

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

- UTAR Establishes Strategic Link with University of Ottawa** 3
- FEGT and Industry Players Discuss Green Issues** 5
- Talk on 'Kidney Care' Enlightens UTARians** 6
- Cradle Fund Ideas towards Commercialisation** 9
- Freshmen Flaunt Their Talents** 11
- 拉曼生社区服务团 助提升乡区教育水平** 15
- 设计系毕业生 PrimeTime展才华** 16

UTAR and MMU Collaborate to Advance Education and Research



Senior officials of UTAR and MMU with Tun Dr. Siti Hasmah, Tun Dr. Ling Liong Sik and Toh Puan Ena Ling.

Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) and Multimedia University (MMU) achieved another milestone in their inter-institutional collaboration efforts when both parties marked their alliance with a document exchange ceremony held at UTAR Perak Campus in Kampar on 3 June 2010.

The ceremony saw UTAR President Ir. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik exchanging the Memorandum of Understanding with MMU Vice President (R&D) Prof. Dr. Tou Teck Yong, who represented MMU President Prof. Dr. Zaharin Yusoff.

MMU Chancellor Tun Dr. Siti Hasmah graced the significant event as the Guest of Honour. She was received by UTAR Council Chairman Tun Dr. Ling Liong Sik, Toh Puan Ena Ling, Prof. Chuah, senior officials and students.

The event started with a video presentation entitled "UTAR Perak Campus: From Tin Mines to Modern Campus" that highlighted the development of UTAR from a vast ex-tin mining land to a full-fledged university campus with modern facilities and a conducive environment for academic and research pursuits.

In his welcoming speech, Prof. Chuah said, "Today's exchange of MoU establishes a closer relationship between UTAR and MMU that will spark a plethora of synergistic opportunities in research and academic engagement."

Prof. Chuah added, "The resulting energy of leveraging strengths, complementarities and intellectual diversity between UTAR and MMU will further contribute towards the advancement of a knowledge-based and innovation-driven economy."

Prof. Dr. Tou said there would be a lot of common ground that UTAR and MMU could work on for mutual benefit. He added that the formation of synergistic links between UTAR and MMU would provide an exciting platform to capitalise on the strengths of respective institutions and work towards integration of related activities.

After the ceremony, Tun Dr. Siti Hasmah and the MMU officials were taken for a tour around the UTAR Perak Campus.

UTAR CAMPUSES

Petaling Jaya Campus

(KPT/JPS/DFT/US/B07)

13 Jalan 13/6

46200 Petaling Jaya
Selangor Darul Ehsan

Kuala Lumpur Campus

(KPT/JPS/DFT/US/W05)

Jalan Genting Kelang
53300 Kuala Lumpur

Sungai Long Campus

(KPT/JPS/DFT/US/B12)

Lot PT 21144

Jalan Sungai Long
Bandar Sg. Long
Cheras, 43000 Kajang

Perak Campus

(KPT/JPS/DFT/US/A04)

Jalan Universiti
Bandar Barat
31900 Kampar

UTAR Synergises with SMEs/SMIs to Promote Academia-Industry Collaborations



FMM members with UTAR staff.

Recognising academia-industry collaborations as an integral component underpinning the University's relevance to industry, UTAR and Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM Perak) jointly organised a meeting on 26 May 2010.

The purposeful meeting was attended by 27 representatives from 17 SMEs/SMIs such as Asia Printed Circuit Sdn. Bhd. and Choo Bee Metal Industries Bhd.

UTAR President Ir. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik welcomed the visitors and briefed the meeting on the development of UTAR. He said that UTAR Perak Campus would be graduating its first batch of students in March 2011 and invited the companies to participate in the upcoming UTAR Career Fair in October 2010. He added that UTAR was planning to implement extended industrial training to ensure long-term benefits to industry and students.

UTAR Vice President (R&D and Commercialisation) Prof. Dr. Lee Sze Wei, in his opening speech, emphasised that UTAR aimed to be much more than a simple purveyor of knowledge. "In fact, UTAR is

actively establishing more links with industry to expand its research capabilities and to ensure the University's researches are abreast of future needs. By doing so, UTAR can contribute and serve the community effectively," he added.

Edmund Wong Khin Kong, Chairman of SMIs Sub-committee who is also the Managing Director of Asia Printed Circuit Sdn. Bhd. said, "Rapid globalisation poses enormous challenges to industry. Thus, institutions of higher learning need to work together with industry to bridge the gap between industry's requirements and performance of graduates."

A lively and interactive session also ensued between the industry representatives and UTAR deputy deans in-charge of industrial training from the respective faculties.

Issues discussed were mainly on industrial training and job placement, academic and student exchange with SME companies in areas such as industrial automation, management, ICT, biotechnology and green technology.

UTAR Affiliates with Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad (KLK)

In line with its continuing efforts in building seamless partnerships with industry, UTAR played host to visitors from Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad (KLK) at UTAR Perak Campus on 5 May 2010.

The visitors were led by Teh Sar Moh Nee, KLK's Regional Director, Peninsular Malaysia. They were welcomed by UTAR President Ir. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik, Vice President (R&D and Commercialisation) Prof. Dr. Lee Sze Wei, lecturers and officials.

