

First Taste of University Life at UTAR

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UTAR CAMPUSES

Petaling Jaya

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Selangor Darul Ehsan

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Lot PT 21144

Jalan Sungai Long

Bandar Sg. Long

Cheras, 43000 Kajang



Freshies and seniors bonding during the orientation activities

“Making new friends will be a good start for me to adapt to campus life as we can share with one another any challenges in the future and try to overcome them together.”

-Kavinanda Rao

4 January 2008 marked another historical date as UTAR welcomed its new students at the Perak Campus. The week-long orientation session introduced the freshies to university life.

During the registration day, the Perak Campus witnessed the presence of a large number of students from all over Malaysia with the common goal of receiving quality higher education. Some parents were also present during the orientation to share in the excitement and to ensure their children’s smooth transition into campus life.

Among them was Michael Tan Guan Chuan, who flew all the way from Sandakan, Sabah with his daughter, Tan Siew Siew. He said, “This is the first time my daughter is away from home and that’s the reason I am here today.”

In addressing the importance of balancing academic results with personal interest, he explained, “I hope my daughter not only concentrates on her studies but also attends the activities organised by the university. Since young,

she has a passion for dancing and I wish she would develop her talent in this area as well.”

Apart from gaining useful skills and developing their abilities through co-curricular activities, freshmen could mingle with fellow students which will help them in adjusting to campus life. The orientation week included an ice-breaking and telematch session which saw new students from different faculties and courses interacting and becoming friends.

Kavinanda Rao Surennaraina, a first year Entrepreneurship student, shared the advantages of fostering friendships. He described, “Making new friends will be a good start for me to adapt to campus life as we can share with one another any challenges in the future and try to overcome them together.”

A city tour took the students to places of attraction in Perak. Among them were Gua Tempurung, Sam Poh Tong, Teluk Batik and Lumut.

With new friends and a conducive university environment, these students are all geared up for a educational and personal experience that awaits them at UTAR.

UTAR GOES TO UAE

In support of the initiative to make Malaysia a centre for educational excellence, UTAR participated in the Malaysia Service Exhibition 2008 in United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Held from 13 - 15 January 2008, the exhibition was organised and sponsored by MATRADE to showcase Malaysia's creativity and innovation in services. It was held at Sharjah, a city 40 km from Dubai. During the opening ceremony, Dato' Seri Rafidah Aziz, Minister of International Trade and Industry said that it was the first time such an exhibition was held.

Represented by Cheong Chew Seong, Head of the Department of International Development (DID), UTAR was among 15 education and training providers in the Education & Specialised Training cluster. The Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) led the Education & Specialised Training cluster in the exhibition. Besides promoting a range of UTAR programmes to UAE students, the exhibition also provided opportunity to the UTAR representative to network.



(From left-right) Seen Thein Choong, Assistant Director, Marketing and International Education Division, MoHE, Cheong and Ibrahim Abdul Aziz, Education Secretary, Consulate General of Malaysia to Saudi Arabia



Prof. Calderwood generating public interest on infectious diseases

Public Discovers Reality of Infectious Diseases

Infectious diseases have long been a major global threat, causing loss of lives as well as economic hardship, even in Malaysia. Recognising the importance of informing the public of these illnesses, UTAR organised a talk entitled *New and Emerging Infectious Diseases* on 19 February 2008. The talk was delivered by Prof. Stephen Calderwood from the Harvard Medical School. Prof. Calderwood is also the External Examiner for UTAR's Biomedical Science degree programme.

Prof. Calderwood shared his knowledge and experience on various disease outbreaks worldwide over the past three decades. The talk was well received by an audience of almost 300 students, staff and members of the public.

Prof. Calderwood explained that excessive use of antibiotics may cause an increase in antimicrobial resistance, leading to the spread of diseases. Therefore, doctors should prescribe the right dosage of antibiotics only when needed.

Continue on page 3

He advised, "Doctors should keep close rapport with their patients and explain the reasons for not recommending an antibiotic for a specific sickness. Subsequently, they should contact or see the patients over the next few days to track their progress."

