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UTAR CAMPUSES

Petaling Jaya Campus

13 Jalan 13/6

46200 Petaling Jaya

Selangor Darul Ehsan

Perak Campus

Jalan Universiti

Bandar Barat

31900 Kampar

Kuala Lumpur Campus

Jalan Genting Kelang

Setapak 53300

Kuala Lumpur

Sungai Long Campus

Lot PT 21141

Jalan Sungai Long

Bandar Sungai Long

Cheras, 43000 Kajang



Faculty members, UTAR researchers and the Grant Recipients (holding blue folder) with UTAR President, Engr. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik (centre) at the MTSF presentation ceremony.

Four Research Grants for UTAR from MTSF

UTAR received four research grants from the Malaysia Toray Science Foundation (MTSF) on 10 December 2008 at a presentation ceremony held in Kuala Lumpur.

Assistant Professor Dr. Ramesh Subramaniam, Raja Kumar Vadivelu and Lim Pei San from the Faculty of Engineering and Science, and Assistant Professor Dr. Lim Chan Kiang from the Faculty of Science, Engineering and Technology received the grants totalling RM93,000 from MTSF.

Lim proposed a research to discover an environmentally-friendly way of carrying out agricultural activities. She explained, "In many developing countries, chemical nitrogen fertilizers are used to increase the productivity of crops. The purpose of my research is to come up with an organic solution through the nitrogen fixation gene (nifh) system to increase productivity of crops without compromising the environment."

Dr. Ramesh is also developing an environmentally-friendly product. He shared, "During my studies at Master's and PhD levels, I conducted several researches on polymeric materials. Although the

researches yielded excellent results, the solvents used in the research were not exactly environmentally friendly. Thus I aspired to produce polymer blends that not only produce good results, but also are kind to the environment."

Dr. Lim strives to discover a new method of analysing cancer cells by using the synthetic approach. He said, "Structural limitation is one of the key challenges in analysing cancer cells. I wish to help researchers to obtain more accurate results on cancer cells so that people may enjoy better anticancer drugs in the future."

Meanwhile, Raja Kumar Vadivelu informed, "The study of neuronal network systems of the brain is a fairly new field. Many characteristics of the neuronal network systems still remain unknown. I plan to use the organotypic slice platform in order to get a more in-depth study on the neuronal network system. Hopefully with my new research discoveries, scientists working in the neurotechnology innovation field will be able to create better applications in that area, such as in improvising artificial limbs and prosthetic arms."

Seven Medals for UTAR at the *Kejohanan Olahraga Kebangsaan IPTS*

UTAR scooped seven medals at the *Kejohanan Olahraga Kebangsaan Institusi Pengajian Tinggi Swasta 2008 (MASISWA 2008)* held on 27 December 2008 at Stadium Universiti Putra Malaysia, Serdang, Selangor.

MASISWA is an athletic meet organised by Majlis Sukan IPTS Malaysia (MASISWA) to select athletes to represent MASISWA in the Kejohanan Sukan Institusi Pendidikan Malaysia (SIPMA) which will be held in Terengganu in 2009.

The medal haul put UTAR on the second spot on medal tally at the athletics meet which saw the participation of 23 private institutions of higher learning in Malaysia. UTAR won gold medals for the shot put, the discus throw, the high jump competition and the 800m race, silver and bronze medals for the long jump competition and a bronze medal for the 5000m race.

The UTAR medallists were Loke Hon Leong, Lee Chee Seng, Wong Yean Ling, Chai Ming Thung, Ng Pei Qi, and Charles Wong Hie Kuang.

Double gold medallist, Loke was surprised by the victory. He said, "I was really surprised to win these medals as I had not been actively practising the shot put and the discus throw for about two years."

The Advertising student who hailed from Ipoh used to represent the Perak state team in shot put and discus throw competitions at local sporting events since the age of 10 but had stopped his involvement in sports after secondary school to concentrate on his studies.

Another gold medallist, Wong Yean Ling, who won the 800m race, shared, "All I was thinking before the race was to win a gold medal for UTAR, and that is what I did. I was the last to compete in my team and I was highly motivated to win by the success of some of my team mates in obtaining their medals."



UTAR athletics team.



Kho (second from left) with her gold-winning teammates.

Biotech Undergrad Makes A Splash at the ASEAN University Games

UTAR beams with pride when at the ASEAN University Games, UTAR's Year 3 Biotechnology student, Kho Ai Hwee was among the medallists in the national swimming team. She was one of the swimmers that won a gold in the 4x100m freestyle relay and a silver in the 4x200m freestyle events. The gold medal she won was a Games record-breaker.

Kho has been swimming since her school days and has previously represented Sarawak in Sukan Malaysia (SUKMA) four times. Since enrolling at UTAR, she has also represented the University in tournaments and inter-university games.

ASEAN University Games is a multi-discipline sports event held between student athletes from universities all over the ASEAN region. This year's 14th ASEAN Games was held from 11-21 December 2008 in Kuala Lumpur. 11 ASEAN countries took part and Malaysia sent in the largest number of delegates in the 22-event Games. Among the events in contention were athletics, archery, bowling, football, shooting, taekwondo, silat and swimming. At the end of the Games, Malaysia emerged Champions with a tally of 90 golds, 79 silvers and 47 bronzes.

Big Sweep for UTAR at the *Festival Filem dan Video Pelajar Malaysia*

UTAR students swept 14 out of the 33 awards under the *Anugerah Perdana* and *Anugerah Cipta* presented on the Award Night at the *Festival Filem dan Video Pelajar Malaysia Keenam (FFVPM6)* held on 10 January 2009 at Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM).

FFVPM is a project created to 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.

UTAR students won six awards under the *Anugerah Perdana* and eight awards under the *Anugerah Cipta* on the Award Night.

The awards won by the students under the *Anugerah Perdana* were:

- *Video Pendek Terbaik* (Best Short Video)
- *Pelakon Pembantu Lelaki Terbaik* (Best Supporting Actor)
- *Suntingan Terbaik* (Best Editing)
- *Dokumentari Terbaik* (Best Documentary)
- *Pengarah Dokumentari Terbaik* (Best Documentary Director)
- *Suntingan Terbaik* (Best Editing)

The awards won by the students under the *Anugerah Cipta* were:

- *Anugerah Produksi Terbaik* (Best Production Award)
- *Anugerah Video Muzik Terbaik* (Best Music Video Award)
- *Anugerah Iklan/Promo Terbaik* (Best Commercial Award)
- *Anugerah Pengarah Video Pendek (Cereka) Terbaik* (Best Short Video (Fiction) Director)
- *Anugerah Sinematografi Terbaik* (Best Cinematography Award)
- *Anugerah Pengarahan Seni Terbaik* (Best Art



All smiles and joy for UTAR camp at the FFVPM6.



Triumphant UTAR team with their prizes.

Direction Award)

- *Anugerah Penyuntingan Terbaik* (Best Editing Award)
- *Anugerah Panataan Bunyi Terbaik* (Best Sound Effects Award)

For their outstanding and creative works, the winners were awarded cash totalling RM15,000, three professional HDCams worth up to RM40,000 and 14 trophies.

