science, and Cheong Yuk Wai, Founding President and current Director of CyberCare were among those who were present at this ceremony.

In his speech, Cheong explained about mission and vision of CyberCare and its collaboration with the Association of the Computer and Multimedia Industry, Malaysia (PIKOM) and some other stakeholders on *Project M.A.IN PC*.

Cheong enlightened the audience with the tasks undertaken by participants like the involvement of the members of Making A Difference (MAD) team, comprising the UTAR interns, in developing a curriculum for the national project. Besides that, he also showed visual presentations of the success achieved by the team as well as the previous trainees. The look of excitement, joy and accomplishment could be seen in every MAD team member when the presentation was taking place.

Two representatives of the team were called up to share their experience during their internship before the ceremony ended with the official handover of the project report to Dr. Nge and the certificate of participation to all members of the team.



The happy faces of the interns during the closing ceremony.

## PEER HELPING PROGRAMME AT UTAR

While society gets more and more impersonal in today's lifestyle, UTAR strives to develop a caring University community by encouraging more students to care for others by equipping them with useful counselling skills through the Peer Helping Programme.

Organised by the Counselling Unit of the Department of Student Affairs of UTAR, the programme is specially designed for students who desire to provide care and a listening ear to other students through a helpful relationship.

Students who participate in the programme are prepared to become Peer Helpers through lectures, group presentations, discussions, exercises and role-play sessions. They are taught on personal growth, some basic counselling skills and some problem-solving approaches in counselling. Among some of the interesting topics explored in the programme are family, personal and mental health issues as well as substance abuse and sexuality.

Many students have benefited from their involvement in the Peer Helping Programme.

Tan Chao Qun, a second year student from the Psychology degree programme described his experience. He said, "The programme has helped me a lot in understanding my studies better as it has given me the opportunity to gain extra knowledge on counselling techniques in addition to what I learn during my classes."

Sally Sim Shian Wei, another Psychology student added, "The programme has not only enhanced my lectures but also provided me with useful knowledge to help me counsel my friends whenever they face challenges. The programme has also taught me to practise good stress management especially when handling my tight study schedules."



Programme participants also forge close friendship during the Peer Helper training.

## First Aid Training for Emergency Situation

UTAR students had the opportunity to learn additional skills beyond the classroom when the Federation of Private Medical Practitioners' Malaysia in collaboration with the St. John Ambulance Malaysia (SJAM) conducted a first aid training session at the University's campus in Petaling Jaya on 16 November 2008.

Dr Goh Kay Chee, the President Elect for the Private Medical Practitioners' Society for Kuala Lumpur and Selangor was the guest of honour. Also present were Dr Chooi Yuo Hoo, Mr Steven Wong Tuck Meng, Deputy Area Commander of St John Ambulance Malaysia (SJAM) and Jeffery Nah Swee Sing, the facilitator of the day.

The main objective of the training was to educate the students on the importance of life-saving skills and their utility for emergency preparedness and response.

The Chairperson for First Aid Society in UTAR, Ng Xing Pei said, "First aid training is essential as we might face emergency any time. During emergency, we can then take prompt action in those circumstances. I feel everyone should have this skill and it is great that we can learn a skill that can help people."

The trainer briefed the students on first aid techniques, answered their enquiries, showed them how to give first aid before getting them to participate in an emergency drill.

"The first aid training is important as we are not only gaining knowledge. In fact, we are also learning some life skills, which will be very useful in our life and can benefit many people too," commented Chew Kar Poh, the Vice-Chairperson of First Aid Society in UTAR's Faculty of Accountancy and Management.



A participant practising giving CPR during the training.



## Secrets of the Three Gorges Dam Revealed

Some 200 people gained first-hand knowledge from Professor Dr. C.F. Lee, a consultant for the Three Gorges Dam project as he provided insights on the building of the dam during a seminar/forum held on 8 November 2008 at the Eastin Hotel, Petaling Jaya.

The Three Gorges Dam, built on the Yangtze River at Sandouping in China, measures up to 2,335 metres in length and is the largest hydroelectric dam in the world.

The seminar/forum was jointly organised by UTAR and the Asian Centre for Media Studies of The Star (Star-ACMS). Present to declare open the seminar/forum was Tun Dr. Ling Liong Sik, Council Chairman of UTAR.

During the seminar/forum, Prof. Lee shared, "Although the Three Gorges Dam currently generates huge amount of electricity, the main reason in building the dam was not for electrical power generation. It was for flood control. Yangtze River is known as the second killer river in China as it has claimed many lives through its flood history. The river is connected to many other rivers and lakes, including hanging rivers which cause floods."