He stressed the urgency for doctors to update themselves on diseases regularly. Medical practitioners must also be able to recognise unusual illnesses and report them to the public health authorities immediately so that necessary action can be taken to combat these illnesses.

Apart from elaborating on the roles of front-line medical staff, Prof. Calderwood also encouraged the public to receive standard vaccinations in order to avoid potential deadly diseases.

Thayalan Arumugam, 35, who works in the pharmaceutical industry commented, "I was impressed by the way Prof. Calderwood presented his talk as he was a dynamic speaker. I also found the talk to be very comprehensive."

Aside from the public talk, Prof. Calderwood also paid a visit to UTAR's Kuala Lumpur Campus where he shared with the Biomedical Science students his knowledge on Cholera, based on his research findings in Bangladesh.

When asked about his passion in the biomedical industry, Prof. Calderwood replied, "I chose medicine as my career because it provides me with a greater opportunity to interact with people and to use science in promoting health for improving lives. Graduates from a Biomedical Science programme may work in a wide range of industries such as pharmaceutical and public health care, and in areas such as vaccines and antibiotics. They could also choose to further their studies to a postgraduate or doctorate level to broaden their career options."

"I chose medicine as my career because it provides me with a greater opportunity to interact with people and to use science in promoting health for improving lives."

Talk on Cosmology by Oxford Expert



Dr. Ghassan Yassin speaking with Dato' Seri Dr. Jamaludin Jarjis and UTAR President, Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Ng Lay Swee

Some 120 enthusiastic learners began their Saturday duly enlightened after attending the talk entitled *Exploring the Origin of the Universe*, held at the Petaling Jaya Campus on 18 January 2008.

The talk by Dr. Ghassan Yassin, an astrophysicist from Oxford University, provided a broad perspective on the latest research in experimental cosmology and drew participants from various backgrounds and professions. Making a surprise visit was Dato' Seri Dr. Jamaludin Jarjis, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation.

The talk exposed the audience to cosmological concepts such as the Big Bang, dark matter and dark energy. Dr. Yassin also explained the advanced scientific tools and techniques used to study the universe as well as how the results led to new knowledge.

Some examples of cosmological research projects and instruments discussed were the COBE (Cosmic Background Explorer) and WMAP (Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe) satellites, and the latest generation of cosmological instrument, CLOVER, that is being developed by his group at Oxford.

The insightful talk left the audience enriched and impressed. Faiz Rashdi bin Muhammad Adib, 21, who will be continuing his studies in Medicine at the University of Melbourne expressed, "It was a good and interesting presentation by Dr. Yassin. I was introduced to new findings and knowledge in cosmology such as the age of the universe and the research methods used. The speaker also supported his talk with reliable and relevant evidence. Although this is not the first talk on astrophysics I have attended, it is certainly more rewarding."

Dr. Yassin is also the External Examiner for UTAR's Physics degree programme.

University Education Cultivates Greater Actuaries

An actuary is a business professional who deals with the financial impact of risk and uncertainty. In recent times, the rapidly changing economic environment world wide has created a growing need for actuaries to serve in various industries. With growing job prospects and good remuneration for actuaries, pursuing a degree in Actuarial Science has become a popular option for today's ambitious students.

As part of UTAR's efforts to create awareness among students of this profession, the university organised a talk entitled *Educating the 21st Century Actuary* by Dr. Tan Ken Seng from the University of Waterloo, Canada. He is also the External Examiner of UTAR's Actuarial Science degree programme. The talk was held on 13 February 2008 at the Petaling Jaya Campus.

Dr. Tan enlightened the audience on the historical development of the actuarial professional examination system as well as the current challenges and changing skills required. He stressed that new skills are required as a result of the tremendous development in information technology and the changing landscape in financial services.

UTAR's 3-year Actuarial Science degree programme provides students with the opportunity to gain the essential skills needed in order to progress in this field.

In addition to obtaining vital skills through university exposure, Dr. Tan also encouraged fresh graduates with Actuarial Science degrees to enrich their experience through jobs related areas like report writing, marketing, and market research while working on their professional credentials.