Prior to the Award Night and during the Super Pitch Qualifying Round of this Festival, the entry for the short film/video category entitled 'Rewind' was shortlisted and the team was awarded RM2,500 to produce the short film while the entry for the documentary category entitled 'Witty Wings' by another team was shortlisted and awarded RM2,000 to produce the documentary. The Super Pitch qualifying round of the *Anugerah Perdana* was held on 10 November 2008 at Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). Both teams were given a month to produce what they had proposed to compete in the final round of the *Anugerah Perdana*.

Team leader for 'Rewind', Gareth Chin Fui Hian commented, "I felt that our short film was unique because we chose to use a reverse sequence story plot approach. Apart from that, we also used a lot of computer and editing effects to make our production special."

In describing his group's experience in producing the documentary 'Witty Wings', team leader Quek Shio Chuan said, "We travelled to many places, including Malacca, Batu Pahat and Kluang in Johor just to produce this documentary. As our documentary included a lot of outdoor shots, one of our major challenges was to get all our outdoor shots done before it started to rain."

UTAR RECEIVED MIMOS AWARD

For its strategic effort in establishing the *Centre of Excellence in Pattern Recognition and Machine Vision* with MIMOS, UTAR received an award of recognition from MIMOS Berhad on 4 December 2008 at the Dewan Perdana Felda, Kuala Lumpur.

The award was presented by Tuan Hj. Fadilah bin Yusof, Deputy Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation in a ceremony held in conjunction with the 2nd MIMOS Technology Preview which attracted technology users, service providers, product companies, domain experts and academia. Representing UTAR at the award ceremony was Prof. Dr. Ewe Hong Tat, Dean of the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT).

The *Centre of Excellence in Pattern Recognition and Machine Vision* is a research laboratory jointly established by both UTAR and MIMOS to promote research activities in the areas of software-based product development.

Researchers from UTAR and MIMOS are able to work closely to produce software-based products that have the potential to be commercialised and patented at the Centre.



(From left): Associate Professor Dr. Tay Yong Haur, Prof. Dr. Ewe and Dr. Khor Siak Wang of FICT with the Award from MIMOS.

ANOTHER MOSTI RECOGNITION FOR UTAR PROJECT

2008 was a great year for UTAR researchers as many were awarded grants from many parties who have shown their faith and belief in UTAR academics.

Among the grants awarded to UTAR were from the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI)'s ScienceFund. UTAR received six research grants under this scheme.

One of the recipients of ScienceFund is Hong Kai Sze, an engineering lecturer from the Faculty of Engineering and Science (FES) at the Kuala Lumpur Campus. His project on speech processing technology, entitled '*Malay Phoneme Recognition for Continuous Utterance*' was awarded the grant amounting close to RM49,000. Hong's project is under the Communication Systems and Network Research Cluster, one of the many research groups at UTAR.

On his project, Hong explained, "Speech processing technology has brought the convenience to human life. This technology enables us to communicate directly to machine/computer. Try imagining the scenario found in 'Star Wars' movies when robots can talk to human like friends. My research is trying to make that scenario a reality, particularly in Malay speech pattern. However, current research of Malay speech recognition system is only limited to isolated or connected utterances. The research aims to determine the suitable algorithm for

Malay continuous speech recognition system. The results of this research can be used for many real-life applications like automatic answering machine."

Hong has initiated collaborations with parties like Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore; Universiti Sains Malaysia and Multimedia Universiti for this project. It was with this collaboration that this UTAR researcher can share and learn many aspects of technology and language with other fellow researchers.



Hong at his workstation at FES.

Best AAPNA Poster Award for UTAR Researchers

On 26 November 2008, UTAR researchers were bestowed the Best APNNA Poster Award, an award held in conjunction with the 15th International Conference on Neural Information Processing of the Asia-Pacific Neural Network Assembly (ICONIP'08) in Auckland, New Zealand.

Asia-Pacific Neural Network Assembly (APNNA) is a major organisation of researchers and practitioners, specifically in neuro-information processing, neuro-computation, neuro-engineering and brain study.

Tou Jing Yi, Dr. Tay Yong Haur and Dr. Lau Phooi Yee who were part of the Computer Vision and Intelligent Systems research group at UTAR submitted their winning entry to the ICONIP'08 held in Auckland, New Zealand from 25 to 28 November 2008.

Their research paper which won them the award was entitled 'Gabor Filters as Feature Images for Covariance Matrix on Texture Classification Problem.'

Tou represented the group during the ICONIP'08 in New Zealand and was also present to receive the award on behalf of UTAR.

Tou explained, "Gabor Filters and Covariance Matrix are two common mathematic algorithms used in

detecting texture classifications. These mathematic algorithms assist in the development of a number of technological applications which require features such as wood species recognition, face detection and character detection. Examples of such applications are the well-known smart home and smart car applications."

"Our research proved that combining both of these mathematic algorithms would produce higher accuracy in texture classification as compared to utilising them individually," he said.



Tou (right), receiving the award from Professor Nikola Kasabov, President of APNNA.

UTAR, the Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers Perak (FMM Perak), KPerak INC Corporation (KPerak) and the Perak State Development Corporation (PSDC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 9 January 2009 at the Perak Menteri Besar's office in Ipoh.

Present to witness the MoU signing ceremony was Dato' Seri Ir. Haji Mohammad Nizar Jamaluddin, Menteri Besar of Perak Darul Ridzuan.

The MoU was signed by Engr. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik, UTAR President; Gan Tack Kong, Branch Chairman of FMM Perak; Dato' Yaakob Nordin, CEO of KPerak; and Dato' Samsudin Hashim, CEO of PSDC.

The significant tie-up between UTAR, FMM Perak, KPerak and PSDC acts as a jumpstart to initiate future joint projects involving collaborative research and commercialisation as well as consultancy and the sharing of expertise and joint development in research.

The MoU also facilitates the exchange of ideas and facilities among the four parties, including attachments and mutual visits by staff members who wish to pursue research, curriculum development and/or participate in seminars, conferences and workshops relevant to their respective industries.

The team-up will include arrangement of industrial study visits and exchanges by undergraduate, postgraduate, mature students and staff members of UTAR, FMM Perak, KPerak and PSDC where appropriate to enhance their learning experience,

UTAR, FMM Perak, KPerak and PSDC to Team-Up

professional development and knowledge of curriculum development.

In addition, the MoU also assists the application of candidates from FMM Perak, KPerak and PSDC to enrol in relevant postgraduate research and/or taught programmes at UTAR.

The four parties are working closely to encourage academic innovation by cooperating in the development of new teaching and learning technologies relevant to the industry. They will also be organising and participating in joint academic-industry collaborative activities such as conferences, workshops, publications and seminars.



The MoU signatories with the Menteri Besar (fourth from left).

SMART CCTVs FOR THE FUTURE

Closed-circuit television (CCTV) users may now look forward to welcoming a possible enhanced feature that will enable them to detect and recognise suspicious characters without the need for constant human supervision.

This ground-breaking technology is currently being developed by a team of researchers at UTAR, led by Assistant Professor Dr. Khor Siak Wang.