Apart from that, Prof. Lee also explained the cutting-edge technologies used in constructing and maintaining the dam such as the tunnels used to remove silt and to control water levels in electrical power plants, and the two-way ship lifts that enable ships to pass through the dam.

A forum led by a panel of engineering experts was held after the seminar. The discussions included the impacts of the dam on its surrounding ecology, the construction and maintenance of the dam, the costs incurred in constructing and maintaining the dam, and the amount of revenue generated by the dam.

Many found the seminar/forum enriching. Ir. Dr. Tew Kia Hui, an environment consultant for the Bakun Hydroelectric Project in Malaysia commented, "The seminar helped me to widen my knowledge on the latest technologies that can be used in dam construction and maintenance. Some of the things that I have learnt are the landslide monitoring system and early warning system for flood used in the Three Gorges Dam."

Prof. Lee (middle) receiving a token of appreciation from Tun Dr. Ling (left). Looking on is UTAR President Engr. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik (right).

## 三峡大坝专题讲座暨研讨会

三峡大坝从开始筹建便引起各造两极的评价。曾参与三峡工程的香港大学专业进修学院院长李焯芬教授，在2008年11月8日上午，于八打灵再也易思廷酒店举行的“三峡大坝”专题讲座暨研讨会，为出席者解说关于三峡大坝的种种。拉曼大学理事会主席敦林良实是当天的开幕人。拉曼大学校长拿督蔡贤德教授也出席了该座暨研讨会。

长江是中国第一长河，自古以来便不断发生洪灾。为了防洪，中国人不断地筑高堤坝。李教授以长江最易泛滥的河段——荆江悬河为例。由于荆江地势低洼，长江带来的泥沙不断沉积，致使河床高过两岸平原，形成“人在江底走，水在头上流”的情形。千年来两岸人民一直修筑防堤以减低洪水的威胁。

然而，筑堤防洪也只是治标不治本的方法。他指出，水患的根源是人民不断砍伐树木，使植被遭到破坏，造成水土流失。另外，长江下游大规模的围湖造田活动也降低湖泊的蓄洪能力。为改善此情况，1998年始，中国政府禁止人们在长江中上游伐树，同时植树造林以改善生态环境。

为解除洪灾的危害，孙中山在《实业计划》中首次提出在长江兴建水坝的设想。后来由于种种原因，这项计划被迫搁置下来，至1992年始被通过，并于1994年正式动工。

不过，三峡工程对周围环境带来的影响是不容小觑的，因此拟定必要的对策也是当务之急。作为中国人居住时间最长的地区之一，长江流域一带拥有丰富的文物古迹与风景名胜。但是，三峡大坝一旦蓄水，一些景区和文物将永埋水底。李教授说，为保护这些古迹，中国政府在1992年便展开抢救行动，以期在大坝蓄水前完成发掘、迁移和保护工作。他举例说，汉代墓葬、忠县石宝寨、云阳张飞庙、涪陵石鱼等都得到了适当的安排。

水坝的建造也影响周围的生态环境，其中之一就是中国的特产鱼类——中华鲟鱼。为避免工程影响该鱼类的生存，中国政府以人工方式繁殖，确保它不会绝种。

由于水坝蓄水后将淹没沿江一些城市，受影响的居民人数庞大，因此移民也是此工程面对的另一难题。如何安置他们成了中国政府重要的任务。中国政府以迁移当地人民至新成立的省份，或迁移到其他省份等方式安顿当地人民。

李教授也与在场者分享了选择三斗坪为最终坝址的原因。他说，由于三斗坪地势开阔，地质为坚硬的花岗岩，并且江中拥有中堡岛，有利于大坝的分期施工。因此该处是最适合建造水坝的地方。

李教授精彩的演说让出席者加深了对三峡工程的认识。讲座结束后，即有研讨会，为出席者解答关于三峡工程的疑问。这场专题讲座暨研讨会为有关领域的专业人士提供了一个交流和学习的平台。



## 台湾国立交通大学到访拉曼

拉曼大学理工学院于11月13日（星期四）上午，接待了来自台湾国立交通大学的两位代表——资讯工程学系与生医工程研究所教授蔡德明博士以及电子工程系教授王圣智博士。两位教授此行的主要目的是商讨交换学生计划事宜。