Among the audience who benefited from the talk was first-year Actuarial Science student, Sri Sangkeri Nagandran. The 21-year-old who hails from Alor Setar said, "The talk made me realise the importance of my education at UTAR in preparing me for the professional examinations."

Besides presenting the talk, Dr. Tan also visited UTAR's Perak Campus in Kampar. "This is my first time visiting this campus. I am impressed by the state-of-the-art buildings and facilities as well as the lakes in and around the campus. I believe that UTAR has indeed created a place that is conducive for learning and research," he remarked.



Dr. Tan (right) with Dr. Lim Soo King, Dean of Faculty of Information and Communication Technology at the Perak Campus



Dr. Tan enlightens the audience on the actuarial profession

职业工作坊吸引更多华裔大专生加入公务员行列

配合政府号召招揽更多非土著当公务员，以平衡公共服务领域的种族比例，马华公会于2008年1月25日（星期五），在拉曼大学举办了第一场全国大专巡回职业工作坊。目的是让大专生对公务员这一职业有更深入及全面的了解，灌输他们为国为民服务的意识，让公共服务领域成为他们未来就业的考量之一。

出席嘉宾包括马华署理总会长暨交通部长拿督斯里陈广才、拉曼大学校长丹斯里拿督黄丽绥博士，以及马华中央教育局主任拿督李成材上议员等等。主讲人是来自公共服务领域的资深华裔公务员，包括公共服务局退休金组主任尤振强（译音）、公共服务局薪金及津贴组主任叶勤善、首相署公共投诉局总监蔡奉泽、气象局总监叶国成及卫生部工程服务局主任陈源志。

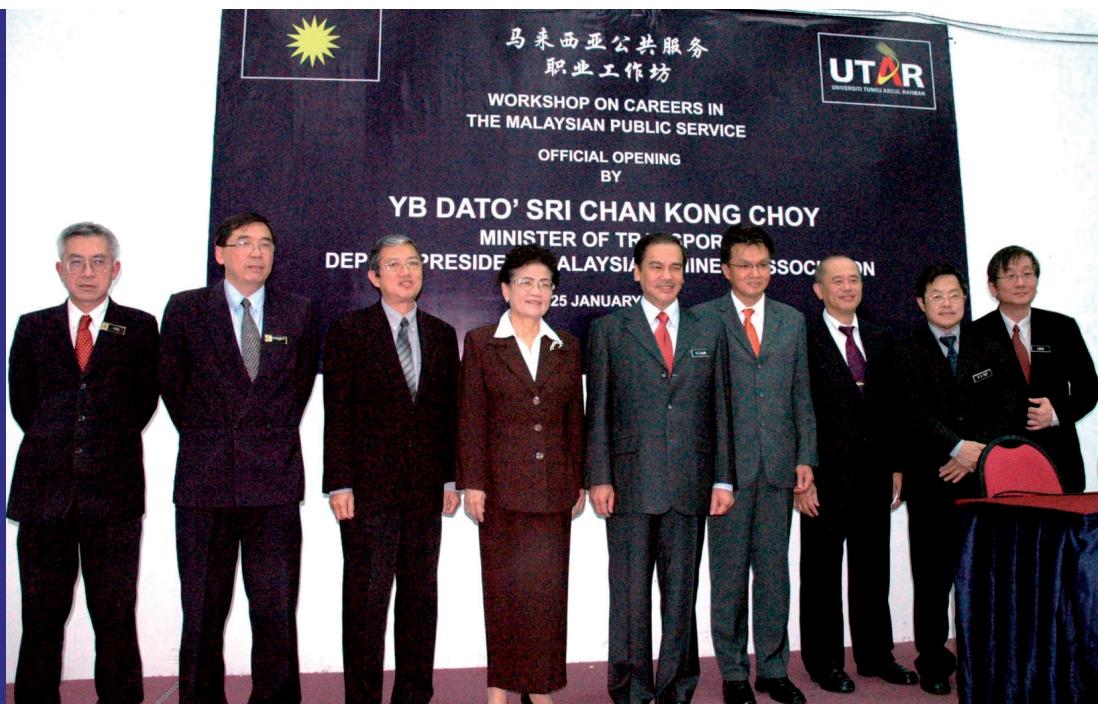
丹斯里拿督黄丽绥博士致词时表示，拉曼大学的课程获得我国高等教育部的核准和学术资格鉴定机构(MQA)的认证，因此也被公共服务局(JPA)认可。拉曼大学毕业生拥有广泛的出路，除了私人界，他们也可任职于政府各大机构，甚至本地大学。目前，共有38位拉曼大学中文系毕业生，成功完成师训学院的教育文凭，并已在国内各中、小学