"My team is currently working on software modules that are capable of detecting and recognising suspicious characters so that the relevant parties can be alerted when necessary." He added, "The modules will analyse the image video content of the CCTV automatically to spot suspicious actions."

According to Dr. Khor, the research project would include methods such as artificial intelligence-related techniques and statistical methods.

"We have already started our research by capturing and analysing student movements on campus," shared Dr. Khor.

Dr. Khor explained, "Our research focus is on improving the existing computer vision technology abilities. Up till today, no one can produce 100%

accuracy in analysing image content. We hope that our research will discover ways to increase the level of accuracy in image content analysis so that we are able to create new and cutting-edge software modules that will enhance the CCTVs of tomorrow."

The research project is funded by the Ministry of Higher Education and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation.



Dr. Khor at his research station at UTAR.

Creative Writing Workshop

UTAR Centre for Extension Education in collaboration with the MPH organised a workshop on Creative Writing on 13 December 2008. The talk was conducted by Jim Plouffe, the editor-in-chief of *Reader's Digest Asia* and *Discovery Channel Magazine*.

"Creative writing is considered to be any writing, fiction or non-fiction, that goes outside the bounds of normal professional, scholastic, journalistic and technical forms of literature," Plouffe said.

Plouffe gave and quoted many references during this workshop. He explained the techniques of creative writing. He further elaborated on the forms of creative writing such as short story, novel, epic, poetry, screenwriting, autobiography/ memoir, and collaborative writing.

Towards the end of the workshop, the participants posed questions and expressed their desires to participate in the MPH-sponsored short creative writing contest.



Plouffe delivering his engaging talk.

China wants stability and progress, says Prof. Wang

Any lecture about China as a force to be reckoned with will definitely attract attention. What more if the speaker is Prof. Wang Gungwu, one of Asia's eminent scholar on China and also UTAR International Advisory Council's Chairman.

Prof. Wang presented a lecture on "The Emergence of China" at Menara Hap Seng, Kuala Lumpur, on 31 January 2009, spoke of how China had learned from its mistakes, the changes in its governance after the revolution, and what the state wanted in the next thirty years.

"The country is a different China across the board as they wanted to see economic growth and political stability. They are gearing themselves to the next level," Prof. Wang said.

Asked on the importance of the English Language in China by a member of the audience during the Q & A session, Prof. Wang commented, "English is one of the compulsory subjects in the National College Entrance Examination and many are learning English for better job prospects."

The lecture was attended by over 300 participants.



UTAR Welcomes New Students

A gamut of feelings surrounded the January 2009 UTAR's batch of over 1,000 freshmen from 25 programmes as they started their university life at the Perak Campus on 6 January 2009.

Students and parents from all over Malaysia and even overseas arrived at the campus as early as 7am for the registration of new students. Among them was Kimberly Martin, 19, a First Year Psychology student from Bali, Indonesia. She said, "This is the first time I stay on my own. I am looking forward to meeting new friends and enjoying my university life in this beautiful campus." Being the only child, her British father and Indonesian mother opted to stay for one month here to ensure that she has a smooth transition to her life in a new environment.

After the registration and briefing by the Deans, students attended the Mass Call which is part of UTAR tradition to welcome and solemnise new students into the UTAR community.

The Mass Call started with the introduction of UTAR President and the senior officials. UTAR President, Engr. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik congratulated the students and welcomed them to the University.

Prof. Chuah gave a presentation titled 'Your Academic Journey Within the KICT Era'. In his highly motivating presentation, he offered a few words of wisdom to the freshies. He advised UTAR students to work hard and be sincere in their studies. He said, "The purpose of entering university is to acquire knowledge and develop wisdom. Hard work and determination, full concentration and self-discipline are the secrets to obtaining a university degree."

Prof. Chuah also encouraged students to participate actively in extra curricular activities as well as soft skill development programmes. In conclusion, he urged the students to maximise their time at UTAR and make their university life an enriching and wholesome experience.

The mass call ended with the students' pledge towards the University and the nation as they embark on the adventure of learning and discovery at UTAR.



New students' registration.

Campus Adjustment Talk

To assist freshies who are nervous about starting university life, the Perak Campus counsellors, Liew Wai Yoon and Angus Ng Foo Yek from the Counselling Unit of UTAR Department of Student Affairs, presented the Campus Adjustment Talk on 7 January 2009 to a large group of UTAR freshies during the Orientation Week.

The creative presentation captured the attention of the students as the session started with a 45-minute drama acted by seniors who are peer helpers. The interesting drama portrayed six problems commonly faced by juniors; namely, psychological adjustment from being dependent to independent, academic issues, language barriers, financial concerns, interpersonal relationship and homesickness. Students were mesmerised by the drama as they identified themselves with the characters in the drama. The seniors shared their experience in overcoming their past adjustment problems with guidance from the counsellors.

The talk also introduced various counselling and guidance services provided by UTAR. These services are Peer Mentoring and Peer Helping Programme, Group and Individual Counselling, Movie Review as well as workshops on Career Guidance, Clay Therapy, Relaxation, EQ and No Apologies.

Students were invited to join the Peer Mentoring Programme which was a 'friends making friends' programme that connected the freshies to the seniors who acted as peer mentors. Peer mentors who have received a minimum of 10 hours of Basic Counselling Skills training will provide guidance to the freshmen by sharing their valuable experience in adapting to the campus life. This programme aims to create a caring community in UTAR where freshmen can always rely on their helpful and resourceful seniors who will provide support throughout the adjustment period.

At the end of the session, the students were asked to ponder how they are going to spend their university life. The crayons are now in their hands and it is up to them to colour their university life!



Ng (right) interacting with a freshman during the talk.

UTAR Freshmen Share the Fun and Laughter

Among the many activities organized during the Orientation Week, ice-breaking and telematch was a much-anticipated event. The Ice-Breaking and Telematch for the Perak Campus freshies was held on 7 January 2009 at the Sports Complex.

Bubbly UTAR freshies dressed in sports attire arrived as early as 7am. The event started with a welcome note and briefing on the telematch by the Chairman of the Ice-Breaking and Telematch committee, Chiam Chin Heng.

Shortly after that, the fun and games started when students were divided into groups. 15 game stations were located throughout the Sports Complex. Here, exciting games were played and they include passing bands, picking beans, blowing ping pong balls, cupping waters with hands and lots more. The stations were manned by the seniors and the participants were required to move from one station to the next station until they have finished all the games. Screams and cheers filled every corner of the Sports Complex. The event ended with a prize-giving ceremony for the winning teams.

Though the students were soaking wet, they enjoyed themselves very much. Besides instilling team spirit, this event provided opportunities for the freshies and seniors to interact and bond and most of all, to make new friends. Rajveen Kumar, 18, from Foundation in Arts, said, "This is really fun. We have a great time. I get to meet many new friends. It is a good start for me to the campus life."



Much to Learn at Talk on Integrity

As students enter the new world of tertiary education, their characters still need to be shaped and moral values taught to ensure that soon, they can become more reliable and ethical citizens tasked with the responsibility of running the country.