观赏了拉曼大学介绍短片后，王圣智教授便为我校教职员介绍有关交通大学的概况。交通大学共有八所学院和七百余位全职教员。由于该校较重视研究，因此研究生比本科生多。

交通大学在工程与电脑科学方面有骄人的表现。王教授说，交通大学在上海交通大学公布的2008年世界大学学术排名中，榜上有名。除此，在2007年世界大学排名中，该校也在“工程与电脑”方面名列第49，领先台湾各大学，显示出该校在是项专业领域里的研究实力。

王教授也透露，交通大学其中一个优势是坐落在科学工业区附近。该工业区拥有约四百家企业机构，而该校也与当中的一些机构建立了紧密的合作关系。因此，就读该校的学生将有机会到那些机构实习，从中可第一时间获得有关领域的经验与知识。若拉曼大学能够派学生到该校实习，可谓百利而无一害。另外，该校也提供生活津贴予交换学生。

交通大学大部分的课程皆以中文为教学媒介语，不过电机资讯国际学位课程在未来将会开办以英文教学的课程。

接着蔡德明教授为大家介绍该校的资讯学院。据他透露，该学院属下设有20个研究小组，并与校外各大机构及研究所合作研究。迄今，该学院已成功研发出台湾第一部小型电脑、第一架中文打字盘和第一个工业机械人等。

尔后，拉曼大学理工学院院长黄展群博士介绍理工学院的课程及研究方向，如脑科学、奈米科学等；林树钦博士也简述了拉曼大学资讯与通讯科技学院的概况。

双方代表进一步讨论了有关交换学生的计将会挑选学生到交通大学实习。然而，由于无法转移学分，因此我校学生不能在交通大学上课。

约在上午11时15分，黄展群博士带领远道而来的两位教授参观理工学院的实验室。参观时，两位教授看到学生正在进行实验，显得很有兴趣，不断向学生问。



两位教授对我校学生进行的实验显出高度的兴趣。

## 防患于未然 拉曼大学火灾演习

拉曼大学的紧急应变与疏散小组于2008年11月26日上午在八打灵再也校园进行了火灾演习，以提高学生及教职员们的消防意识。

此外，这次的演习也能让教职员与学生了解发生紧急状况时的疏散程序。

这是拉曼大学第五次进行类似的预防火灾演习。前四次分别在双溪龙镇校园、吉隆坡校园、创意产业学院和资讯与通讯科技学院举行。

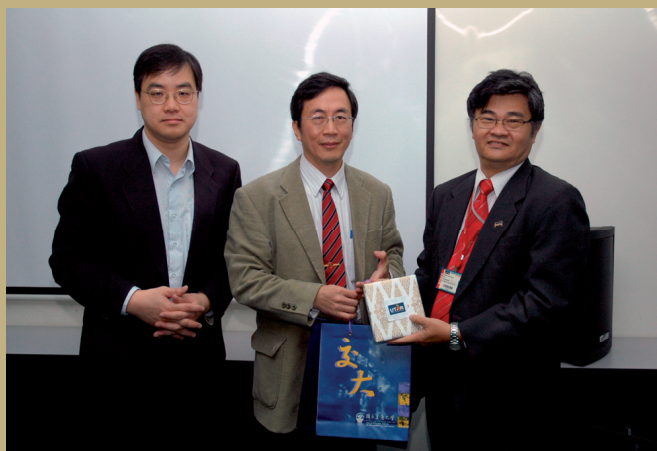
警报铃声响起后，约六百位教职员与学生都即刻到达集合场地，整个过程仅花费了七分钟。该小组也安排了一些学生充当指挥人员。他们负责指挥与带领其余学生，利用紧急出口到达集合场地。

紧急应变与疏散小组成员在演习结束后进行了简单的检讨会议，讨论演习过程中需要改善的部分并提出建议，以便能在未来的演习里做得更好。

基础课程中心职员郭子祥表示，这次的演习活动让他学习到逃生的技巧。他说：“若是发生火灾，我知道应该如何逃离现场，也知道该到哪里集合。”不过，他也指出，这次的火灾演练仍有须改进的地方，“一些地方，如实验室的警报器铃声太小，无法听得清楚。加上实验室里有很多化学物品，一旦发生火灾，实验室就会变成最危险的地方了。”他认为，应在实验室附近安装多些铃声较高的警报器。