执教。

拿督斯里陈广才指出，在去年首六个月里，申请成为公务员的华裔人数只占了百分之一一点七，他希望通过这一系列的工作坊，可以大幅度提升华裔青年在公共服务领域的数量。他说：“副首相拿督斯里纳吉亦表示，将设立更多奖学金予非土著学生申请，以借此吸引更多专才进入公共服务领域。我们希望通过多方面的合作，以实际行动来增加华裔公务员。”

主讲人通过分享自己在公共服务领域的工作经验，让大学生知道这份工作并不简单，当中还肩负了为国家和人民服务的使命。接着，他们也讲解了有关如何成为公务员、薪金与升级制度，以及事业展望等。

这项工作坊获得许多学生的好评。拉曼大学公共关系学系三年级生王婉婷受访时说：“我以前对公共服务领域一直存有误解，现在通过工作坊，我对这个领域有了新的认识，希望以后有机会进入这个领域。”来自工商管理学系三年级的刘必旺则表示：“这次的工作坊，让我对公共服务领域产生了兴趣。我希望可以知道更多资料，以便能正确地选择自己喜欢的工作。”



“马来西亚公共服务职业工作坊”成功吸引了许多拉曼大学生参加

Preparing Undergraduates to be Leaders of Tomorrow

Four members of UTAR's Student Representative Committee (SRC) participated in the REAL Undergraduate Conference held at Putrajaya International Convention Centre on 13 January 2008.

1,500 undergraduates from institutions of higher learning attended the annual conference which provided an avenue for undergraduates to gain experience and knowledge through talks, forums and presentations. It also equipped students with soft skills, personal grooming, networking and managing financial skills.

UTAR's representatives were Leong Chi Wei, Michelle Peris, Jonathan Goh Tze Yeow and Kathiresan Gopal.

Themed 'People Succeeding Through Leadership', the conference lined up many interesting forum sessions and talks for the participants. Among the informative talks shared were on managing finances by Koid Swee Lian, Director of Consumer and Market Conduct, Bank Negara Malaysia; and leadership development by Dato Ainon Marziah Wahi, Vice-President of Human Resource Management, Petronas.

There was also an informative forum session on networking and relationships by local stars such as Datuk Siti Nurhaliza and Norman Abdul Halim, CEO

of KRU Group.

The participants also obtained a better understanding on equipping themselves with the right knowledge and skills to excel from Dr. Sheikh Muszaphar Shukor, the first Malaysian astronaut. He also shared his experience on his recent space mission.

Towards the end of the conference, the participants were given a big surprise with the arrival of Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohammad. He shared with the participants the attributes of a good leader. "A leader must have ideas on the directions he leads, the things that he and his followers must do or achieve, and ideas on the improvement of their well-being and their surrounding. Equally important he must know how to make his ideas become realities," he said.

For UTAR representatives, they have gained priceless experience. Peris expressed that she was appreciative of the opportunity to meet and learn from the corporate leaders and celebrities. "Among the forums that inspired me was the sharing by Datuk Siti Nurhaliza and Norman Halim, where they emphasised the importance of networking and maintaining good relationship with people. I find that important especially when running projects which require different management and networking skills to deal with various personalities," she enthused.