The friendly visit aimed to explore possible areas of collaboration and partnership between the University and KLK. The visitors were given an overview of the University's history and latest developments.

This was followed by a briefing by KLK on its core business – oil palm plantation and its downstream operations – which have built up a significant hectareage position and presence in Malaysia and Indonesia.

The discussion was fruitful with identification of several common grounds between the two parties. The topics of discussion included career talks, visits to estates and mills, industrial training attachments, job placements, scholarships for courses related to plantations and mills, international students and research collaboration in areas such as agricultural science, agronomy, waste management and green technology.

UTAR Benchmarks against Industry Standards

To ensure UTAR's engineering curriculums are in line with the latest industry trends and technological developments, Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) welcomed the visit of 7 members of the UTAR Industry Advisory Panel (IAP) to its third IAP Meeting on 21 May 2010 at UTAR Perak Campus.

Among the IAP members attending the meeting were Dato' Ir. Low Keng Kok, Vice President of Master Builders Association Malaysia and several other leaders from the industry.

UTAR Vice President (Internationalisation and Academic Development) Prof. Dr. Ewe Hong Tat kicked off the meeting with a welcoming speech. He expressed his appreciation to the IAP members for their contribution by advising the University in the development of curriculums and sharing their expertise and experiences on the latest trends in the industry.

He said, "Strong and effective university-industry linkages contribute greatly to the advancement of teaching, learning and research at UTAR. In addition, the strategic alliances between university and industry are critical to ensure the University produces industry-relevant graduates through industrial placement."



A video clip on the progress of UTAR since its inception was shown to the panel. Dean of FEGT Ir. Chan Cheong Loong gave a brief introduction on FEGT and Faculty of Engineering and Science (FES). Later, the IAP members reviewed UTAR engineering curriculums under FES and FEGT.

The meeting ended on a positive note with the IAP members actively providing feedback and constructive input for the continuous improvement and quality assurance of UTAR engineering programmes.

IAP members looking at some of the engineering students' projects.

UTAR Establishes Strategic Link with University of Ottawa

UTAR opened up a new horizon of relationship with the University of Ottawa, Canada with the signing of a faculty/student exchange agreement between the two institutions on 14 May 2010 at UTAR Kuala Lumpur Campus.

The agreement was signed when a delegation from uOttawa and Brunfield Group visited UTAR Kuala Lumpur Campus in Setapak. UTAR President Ir. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik signed for UTAR while uOttawa Vice President of External Relations Louis De Melo, signed on behalf of uOttawa President Allan Rock.

Signing as witness was UTAR Vice President (Internationalisation and Academic Development) Prof. Dr. Ewe Hong Tat. Present to witness the signing was Dato' Dr. Ir. Gan Thian Leong, Group Managing Director of Brunfield Group. Also present at this signing ceremony were four other delegates from uOttawa.

In his speech, Louis De Melo cited Dato' Gan as the catalyst for the collaboration process with UTAR. He added that the relationship with UTAR aligned well with uOttawa's internationalisation initiative.

At the meeting, Prof. Chuah briefed the Canadian visitors about the education system in Malaysia. While sharing information about UTAR, he specially mentioned the UTAR Soft Skills Development Certification Programme and UTAR Global R&D Network.

The University of Ottawa was founded as a college in 1848 and became a public-funded university in 1965. The University is ranked seventh in research intensiveness and is the third largest cooperative education programmes provider in Canada.

The friendly visit by uOttawa and Brunfield proved to be a fruitful one as mutual understanding was further enhanced with the aim of advancing education and research excellence.



Prof. Chuah exchanging copies of the agreement with Louis De Melo. Looking on are (from left) Prof. Ewe, Anne Allard, Prof. Dr. Claude Lague and Dato' Dr. Ir. Gan.

Career Exploration Week Yields Great Results

UTAR students had the opportunity to explore various career paths available to them upon graduation at the recent Career Exploration Week held from 14 to 17 June 2010 at UTAR Perak Campus.

Some 18 organisations including corporate, professional and government bodies took part in conducting career talks and workshops. Among them were SP Setia, Proton Edar, JobStreet.com, Sime Darby Technology and Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia.

Organised by Career Development Club, the talks and workshops encompassed a wide range of career-related topics such as personal grooming, resume writing, interview skills, financial planning, psychology and counselling. The event was well-received by students from various faculties.

In her opening speech, UTAR Vice President of Student Development and Alumni Relations Dr. Yeoh Suan Pow urged students to enhance their soft skills and adopt a lifelong learning culture to improve their marketability and employability.

For Kok Sui Fong, a final year Accounting student, the event was timely as she would be graduating next year. She commented, "The talks are interesting and quite informative. I get to know some of the essential skills employers look for and the pitfalls that should be avoided when writing a resume."

Construction Management Open Day Unveils Students' Potential



Students admiring the building models at the exhibition.

It was a hive of activity at the Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) at UTAR Perak Campus when the Built Environment Society organised the Construction Management Open Day on 16 June 2010.