演习结束后，教职员与学生们有序地离开集合场地



国际与院际关系部主任张秋祥（右）与王圣智教授互相交换纪念品。站左者为蔡德明教授。





拉曼大学副校长  
(学生进展与校友联系事务) 杨  
硕 宝博士

## 软技巧培训 之新文凭制度

**拉曼大学关注学生的课业表现，更重视学生的就业竞争力。是故，拉曼大学将推介新的软技巧培训文凭制度，鼓励学生学习各式软技能，装备自己，面对未来的挑战。**

在充满竞争和瞬息万变的时代里，为了不被发展迅速的社会淘汰，我们不仅要在硬技能上能够与他人匹敌，也必须加强软技能，增加自身的竞争优势。

拉曼大学副校长（学生进展与校友联系事务）杨硕宝博士说：“设立软技巧学系部的宗旨，是透过开办各种软技

巧培训讲座和其他活动，培育学生的软技巧与生活技能。”这样一来，日后他们不仅能够在竞争激烈的社会里立足，在生活上也能得心应手。

她补充道：“通过参与这些活动，学生可以学习到课堂以外的新事物，并有机会与经验丰富的培训人员交流。这不但能够发展他们的潜能，也可以提升他们对自我价值的认识。”

“明年1月，校方将推介新的文凭制度——拉曼大学软技巧培训文凭。这个新制度的主要目的，是鼓励更多学生积极参与活动，以全面地提升自己，训练自律能力和激发创意，同时培育思域广阔并具有国际视野的未来栋梁。校方将颁发文凭予参与软技巧学系部举办的活动之学生，作为他们参加培训的证明。这个制度亦可帮助校方记录学生在校时的课外活动表现，以及他们的活跃程度。”

要得到这张文凭，我校学生须在求学时期，从五种类型项目中选择参加其中四个，累积至少100分。这五种类型是沟通与语言、修为与道德、情感智力、团队与领袖精神、创新与战略思维和企业精神。此制度将确保学生掌握更多不同的软技巧。学生可以透过参加各种课外活动，如工作坊、讲座、比赛等来累积分数。软技巧学系部会根据学生的参与程度，给予“及格”至“特优”的评估。

她表示，拉曼大学将根据学生领袖持有的职位，给予他们每年一百至三百令吉不等的奖励金，让他们参与这些课程。若求学时期无暇参加，他们可保留该奖励金，并在毕业后的两年内回校参与。拉曼大学校友亦能回来参加这些课程，学费与在籍学生一样。日后若学习有成，还可以成为拉曼大学软技巧讲座和课程的导师。

## 听寻探亲，采集乡音

语言不仅是人类的交流工具，也是文化的载体，是民族的重要特征。早期华人南下到马来西亚时，也把自身籍贯的语言和文化带来这片土地。在经历了几代的发展，及多种文化与语言的影响下，如今大马华人使用的方言，是否产生了变化？

为了探讨与采集各种方言在我国的发展，拉曼大学中文系副教授谢爱萍博士将进行《马来西亚华人乡音采集计划》。为此，于2008年11月七日上午，在八打灵再也皇冠酒店举行了《马来西亚华人乡音采集计划》新闻发布会暨推介礼。当天的推介人是新闻部副部长拿督陈莲花。谢爱萍博士也代表拉曼大学校长拿督蔡贤德教授出席了是项推介礼。

拿督陈莲花认为，乡音是丰富的文化遗产，隐藏在内的人文价值和历史，值得发扬光大。她说，乡音是传承中华文化重要的环节，这项计划将能完整并有系统地保留此文化予后代。“乡音采集计划能拉近全世界华人的距离，研究成果将成为国际性的收藏和参考。”拿督陈莲花致词时也建议让更多年轻人参与这项计划，以引起他们的学习兴趣。

谢博士是《马来西亚华人乡音采集计划》的总策划。谢博士原先的计划是研究广东省的方言。其后，由于得到外界的支持，经过一番思量后，决定将之改成研究我国各方言的发展，继而造就了《马来西亚华人乡音采集计划》的诞生。

她透露，这项计划预计费时一年。她将会收集各地可采集对象的资料，过后进行分类、筛选和鉴定工作。最后，她会制定采集路线及行程。采集小组的成员会根据她制定的地图，下



拉曼大学中文系副教授及中国研究组主任谢爱萍博士

乡进行采集工作。乡音采集的类别包括歌谣、民间艺人创作、戏曲、口述自传、历史事迹和地方性民间故事。研究成果将以光碟、影音记录片和书籍等形式发表。为了更全面地窥探方言的发展，谢博士将采集各年龄阶层的方言。她表示，此计划的研究员将由拉曼大学与马来亚大学的硕士生担任。

谢爱萍博士同时也是拉曼大学中国研究组主任。中国研究组成立于2005年，原本隶属于高等学位研究学院。其设立的宗旨是研究当代中国。

乡音是研究本土华人不可或缺的部分。纵然受到使用空间的局限，但方言的地位仍是不可取代的。随着这项计划的展开，不仅能有效地维护和保存这无形的文化遗产，其研究成果也将成为后人宝贵的参考文献。