SRC members who attended the conference: (from left) Kathiresan, Leong, Peris and Goh

UTAR DI PERHIMPUNAN PERPADUAN MAHASISWA

Buat kali kedua, UTAR mengambil bahagian dalam acara **Gegar U! Perhimpunan Perpaduan Mahasiswa** yang diadakan di **Putrajaya International Convention Centre** di Putrajaya pada **20 Januari 2008**. Perhimpunan anjuran bersama **Yayasan Budi Penyayang Malaysia** dan **Kementerian Pengajian Tinggi** ini mengumpulkan lebih **4000** pelajar daripada institusi pengajian tinggi awam, swasta dan kolej-kolej seluruh negara.

UTAR menghantar seramai 32 pelajar dari kesemua fakulti yang terdiri daripada ahli Jawatankuasa Perwakilan Pelajar (SRC), kelab-kelab dan persatuan pelajar. Acara ini bermula dengan satu forum tentang perpaduan di kalangan para mahasiswa

di Malaysia. Antara ahli forum ini ialah Dr. Sheikh Muszaphar Shukor, angkasawan pertama negara. Selepas itu, perhimpunan diteruskan dengan upacara perasmian oleh Perdana Menteri Dato' Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi. Turut hadir, Dato' Mustapa Mohamed, Menteri Pengajian Tinggi dan Puan Nori Abdullah, Presiden Yayasan Budi Penyayang Malaysia.

Dengan menyertai program seperti ini, pelajar-pelajar UTAR diharapkan akan sentiasa menerapkan keazaman untuk mengekalkan perpaduan di kalangan golongan muda demi meneruskan budaya perpaduan di masa akan datang.



Kontinjen daripada UTAR ke Perhimpunan Perpaduan Mahasiswa di Putrajaya



Teo translating his dream into art

Graphic Design Students Showcase Work

An exhibition of artworks by UTAR's Graphic Design and Multimedia students was held at the Petaling Jaya Campus from 2 – 12 January 2008. The showcase displayed the creative works of students in a variety of media including advertising design, drawing, visual communication, desktop publishing and digital photography.

The opening ceremony was attended by Dr. Teh Chee Seng, Dean of Arts and Social Science, academic staff and students. Impressed with the artworks on display, Dr. Teh said, "An exhibition like this provides a great opportunity to showcase students' work. These art pieces are remarkable and are comparable to industry standards."

"Continue with your great work and be an inspiration to others," he added.

Wang Chain Khiang, the Course Coordinator said the objective of the showcase was to display the students' pieces in a variety of creations. "The exhibition was more than just displaying the students' work. It also reflected the progress they made in their study."

Patrick Teo Boon Siew, a Year 2 student, produced a comic book for one of his assignments. On his inspiration, he said, "I took one character from my dream and placed him in different situations. It was interesting to see how a character in my dream evolved into a comic."

Having no art background was not a hindrance for Teo. "But having a strong passion for art helped me to decide on taking up this course. You can still make it as long as you have the passion to pursue your interest," expressed Teo.

Mind Mapping & Creativity Workshop

The Centre for Extension Education organised a two-day course on Mind Mapping at its premises at the Petaling Jaya Campus. The course objectives were to develop new skills, use the whole brain, think more clearly and creatively, improve memory, enhance recall techniques and use the TEFCAS model of learning.

Mind Mapping helps people to remember things better, save time, generate ideas, and make better notes. The course trainer, Liew Kok Chong said the brain can remember pictures and symbols better than long sentences. Liew included juggling in his training. He commented that with the help of three juggling balls, scientists had come up with the best evidence that learning a new skill can actually expand the brain over time.

He added that associating was the linking and connecting of key words. The brain could connect all knowledge together to make a perfect essay on a subject.

Liew conducted a few exercises with the participants. These exercises were Mind Mapping on self and case study examples as well as group discussion. Overall, the participants enjoyed the training and provided good feedback.



1. A participant creating a Mind Map
2. Participants trying out juggling at the workshop



Discussion among group members during group assignments

THINKING OUT OF THE BOX FOR PROBLEM SOLVING AND DECISION MAKING

The Centre for Extension Education organised a one-day course on *Thinking Out of the Box for Problem Solving and Decision Making* on 18 February 2008. The course objective was to teach the participants to think out of the box using their right brain.

“Thinking out of the box or usually known as creative thinking seeks to design new and really creative arrangements to produce a work of art”, said Frances Penafort, the course trainer. She talked about thinking in the box, techniques on how to think out of the box and her success stories in training people.