With that in mind, among the events held in conjunction with UTAR's January 2009 Orientation Week was a talk on *Integrity* was held at the Petaling Jaya Campus on 5 January 2009. Freshies from the Faculty of Creative Industries and Foundation in Science were present. The talk was facilitated by Nur Yuslinda Mohd Yusof, Assistant Manager from the Institut Integriti Nasional.

In her talk, Nur Yuslinda stressed on the importance of integrity to shape a person's character. She highlighted several disciplinary cases involving students from all levels in Malaysia which could be a worrying indicator on their moral values.

According to Nur Yuslinda, the education on integrity is part of the National Integrity Plan that strives to create top quality citizens through effective education for the nation's betterment. "In a nutshell, integrity relates to what one does which will not bring harm or shame to himself or herself," she said.

Nur Yuslinda reminded that as one matures, he or she should be able to think rationally and act based on one's integrity for whatever he or she has done cannot be undone.

Nur Yuslinda concluded her talk by advising the new students that they should uphold their integrity. It is hoped that with this kind of guidance, students will be exemplary citizens whom their parents, society and the nation are proud of.



Freshies learning about integrity during the talk.

Left: UTAR freshmen having a good time during their telematch at the Perak Campus in Kampar.

Blood Donation Drive During Orientation Week

UTAR Orientation Week also included blood donation drives at all four UTAR campuses among its events.

The blood donation drive at the Petaling Jaya Campus was organised from 12 - 13 January and 15 - 16 January.

The campaign was initiated by the First Aid Society and facilitated by Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC). Almost 400 donors took part in the event.

The donation drive drew not only UTAR freshies but also UTAR staff and senior students.

Being a first-time blood donor, Khor Jit Seng, 18, a Foundation in Science student at UTAR shared, "Of course I felt a bit scared about donating my blood at first. However, after donating my blood, I felt good

about it because I knew that I had made the right decision as my blood would be contributed to the needy."

Regular blood donor, Kho Chia Hui, 22, a second year Chinese Studies degree student said, "This is the fourth time that I have donated my blood. I normally donate my blood twice a year."

"I believe that everyone who is qualified to donate their blood should do so. Donating blood not only helps to save lives, it will also help the donors to produce new blood to make their bodies healthier."

All donors received a certificate of appreciation from UMMC, goody bags and refreshments in return for their contribution.



Students participating in the drive having their blood harvested.

Let's Go Green - It Starts Now

'Let's Go Green' was the theme for the Eco-Friendly Campaign, organised by UTAR Community Service Society in conjunction with the Orientation Week, which kicked off on 12 - 16 January 2009 at the Heritage Hall of the Perak Campus.

This Campaign aimed to create awareness on preserving and conserving the environment among UTAR students, encourage eco-friendly lifestyle and practices such as 3R - Reuse, Reduce and Recycle in their daily life and nurture the love for the environment.

In line with this mission, several activities such as plant adoption, movie and video review, photo-taking contest, eco-friendly carnival and exhibition were featured to convey the message in an interactive way.

At the entrance, there was the 'green tunnel' which displayed exhibition on green living ideas, green skincare and beauty, the effects of global warming, and environmental issues. At another corner, plant adoption campaign took place to encourage students to buy a plant and nurture it.

Students were seen participating actively in the three games at the fun-filled Eco-Carnival. The three games, 'Fish the Tins', 'Treasure Pot' and 'Circle

Throwing' used recycled materials. At the same time, relevant video clips and environment-themed films such as 'An Inconvenient Truth' and 'The Day After Tomorrow' were shown throughout the five-day event.

With the passion for the environment, Bong Yi Cheng, Chairman of Eco-Friendly Campaign Organising Committee, said, "We have a great interaction with students during the campaign. I hope that this campaign will increase the concern on the environment we are living in and what we can do to improve it."



The green tunnel leading towards the exhibition.

Learning Safety and Crime Prevention the Interactive Way

A Safety Campaign held during the Orientation Week at the Perak Campus featured various activities and exhibition aimed at promoting and enhancing the awareness on safety and crime prevention among UTAR students.

In line with the Campaign objectives, it featured several mini games such as Medical Emergency Workshop, Fire Safety Prevention, Home Safety or CPR.

The campaign also featured an exhibition showcasing information on crime preventive measures both inside and outside campus, self-defence and personal safety, crime survival tips, importance of CPR and the Rakan Cop. The highlight was the mobile fire safety exhibition held in a bus by the Exhibition Unit of Balai Bomba dan Penyelamat Kampar which attracted a large number of curious UTAR staff and students.

In addition, a series of talks were conducted by speakers from the Police Department as well as UTAR Department of Safety and Security.

Another enlightening and interesting session was conducted by Sarjan Idris from the Kampar Fire Station. He demonstrated methods of using a fire extinguisher and carried out some games related to fire safety.

Sarjan Hassan from the Rakan Cop presented a talk on the benefits of being a Rakan Cop member. At the end of the session, several students registered as Rakan Cop members to play an active role in crime prevention as part of their contribution towards the community.



Sarjan Idris from Kampar Fire Station highlighting ways to prevent fire accidents.

Spooky Introduction to Fun at UTAR

UTAR freshies were welcomed with a concert that had a spooky introduction at the Petaling Jaya Campus on 7 January 2009, an event organised by the Department of Student Affairs.

At the entrance to the concert venue, UTAR freshies were seen exchanging confused glances when they discovered that the entrance was draped in black curtains. Nevertheless, they gingerly parted the curtains and walked into the concert venue. Not knowing what to expect, they then found themselves walking through a creepy dark tunnel filled with scary noises and bats' call all the way to a hall which was pitch-black. Much to their surprise, the stage later lit up to display beautiful angel decorations on stage and hence, marked the start of the concert.

UTAR freshies were entertained by a string of interesting performances which helped to introduce them to the various clubs and societies available at Petaling Jaya Campus. Among the performances were modern and classical dances, singing and wushu performances.

After the performances, the freshies had fun with games lined up for them. They also watched a comical video presentation specially produced by their seniors to assist them in familiarising themselves with the favourite hangout places of UTAR students and nice eating areas nearby the campus.

In explaining the reason behind the theme of the concert, Patt Hon Tong, 21, Chairman of the Organising Committee for the Concert said, "After secondary school, many students feel insecure about their future. We portrayed this feeling by creating a creepy tunnel leading to the dark concert hall."

"As the students begin their education at UTAR, they start to discover their interests, talents and abilities to subsequently carve a bright future for themselves. This brings meaning to the angel decorations that we had on stage," he added.



Wushu demonstration during the concert.

UTAR Song Competition

A team comprising one UTAR staff and three Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) students emerged as the overall champion in the finale of UTAR Song Competition held on 17 January 2009 at Heritage Hall, Perak Campus.

The song titled 'One Vision, One Passion' was composed by Lim Boon Keong, an FAM tutor who was also a UTAR alumnus and founder of FAM Music Society. His team included three Final Year Business students - Goh Siew Li (Business Administration), Lok How Wae (Financial Economics) and Leong Tze Hoe (Banking and Finance).