## 人为贵

拉曼大学校长拿督蔡贤德教授在拉曼大学2008年度的商业周上发表了有关人力资本的专题演讲。为期两天的商业周于11月10日至11日在拉曼大学双溪龙镇的会计与管理学院举行，由该院的学生代表委员会与六个学术团体联手举办，并邀请了拉曼大学理事会主席敦林良实主持开幕仪式。

蔡校长在谈及目前的人力资源现象时提到，人类文明的发展与使用的工具是息息相关的。从石器时代到今天的电脑时代，人类不断地转换使用的工具。现在，科技的发展一日千里，任何事情皆有可能发生。为了不被社会淘汰，我们必须跟随科技的潮流，改变我们使用的工具，以符合时代的变迁。

他表示，每个人都是自己生活的主人。他希望我校学生在毕业后，能够以逻辑、分析与批判的思维来经营自己的生活，并捉住眼前的任何机会，发掘未知的领域。

蔡校长认为科技是事物迅速发展的导因之一。全球化的趋势为我们提供许多机会，但也意味着我们须要和更多人竞争。知识就是力量，因此世界的转变将倾向以人为本，强调知识的革新。他说，知识型经济的成功关键在于人力资本，就连第九大马计划也强调培育人才。在全球的竞争市场上，我们必须提高产品素质、竞争力、生产及服务素质。

他说，发展人力资本应先从改善教育与培训制度下手，从而提升学生的知识与创意。此外，也应提高国民学校的素质，使之成为国民的首选学校，进而促进团结。同时，设立具国际水平的大学，培养切合市场要求的人才；提供各阶层人士更多终身学习的空间与机会，提高人力的价值。另外也须关注郊区学校的教育水平，缩小郊区与城市学校的差距。

他亦指出，现今教育与培训系统比以往面对更多挑战。在国际



蔡校长在商业周上演讲。

化的催使下，我们必须与更多竞争者较量。此外，大学也须时时提高本身的学术水平，以达到世界水准，实现大学国际化的目标。

高等学府另一项重要的职责，就是培养具有就业能力的毕业生。他鼓励学生建立自己的人际网络，并强调人脉对以人为本的经济形态是很重要的。蔡校长也借此劝告在场的学生，要将自己的眼光放远，勿局限在一个小框框，不仅要踏出本国，更要向亚太地区，甚至全世界迈进。

结束前，他以羚羊的故事提醒在座学生：羚羊必须跑得比狮子还快，否则就会被吃掉；狮子则必须追上羚羊，否则就会饿死。因此，不管是狮子还是羚羊，当太阳升起时，都要开始奔跑。

会后，商业周筹委会主席徐振耀说，他很赞同蔡校长的观点。他认为一个机构成功与否，其成员是非常重要的一个环节。他以此次的商业周为例表示，若没有各位团员的通力合作，这次的商业周无法如此顺利地举行。



与会师长和论文发表者在研讨会闭幕後合影。

## 联系与疏离： 东南亚华人与 近代中国的互动

2008年11月28日，拉曼大学创意产业学院中文系与台湾政治大学文学院历史系联办了一场研讨会，以学术的角度探讨东南亚华人与近代中国的互动。这场研讨会于当天上午在拉曼大学继续教育中心举行，集合了马来西亚、台湾与日本东京大学三地的研究生进行交流。

东南亚是中国与台湾以外，华人人数最多、移居最早、枝衍最广的区域。华人移民带去的文化与信仰，许多已融入当地成为地方特色之一。然而，这也使之与原乡在地域

和文化上有着一丝的疏离。“年久他乡是故乡”，在东南亚落地生根的华人，徘徊于原乡与他乡之间的特殊情况，即是这场研讨会的讨论主轴。

这场研讨会分成四个环节，以发表论文的形式进行，参与的研究生共12人。他们各有15分钟的呈献时间。四个环节的主持兼评论人由东华大学历史系副教授李道缉博士、拉曼大学中文系教授林水椽博士、拉曼大学中文系助理教授廖冰凌博士及淡江大学东南亚研究所所长陈鸿瑜教授担任。每个环节结束前也有一些时间供出席的师长和研究生们自由讨论。

当天的出席者还包括台湾政治大学历史系系主任唐启华教授与历史系助教李素琼、拉曼大学高等学位研究院院长李志伟教授、拉曼大学中文系主任张晓威博士、拉曼大学中文系教员及研究生等。研讨会于下午五时三十分完满结束。