She also highlighted to the participants that human beings often have problems because of the left brain dominance. “Left brain is analytical, a problem finder, searches for facts and it doesn’t like changes in the pattern”, said Penafort. “On the other hand, right brain is very grateful for what we have and it can download new ideas. Besides, it is flexible and will go with the flow. Otherwise, the problems cannot be solved. These are the major differences between the right brain and the left brain” she added.

There were group exercises such as designing logos, brain games, how fast can one move from one point to another point, and so on. Music, colours, movement, doing something different and various brain games to activate the right brain were also introduced.



Participants going through the module with the facilitator, Mohd Rizal Hassan

Speaking Skills Workshop for UTAR Front-Liners

A one-day workshop on speaking skills for UTAR front-liners was held at the Centre for Extension Education at UTAR's Petaling Jaya Campus.

This intensive speaking skills workshop is engineered for the University's front-liners who are expected to carry themselves well when they communicate with both internal staff and external customers. This workshop aimed to develop effective speaking skills in English among UTAR front-liners.

The participants were guided through a series of social and work-related activities. These skills serve as a foundation for employees to provide quality service to their clients and members of the general public.

The one-day workshop exposed participants to the fun in speaking without fear or nervousness. Participants commented that they had gained new insights into speaking skills.



UTAR staff at the image building training with Puan Sri T. D. Ampikaipakan (seated middle in the front row)

Winning Insights for an Excellent Corporate Image

For the second time running, UTAR has organised an image building workshop at its Petaling Jaya Campus.

The one-day training entitled *Making Your Image Work for You in the Educational Institution* was held to encourage staff to acquire a higher level of professionalism in building the right corporate image.

The speaker was Puan Sri T. D. Ampikaipakan, a consultant and expert on image building. The workshop was attended by UTAR staff.

On corporate image, she said, "A company stands out among others because of its image. It needs a competitive edge to help it stay on the winning side. A corporate image gives a sense of belonging to an organisation."

During the workshop, participants were

taught useful working etiquettes that could be applied. Among the topics were techniques to create a powerful first impression, the art of telephone conversation and dealing with difficult clients.

Many found the training an enjoyable and enriching experience. Stacy Wong Sieow Sze from the UTAR's Division of Programme Promotion commented, "I found the speaker's points really easy to understand as she was dynamic and humorous in her presentations. I was fascinated when she related her real life experience in dealing with influential people from Malaysia and also in other countries. From her encounters, I was able to learn the professional mannerism needed for meeting with those from higher hierarchy."

With the knowledge and skills acquired, the attendees are now set and ready to take up the upcoming challenges that they may face in the workplace.

UTAR Extends Training Service to Kojadi

The Centre for Extension Education conducted a three-day training programme on 'Teaching and Learning in Higher Education' for academic staff of Kojadi Institute at its premises in Kuala Lumpur recently.

The training programme was specially designed for academics to enhance teaching and learning techniques and practices. It provided a platform for discussions, and sharing of knowledge and experience among academics.



A group photo of the training participants at the end of the course

To achieve the objectives of the programme, the training covered theories of teaching and learning; connecting planning and designing; essential teaching skills and the teaching of thinking; the role of assessment and evaluation in the instructional process; and the criteria for quality, validity, reliability, integrity, equity and fairness. An overview of ICT tools used to create an extended learning environment in higher education was also included.

The trainers were experts in their respective fields, namely assessments, ICT in higher education, and design and development of interactive courseware for student-centred learning.

Donation Drive at Sg. Long Campus Yields Good Harvest

The Bandar Sungai Long Campus First Aid Society organised a blood donation drive on 7, 8, 9 and 11 January 2008. A total of 390 donors generously attended the event to make their donation. The Society's drive was sponsored by Universiti Malaya Medical Centre.

To attract the participation of students, the organising committee gave out tokens and lucky draw prizes as appreciation to the donors. The tokens and lucky draw prizes were secured from various sponsorships. Among them were magazine subscription, yoga class complimentary passes and goodie bags. In addition, the organising committee had also gone on an all-out promotion effort to encourage the students to participate in this drive.