Filled with excitement, Lim said, "I did not expect to win. I just spent a few hours writing the songs and submitted two entries. I try to compose some catchy and simple music with lyrics emphasising the love for UTAR."

10 finalists had the chance to showcase their talent and got their songs heard and judged by three music industry professionals. They were Melissa Indot, Malaysian-born and London-bred producer, song writer and singer; Lim Thiam Voon, a Fm988 DJ; and Au Hoi Kiang, a part-time KTAR lecturer.

'UTAR My Choice' which was composed by Fan Ya Fu won the Best Rhythm award and the Best Lyrics award went to the song 'UTAR: Realising Dreams, Attaining Successes' with the lyrics written by Ooi Jieun Vei. The winners received hampers, trophies plus CDs and posters of Melissa Indot.

Fan Ya Fu, a Final Year Public Relations student who is also the vocal trainer for Petaling Jaya Campus Music Society, enthused, "I want to come up with something simple, a memorable tune and music that conveys patriotic feeling. Based on these ideas, I wrote 'UTAR My Choice'." He credited the success to his close-knit team.

Ivan Ooi, who won the Best Lyrics award for the song titled 'UTAR: Realizing Dreams, Attaining Successes' said, "While helping to hang banner for the competition, someone challenged me with an irresistible offer. That motivated me to join this competition."



The finalists with Engr. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik (in batik shirt), UTAR President, after the prize-giving ceremony.

Crime Prevention Talk and Demo

A student was walking back from his campus, mind distracted as he had his MP3 player plugged into his ears. Suddenly, a snatch thief roughly took his bag. Immediately screaming for help, two strangers came to his aid and managed to apprehend the thief. They then called the police who congratulated the good Samaritans for their joint effort in fighting the crime.

That was a scene played out which shocked students and staff alike before the Crime Prevention Talk held at the Sungai Long Campus on 13 January 2009. A similar talk was also held on 15 January at the same campus to another set of audience. Organised by UTAR Department of Safety and Security and the Student Representative Committee, the talks drew students' attention on the need to fight crimes and knowing what to do in case they become victims of crimes.

The invited speaker, Sarjan Shalizar Zainal from the Sungai Long police station imparted useful information to students to help them avoid being victims of crime. "Crime happens when opportunities strike, such as when the potential victims show off their valuables, when a place is packed with people, when items such as handbags can be easily snatched, and when victims are preoccupied with different tasks at the same time," Sarjan Shalizar pointed out.

Sarjan Shalizar advised the audience to be alert at all times. Among the tips that he shared were:

- To conceal their money in separate places and carry just enough cash for whatever expenses they plan.
- To not wear too much jewellery or give the impression of wearing/carrying valuable items.
- To be alert at all times of potential crimes.
- To not rush in completing tasks at places with many people, as one may unintentionally let his/her guard down.
- To hold their bags tightly.
- To keep police contacts handy.



A sketch demonstrated by some students on crime fighting.

UTAR PARTNERS WITH MOKPO NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, SOUTH KOREA

UTAR and Mokpo National University (MNU), South Korea signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 6 February 2009 at the Petaling Jaya Campus.

UTAR President Engr. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik who was present to welcome the MNU President and officials said, "MNU is the first Korean university to sign an MoU with UTAR. Thus, it is a great honour for UTAR to be able to sign this MoU."

MNU President Prof. Ihm Byung-Sun said, "I am deeply impressed by the amazing growth that UTAR has shown despite being a young university."

The MoU was signed by both Presidents. This unique partnership will act as a framework for both Universities to initiate joint projects in the areas of international research, the sharing of expertise and also in the development of researches.

The MoU also provides expanded opportunities for students from UTAR and MNU to enhance their learning experience by making it possible for them to participate in study visits and exchange programmes.

During the MoU signing ceremony, MNU extended a warm invitation for UTAR to send its students to their *Korean Language and Cultural Training Programme* organised by MNU in Korea.

"The *Korean Language and Cultural Training Programme* is a programme specially organised for students from MNU's sister universities to learn about the Korean language as well as its traditional and contemporary cultures. Participation to the programme is free. Food and accommodation will be provided free. The only thing that students will need to pay to attend this programme is their airfare to Korea," said Prof. Ihm.

The significant tie-up between UTAR and MNU also underpins academic development exchanges between both Universities such as initiating mutual visits by faculty members to pursue research and teaching as well as enabling them to participate in seminars, conferences and workshops.



Prof. Ihm (left) and Prof. Chuah at the MoU signing ceremony.

Chinese New Year Fiesta at Sungai Long Campus



Committee members working together in putting up the exhibition.

From 19-22 January 2009, the Sungai Long Campus Asian Cultural Society organised the Chinese New Year Fiesta.

The objective of this Chinese New Year Fiesta was to share cultural information among UTAR community and to enable students to gain knowledge about the culture and tradition during the Chinese New Year celebration. This event was aim to strengthen the bond between students and lecturers and to create an enjoyable atmosphere for everyone.

An exhibition was held at the South Lobby where committee members put up exhibits related to the Chinese culture and Chinese New Year celebration. Among them were materials related to the lion dance as well as wushu. Students also posted their New Year wishes and dedication written on coloured papers on a Dedication Board. Videos and New Year songs were played throughout the Fiesta.

拉曼大学与国立木浦大学携手合作

拉曼大学与韩国国立木浦大学于2009年2月6日在拉曼大学八打灵再也校园签署了合作备忘录。

这项合作备忘录将让两所大学在教学、学习与研究的范畴上，建立起更紧密的合作关系。

签署备忘录的代表分别是拉曼大学校长蔡贤德教授和国立木浦大学校长任炳善教授。这项签署仪式由拉曼大学国际与院际关系部主任张秋祥先生以及国立木浦大学国际交流教育院副院长白智淑教授见证。

蔡贤德教授热烈地欢迎韩国来宾，并向他们简单地介绍拉曼大学的背景。蔡教授表示，能够和国立木浦大学合作感到非常荣幸。这是拉曼大学第一次和韩国的大学签署合作备忘录。他也希望未来可以和国内外的大专院校建立更多的合作关系。

任炳善教授对拉曼大学在过去七年的迅速发展表示钦佩。接着，他向出席者简略地介绍了国立木浦大学。任教授说：“国立木浦大学建立于1946年，位于韩国西南部，目前拥有约12000位学生。国立木浦大学拥有六个学院，包括文学院、社会科学院、自然科学院、工学院、经营学院和生活科学艺术体育学院，涵盖人文历史、自然、工学、经济贸易等55个学科。此外，国立木浦大学亦拥有多所研究中心。”

他补充：“国际合作关系将使国立木浦大学成为卓越的大学。合作备忘录对学术发展、研究与人才交流是很重要的。”

是项备忘录将有助于双联研究、人才交流等方面的合作。为促进两所大学的学术发展，双方将举行系列活动，如教员互访、参与研讨会、讲座和工作坊等。

白教授也介绍了国立木浦大学开办的两个课程，分别是韩语与文化培训课程和韩语短期课程。前者是一项为期十天至两个星期的免费课程；后者则是为期五个星期的付费课程。虽然两个课程皆设定开课时间与收生限额，但是白教授强调，这些都是可以依情况而作更改的。其他合作计划还包括学生交换计划。这样一来，双方大学的学生可借此丰富他们的学习体验。此外，双方大学也将举办学生拜访计划。两所大学的校友及职员在申请双方大学的研究生课程上也将获得有关方面的协助。

何启良教授专题演讲

拉曼大学中华研究中心访问教授暨新加坡南洋理工大学人文与社会科学院副教授何启良博士于2008年12月10日为我校学生主讲题为“历史的错配：林语堂与南洋大学”的讲座。是项讲座在拉曼大学举行，并由我校中文系教授林水榭博士主持。

南洋大学（简称南大）是中国大陆、台湾和港澳以外唯一一所中文为教学媒介语的高等学府，由新加坡福建会馆主席陈六使率先倡议创办，并获得新马及东南亚各地华人的支持。提起南大的创办过程，必提及林语堂——南大的首任校长。大学校长地位举足轻重，作为第一任校长的林语堂理应得到后人的赞赏与歌颂，然而，事实并非如此。

是故，向来对研究文化人物有兴趣的何启良博士针对这现象展开了研究，寻找林语堂在南大的历史定位，重新评说这件事。林语堂于1954年出任南大校长，在翌年4月离职，前后仅半年。有人认为，他走马上任的时间虽然短暂，却成为南大校史里无法回避的“污点”。他与南大之间的是是非非被喻为“林语堂事件”，被认为是让华人社会和知识界蒙羞的事。

何博士说，在研究林语堂与南洋大学之事件时，他理出了一些谜团。他无意为林语堂平反，但这些谜团让他质疑林语堂是否如《南洋大学创校史》里写的那样，是个“人格卑鄙无真才实学更无资格办大学的丧心病狂文棍”？

何博士将之称为历史的错配，并从办学理念、职权分配、政治拟态、文化离异和土地隔膜等层面来讨论此事的前因后果。然后，他分析了“后林语堂的南大”和“后南大的林语堂”的局限与问题，最后点出“林语堂事件”对南大的历史意义。何博士发表完后，也有自由讨论环节，供出席者提出他们的疑问。这场为时两个钟头的讲座让出席者以另一个角度看待林语堂，以及他和南洋大学之间的纠葛。

何启良教授的另一场讲座于12月18日晚上8时，在拉曼大学B座第三讲堂举行。是场讲座由星洲日报和拉曼大学中华研究中心联办，题为“中国与东南亚关系：外交演变？区域变迁？未来展望”。当晚的主持人是星洲日报总主笔罗正文。

何教授在讲座中论述东盟国家，对中国从负面到正面的外交态度：从怀疑、对话到合作和成为策略伙伴的过程。另外，他也谈及了亚细安组织与东南亚区域变迁及亚细安、中国与东南亚共同体的未来展望。他还谈及中国对东南亚地区、日本和韩国的短期与长期影响。



左图：主持人林教授（右）与何教授于“历史的错配：林语堂与南洋大学”讲座上。



右图：主持人罗正文（左）和何启良教授于“中国与东南亚关系：外交演变？区域变迁？未来展望”讲座上。

ACCA-UTAR联合奖学金颁奖礼

拉曼大学与特许公认会计师公会 (The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, 简称ACCA) 于2009年2月11日上午十时在拉曼大学八打灵再也校区颁发奖学金给两位正在拉曼大学延续教育中心攻读ACCA专业资格课程的学生。

拉曼大学校长拿督蔡贤德教授说：“我很感谢ACCA多年来对拉曼大学的支持。和ACCA的合作协议让我校会计学系的学生得以在ACCA专业资格考试的14份试卷中，豁免应考九份试卷。这样一来，我校学生只须考完并通过ACCA专业资格考试里的五份试卷，就可成为特许公认会计师。”

蔡教授还打趣说，由于会计师非常重要。因此就算在这么不景气的环境里，他们也毋须担心失业。“迄今共有2365位学生从拉曼大学会计学系毕业。一些学生在国际会计公司任职，如德勤会计师事务所 (Deloitte)、安永会计师事务所 (Ernst & Young) 等。由于我们的会计学系获得国家学术鉴定局的认可和公共服务局的承认，因此一些学生亦在国家银行、内陆税收局等政府机构工作。”

ACCA马来西亚区域的总执行长 (Country Head ACCA Malaysia) 叶先生也出席了颁奖仪式。他说：“这个联合奖学金是ACCA和拉曼大学合作的其中一部分，以奖励杰出的学生。”

“机会”向来是ACCA强调的核心价值。我们的宗旨是提供教育机会给全世界有这方面才能的人。目前ACCA在170个国家拥有122000名会员和325000名学员。不管这些学生住在哪里或学习什么，ACCA都会以同样的标准来鉴定他们的能力，那就是ACCA专业资格考试。”

“ACCA和拉曼大学的合作带来了很好的成果。ACCA衷心希望可以继续和拉曼大学合作。”最后，他勉励会计学系的学生力争上游，让ACCA和他们的母校以他们为荣。

是项奖学金得主是拉曼大学会计学系的毕业生黄小玲和宋翠芬。目前她们在拉曼大学延续教育中心攻读ACCA专业资格课程。她们分别获得马币五千令吉的奖学金。这笔奖学金将帮助她们缴付ACCA资格专业课程的学费和免考试费。

来自檳城的黄小玲感谢拉曼大学和ACCA，让她有机会获得这份奖学金。从小就喜欢数学的她，自中学开始就立志要成为会计师，如今能够获得奖学金让她感到非常高兴。

现年23岁的宋翠芬亦表示很开心可以得到这份奖学金。她相信，这份奖学金将成为她迈向光明前途的踏脚石。而且这项课程获得国际认可，因此也可帮助她走向世界。

目前身在吉隆坡工作的她们希望将来可以成为特许公认会计师，而这份奖学金将帮助她们完成梦想。



(左起) 叶先生、吴博士、黄小玲、宋翠芬和蔡教授于礼后合影。

用眼睛聆听声音



张先生与其研究助理和学生合影。

拉曼大学获得马来西亚科学、工艺及革新部的研究基金，进行“聋哑残障人士中文文字语音转换器”研究。这项研究由拉曼大学资讯与通讯科技学院教员张运华先生、曾慧汶博士、黄慧娴小姐和张志辉先生领导。

研究的宗旨是设计出能够让聋哑残障人士使用的通信产品，为残障人士打造友善的环境。此外，他们也期望可以开发新的中文书写与语音识别系统。

随着信息科技的发展，许多产品如电脑、手机等已非常普及。正当我们享受着信息科技带来的便利，并视之为理所当然

时，却忽略了重要的一点：信息通信技术并没有惠及围绕在我们的残疾朋友。根据联合国统计，全球有约10%人口是残疾人士，使用电话的残疾人士少过残疾人口的50%。历史最悠久的国际组织——国际电信联盟于1969年开始将每年的5月17日定为“世界电信及社会信息日”。去年，国际电信联盟将主题设为“让信息通信技术惠及残疾人士”，希望借此鼓励设计和生产残疾人士使用的信息通信技术服务和设备，让科技真正惠及每个人。