Activities such as this have not only encouraged students to be more involved in extra curricular activities, but also nurtured their caring side by donating their blood to those in need. Although their donations were

given voluntarily, the donors expressed that the satisfaction of saving more lives was even more rewarding. For those who were the organising committee members, being part of this event have been a beneficial learning experience for them, not only in enriching their academic life, but also in enhancing their organising skills.



Students come together to donate blood during the drive

Photo Gallery : UTAR President, Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Ng Lay Swee and visitors



25 February 2008

Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Ng with Ms. Haileka Ndamononghenda Ongeleni, First Secretary, Nambibian High Commission



25 January 2008

Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Ng with Professor Yang Fujia, Chancellor, University of Nottingham, UK. Prof. Yang is also a member of UTAR's International Advisory Council



28 February 2008

(From left) Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Ng with Prof. Dr. William Cushley from University of Glasgow, UK, and Prof. Cushley is also the External Examiner for UTAR's BSc (Hons) Biochemistry programme; Prof. Dr. Peter Gresshoff from University of Queensland, Australia, and Prof. Gresshoff is also the External Examiner for UTAR's BSc (Hons) Biotechnology programme; and UTAR Dr. Tham Choy Yoong.



27 February 2008

(From left) UTAR Registrar Dr. Tan Kee Kong, UTAR VP Dr. Tan Hock Meng, UTAR VP Dr. Tan Chik Heok, and Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Ng with visitors from the Malaysian Association of Practising Opticians and the Association of British Dispensing Opticians: Kevin Siew, Douglas Lee, Wu Seong Khai, Edmund Teng and Alicia Thompson



29 February 2008

Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Ng with visitors fom Universal News: Valentine Charles, Project Director; Leland Rice, Editorial Director; and Clementine Condemine, Coordinator

MAKNA Grant for UTAR Cancer Researcher

Von Sze Tin, a UTAR Teaching Assistant from the Faculty of Engineering and Science was among the recipients of the National Cancer Research Council (MAKNA) Research Grant. She received a RM20,000 research grant for her proposal entitled *Anticancer Property and Mode of Action of Metal Complexes of Intercalating Ligand and Amino Acids*.

The award ceremony was held at the Academy of Sciences Malaysia (ASM), Kuala Lumpur on 28 February 2008 and was officiated by Tan Sri Dato' Dr. Yusof Basiron, President of ASM and Dato' Mohd. Farid Ariffin, Founder and President of MAKNA.

The Cancer Research Award is held annually with the primary objective of motivating young researchers and local health professionals to push ahead the frontiers of cancer research. The research aims to develop non-platinum anti-cancer drugs with less toxic side effects.

Commenting on the current status of cancer research in Malaysia, Von said, "Within two years, cancer cases have rapidly increased from

30,000 in 2002 to 40,000 in 2004. Thus, a major concern for cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy is the side effect from the anti-cancer drugs which will affect their quality of life."

"Research is an on-going activity. There have been a number of reports highlighting the use of transition metal complexes as anti-cancer agents. The best known drugs known is *cisplatin* [*cis-diamminedichloroplatinum(II)*] which has been widely used to treat a variety of cancers especially testicular cancer, with a 70% - 90% cure rate. When combined with other drugs, it is successful in treating brain, ovarian, bladder and breast cancer. However, it has its limitation and caused side effects such as nausea, vomit, severe nephrotoxicity, and genotoxicity. Thus, this research has prompted a search for more effective and less toxic-metal based anticancer agents," she added.

In encouraging a research culture among UTAR staff and students, this award is a boost in the University's research efforts towards becoming one of the leading private institutions in teaching and research excellence both locally and globally.



Von (second from left) receiving the award from Tan Sri Dr. Yusof Basiron (centre) and Dato' Mohd Farid Ariffin (second from right)

"Within two years, cancer cases have rapidly increased from 30,000 in 2002 to 40,000 in 2004. Thus, a major concern for cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy is the side effect from the anti-cancer drugs which will affect their quality of life."

-Von Sze Tin