询及激发他进行此研究的原因，张先生娓娓道来他的故事：“我在大学读书时首次接触残障人士。当时班上有一位视障同学找人代读，于是我便登记成为代读学生。这个经验让我深深了解到视障人士的不便。因此我开始思考，要如何改善他们的学习情况？碍于当时缺乏解决这些问题所需的知识与资源，最后便不了了之。”硕士毕业后，张先生在进行一项研究时接触到影像处理 (Image Processing) 技术。他意识到这项技术在解决视障人士学习问题上的发展潜能，于是决定了一个具体的研究项目——研发视障人士的电子眼睛。

“我与同事深入讨论后，发现这项研究需要多方面的技术和庞大的基金，难度很高。”因此，他决定转变研究方向，即解决聋哑人士利用现代科技，如手机与常人沟通的问题。

张先生解释，目前市面上也有类似的产品，如由美国华裔蓝海伟创立的“TTS计算机文字语音转换程序”和精工爱普生公司开发的“Fonix文字语音转换芯片”等。前者是单向的固定式程序，只能将文字转换成语音，且只读取电脑上的文字；后者同样只能将文字转换成语音，且仅辨识标准字体。重要的是，这两款产品都不适合聋哑人士使用。

是故，他要建立新的文字和语音认证方式并改进上述产品的不足。他说：“我们研发的是双向程序，即可将文字转换成语音，也可将语音转换成文字。我们希望受惠的对象不仅是聋哑人士，也包括视障人士。它的用法很简单：当一个聋哑人士用手机和常人沟通时，可先在手机上插入这个装置。不论他的通话对象说什么，都可立刻将之转换成文字。要作出回答时，他可在手机上写下要说的话，它就会将文字转换成语音。它亦适合记者和文字工作者使用。相较于其他产品，我们的对象范围更广。”

此研究也获得大马联邦聋哑协会的支持。这项研究计划的研究员由我校硕士生担任。三位该院的本科生亦参与研究，作为他们的毕业报告。此计划预计费时一年半，目前已完成部分程序研究。他乐观地说：“进行研究总会遇到难题，不过我们会设法解决它。”

预防胜于治疗— 拉曼大学安全醒觉运动

近年来治安每况愈下，不管白天或黑夜，罪案层出不穷。为了提高我校学生对个人安全的意识，并学习各种防范措施，拉曼大学学生代表委员会于2009年1月12日和13日，一连两天在八打灵再也校区的创意产业学院和基础课程中心举办安全醒觉运动（Safety Campaign）。

安全醒觉运动筹备委员会主席陈婉敏说，这项运动涵盖人为灾害如道路事故、火灾及罪案如攫夺、抢劫、偷车等方面的资料和预防措施。此运动的标语是“Be aware, Be Prepare, Be Safe”。

安全醒觉运动筹备委员会邀请了消防员到基础课程中心进行消防演习。两位消防员指导在场的学生使用灭火器的正确方法，同时提醒他们，发生火灾时尽可能使用合乎规格的灭火器。为了让我校学生更了解灭火器的用法，消防员也让现场几位学生尝试使用灭火器灭火。

此外，这次的运动也得到八打灵再也区警察局的支持。常言道：“马路如虎口”，根据世界卫生组织的《防止道路交通伤害世界报告》，每年有120万人死于交通事故，5000万人伤残。为了让我校学生了解危险驾驶的后果，该局设立了安全驾驶展览，张贴许多车祸的照片，以期恐怖的画面能警惕学生要小心驾驶。

现为精算学系三年级学生的她说：“我们还邀请了马来西亚预防犯罪基金会参与这个运动。该基金会提供我们有关个人安全、居家安全、女性安全等小册子，让我们派送给学生，借此提高他们在相关方面的意识。”

陈同学补充：“我们也准备了常识比赛，问题主要和基本的安全知识和防范措施有关。若参赛者答对，可得到一个装有预防各种罪案和灾害的措施的小册子礼品袋。”

安全醒觉运动筹备委员会于去年末已开始筹备这次的运动。陈同学说：“正如标语所说的，我们希望本校学生能够从这次的运动中了解并学习各种安全措施，做好准备。这样，遇到危险时便能安全地脱离。”

赵劲雄现就读于文科基础课程。本身驾驶摩托车的他表示，由警方设立的展览确实可以起到警惕的作用，因为那些照片非常恐怖。不过他认为，若可加入有关刑罚的说明，那么警惕的效果相信会更显著。



消防员指导我校学生使用灭火器。

爱护地球，从拉曼大学开始

拉曼大学社区服务学会于2009年1月12日与13日在创意产业学院和基础课程中心举办环保运动（eco-friendly campaign）。

环保运动筹备委员会主席黄燕灵表示：“活动的宗旨是让我校学生了解环保的重要性，让他们认识自然灾害和人为污染的危害性，并学习亲近大自然。”他们准备了一系列活动，如视频展示、迷你游戏、问答比赛和展览会，让学生参与。

现为应用数学与电脑计算系学生的她表示：“迷你游戏有两种，分别传达不同的讯息。第一项游戏是捞取盆里的东西。我们先在一盆混浊脏脏的水里放置一些小东西，再要求参加者将它们捞出来。这个游戏主要提醒学生要爱护河流。若河流也像盆里的水般肮脏，就很难看清楚河里的东西，更甭说是要捞起它们了。第二个游戏是滚球，球和瓶子是用可循环物品做的。既不花钱，又能从中得到玩游戏的快乐是这个游戏的目的。”

她是社区服务学会的文书。她说：“我们的视频主要展示河流污染、循环物品、世界天灾等片段；问答比赛的问题则和环保知识有关，让参赛者在作答时能够学习到一些保护环境的小常识。”

此活动最特别的地方要数展览会。黄同学说：“展览会是以看图片说故事的方式呈献。故事从干净漂亮的景色和成群的动物开始。不久人类出现了，并且蓄意污染这些地方和杀害它们。最后这些漂亮的景色不复存在，动物也灭亡了。这个故事让同学们了解人们的所做所为如何伤害大自然和动物，同时警惕他们，不要犯下这些错误。”



一位学生正在示范迷你游戏的玩法。



许多社团用心地布置摊位，以吸引学生加入。

拉曼大学的学 会招生周

配合拉曼大学迎新周，许多学会和社团于2009年1月12日至16日，一连五天在理工学院、会计与管理学院、基础课程中心和创意产业学院设立摊位，以吸引学生加入。

参与的社团组织包括学术性与非学术性学会，如工商行政系学会、工程系学会、基督教会、兴都教会、舞蹈学会、瑜珈学会、象棋社、跆拳道学会、手工艺学会、戏剧与演讲学会、音乐社和社区服务学会等。

基督教会主席曾媛铃表示，他们的目标并不仅限于新生，旧生也可以加入他们。现就读于英文系三年级的她：“我们会在创意产业学院、资讯与通讯科技学院、基础课程中心和会计与管理学院摆设摊位。我们期望可吸纳更多会员，也借此提升基督教会的名声。”

音乐社主席毕汉东说：“我们在创意产业学院和资讯与通讯科技学院设

摊位。不过，由于人手不足，所以只能各摆设三天。我们希望能吸引更多学生加入。”现为精算学系二年级学生的他表示，他们从2008年12月中已开始着手筹备这个招生活动。所谓“一分耕耘，一分收获”，长时间的准备带来了丰硕的成果。“同学们的反应很热烈。我们招揽了不少同学加入。”

一些社团也举办活动，以达到宣传效果。急救学会就是其中一例。急救学会主席沈建扬表示：“配合招生活动，我们举办了捐血运动和健康检查运动。前来捐血的同学将认识这个学会，想加入这个学会的同学也会去捐血。这样就能得到双赢的结果。”这三个活动皆同时举行，为期四天。

拉曼大学鼓励学生参与各种课外活动。透过此活动，学生不仅能全面地认识我校的社团组织，也借此提高参与课外活动的兴趣。

施比“收”有福 – 陈千祥医生的贡献

小时候，父母总是告诫我们，不可以把书本放在地上；不可从书本上走过；更不可踩书本。当时，小小的脑袋不明白个中的理由，只知道听从父母的话。长大后才知道，由于父母自小没机会接受完好的教育，因此对书本总是有着一份执著。这些“禁忌”，其实是对书本的尊重，也是对知识的尊重。2008年出版的第二期《海外文摘》中有这么一段话：每一本好书都是对历史的沉淀、对智慧的提炼和对人生经验的总结。对一本书的尊重，体现的是对一种文化的尊重。优秀的人类文化成就是不分国界的，它是我们整个人类都需要传承的精神瑰宝。对待它们的态度，间接地折射着这个民族整体的文化素质和文明程度。

自从马来西亚政府于60年代初制定《义务教育法》，对6至15岁的儿童实行全民义务教育后，人民接受教育的机会便增加了。上学，不再是遥不可及的事情。

现年75岁的陈千祥医生是我国名人陈振永之幼子。生于富裕之家的他，自然得以接受良好教育。不过，他对待书本的态度并不亚于任何一个爱书的人。是的，他爱书，尊重书，也珍惜书。看到别人糟蹋书本，他就会很生气：“这简直是在破坏书本！”

他的家族府第坐落于Jalan Taylor（现称Jalan Istana），今为马来西亚最高元首第一官邸。在偌大的房子里，他的父亲辟出两个房间充当图书馆，购置了很多书。不过陈医生看书的嗜好并不完全是受到父母的影响。面容慈祥的他说：“我的父母不认识字，也没有特别鼓励我看书。其实，打从懂事以来我就爱看书，这大概是与生俱来的吧！”让他开始接触书本的，是哥哥。“小时候，我身体不太好，总是卧在病榻上。于是，我哥哥就买了很多书给我看，让我打发时间。”

陈医生收集的书籍种类繁多，本身阅读的书籍类型也包罗万象。爽朗的他呵呵地笑着说：“其实我什么书都爱看。除了有关医药和生意的书籍，历史、园艺、烹饪这些书我也爱看。不过，我不太喜欢小说。”

陈医生认为，书籍就像生活的一部分，“阅读不仅可以增加我的知识，也帮助我放松身心，平衡我的生活。”

拥有一个如此爱书的父亲，孩子们是否也受影响呢？谈及这点，陈医生坦言，他的孩子并不像他那么喜欢看书。他说：“我想科技的发展可能会影响他们的阅读习惯。不过，你要知道，这种东西是无法遗传的。我也不会强迫他们，毕竟每个人都有自己的选择啊！”

陈医生收藏书籍的历史，可追溯到1954年。当时他负笈英国剑桥大学攻读自然科学（病理学），以两年的时间完成学业并考获荣誉学位。随后他在盖伊医院（Guy's Hospital）受训。这段时期，他因思乡而大量选购由新加坡和马来西亚等地出版的书籍，或内容与亚洲（尤其是新马、中国）有关的书籍。自此，他便一手建立起自己的“书籍王国”。由于不间断地收集，50余年后的今天，陈医生珍藏的书籍数量，只能用恒河沙数来形容，当中有许多更是罕见及已绝版的。难能可贵是，他将之捐献出来，让更多人有机会阅读这些历史书籍。从2006年始，陈千祥医生便陆续大量捐赠他多年珍藏书籍予拉曼大学图书馆。迄今他已捐赠了约2000本书籍给拉曼大学图书馆，当中包括：有关马来半岛及印度尼西亚的荷兰货币史，由H. C. Miles撰著、1871年出版的《*Enquiry Into the Native Coins of the Indian Archipelago and the Malay Peninsula*》及《*Recherches Sur Les Monnaies Des Indigenes De L'archipel Indien Et De La Peninsule Malaie*》；马来半岛社会人物写照，如由W. G. Stirling撰著、1926年出版的

《*Shadows on a Malayan screen*》；十六世纪葡萄牙人在亚洲的事迹，如1954年出版的

《*Documentacao Para A Historia Das Missoes Do Padroado Portugues Do Oriente*》；马来半岛活跃的华人及穆斯林秘密组织，如由Mervyn Llewelyn Wynne撰著、1941年出版的《*Triad and Tabut: A Survey of the Origin and Diffusion of Chinese and Mohamedan Secret Societies in the Malay Peninsula A.D. 1800-1935*》。

除了这些珍贵书籍，其他有关东南亚历史的还有《*Southeast Asian Tribes, Minorities, and Nations*》；马来亚历史方面的有《*The New Malayan Nation: A Study of Communalism and Nationalism*》；新加坡历史方面的则有《*Singapore goes off the Air*》；中国历史方面的书籍有《*Red Star over China*》；中国艺术方面有《*The Arts of the Ming Dynasty*》；有关中国玉器者有《*Chinese Jade throughout the Ages: A review of its Characteristics, Decoration, Folklore, and Symbolism*》；中国陶瓷方面的则有《*Blue-and-White Chinese Porcelain: A Study of Form*》等等。2009年1月中，陈医生再度捐赠两箱书籍予拉曼大学图书馆，包括一册由马来亚出版的第一本，也是当今全球唯一一本雕刻版中文书——《受灾学义论说》。这本书于1819年出版，内容主要是给予马六甲人民关于灾难的知识与劝告。

既然对书如此着迷，且又是珍贵的书籍，陈医生怎么舍得割爱呢？询及这点，他笑说：“我年纪大了，这些书需要一个能够妥当保管它们的家。我想拉曼大学图书馆是个非常合适的地方。另外，我也希望下一代有机会阅读它们。”

为了让这些书籍得到最完善的照顾，拉曼大学图书馆将之存于特别藏书室，并置之闭架，只供馆内内借之用。陈医生承诺，日后还会继续捐献书籍给拉曼大学图书馆。此等善举让拉曼大学的教职员和学生受惠无穷，因为这些书籍将是学者、研究员及学生的无价资源。



陈医生手中拿着的是当今世界上唯一的雕刻版中文书《受灾学义论说》。



图中所示为陈医生捐赠的一部分珍贵书籍，如今皆被妥善安置于拉曼大学图书馆。