The event was officiated by Ir. Chan Cheong Loong, Dean of FEGT. Impressed with the creative works of students, he said, "These projects are comparable to industry standards. I am glad to highlight that UTAR Bachelor

of Science (Hons) Construction Management has gained recognition from professional bodies such as The Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) and Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). In addition, the external examiner gave a good review for this programme."

The event also included award presentations by Ir. Chan to Construction Management students who won the RICS Book Prize Award, CIOB Excellent Student Award, Green Building Design and Green Roof Design Awards.

The winner for the RICS Award was Soon Jiunn Yann and Chang Kok Yung bagged the CIOB award. Choong Hui Shan and her team received the Green Building Design Award while Ng Khoon Jing and his team emerged champion for the Green Roof Design Award.

Ar. Tan Seong Yeow, Head of Department of Construction Management said the objective of the event was to display students' works and projects. Apart from that, students had the opportunity to present and explain their projects to the visitors.

The showcase of building models attracted the attention of many students who were also seen enjoying themselves in exciting and challenging competitions such as Housing the Egg and Paper Tower Construction.



Award winners with FEGT staff.

Three Academic Staff Bag Inaugural UTAR Excellence Awards



The award recipients with Prof. Chuah.

Three academic staff were the recipients of 'UTAR Excellence Awards 2009' presented by UTAR President Ir. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik on 7 June 2010 at the Petaling Jaya Campus.

'UTAR Research Excellence Award' went to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ramesh T. Subramaniam from the Faculty of Engineering and Science for his excellent research results and many publications in leading international journals.

Dr. Ramesh who had also won two international awards for his work said he considered the UTAR award as a 'boost' to strive harder in the near future.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tay Yong Haur from the Faculty of Engineering and Science received the 'UTAR Innovation Excellence Award' for his R&D efforts in innovative products with award-winning technology and potential commercialisation.

The 'UTAR Teaching Excellence Award' was presented to See Yuen Chark from the Faculty of Engineering and Science. He is known for going the extra mile and for making lessons highly interesting, effective and comprehensive.

See said, "A good lecturer should be responsible and master teaching skills to impart knowledge to the younger generation effectively. Being a lecturer is a rewarding career by itself. I consider it to be blessing as I am doing what I love. People should do what they love to be successful."

Each of the award recipients took home a cash prize of RM1000, a trophy and a certificate of acknowledgment.

FEGT AND INDUSTRY PLAYERS DISCUSS GREEN ISSUES

On 16 April 2010, UTAR Perak Campus Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) had a meeting with Malay-Sino Chemical Industries and Ispahan Solutions to discuss possible collaboration on various green projects.

Shyam Lakshmanan, General Manager of Malay-Sino Chemical Industries and Joe Eades, Managing Director of Ispahan Solutions were received by Ir. Chan Cheong Loong, Dean of FEGT and Prof. Dr. Show Kuan Yeow, SP Setia Professor of Environmental Engineering and Green Technology.



Ir. Chan Cheong Loong and Prof. Dr. Show Kuan Yeow discussing with Joe Eades and Shyam Lakshmanan.

Also present in the meeting were Asst. Prof. Dr. Tan Chew Khun, Department of Environmental Engineering, and Ching Yern Chee, Head of Department of Petrochemical Engineering.

The one-and-a-half hour meeting deliberated on various issues regarding environmental projects, green technology, bio-energy, biogas, chemical waste, food waste and research.

Talk on 'Kidney Care' Enlightens UTARians

The kidneys of an average adult filter about 180 litres of fluids per day. In order to educate UTARians about their importance, the Department of Student Affairs organised a talk on 'Kidney Care' at UTAR Sungai Long Campus on 23 June 2010.

The speaker, Cathy Ooi from the National Kidney Foundation (NKF), stressed that the only way to maintain healthy kidneys was to have a balanced diet, exercise regularly and drink at least 3 litres of water per day.

She said, "Over 43% of adults in Malaysia suffer from diabetes and high blood pressure and are at high risk of developing Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) in the long run."

According to Ooi, CKD patients could lead a normal life by taking medication, if the problem was detected during the early stages. If not, they had no option but to go for dialysis at least three to four times a week. It could cost up to RM250 per session. She added, "The only way to reduce the possibility of CKD is by watching what you eat and to go for medical check-ups at least once a year."



Ooi from NKF giving a talk to UTARians.

Ooi explained that CKD patients were prone to other bone-related illnesses, nerve problems and heart attacks. She said, "Some who are not aware that they have CKD may die suddenly due to a heart attack or other diseases pertaining to kidney failure. Therefore, early prevention measures should be taken."

She advised those who were obese, above 50 years of age, were cardiovascular patients, consumers of excessive amount of painkillers, and individuals whose parents had diabetes and high blood pressure to go for a health check-up.

The talk was conducted during the 'Counselling and Wellness Week' held in UTAR's Klang Valley campuses concurrently from 23 to 25 June 2010. It was well-received and participants were seen actively taking part in other activities such as exhibitions, health screenings by the NKF staff and volunteers, games and psychological tests.

Public Talk on Nuclear Weapons

Aiming to educate the public on the nuclear threat to international security, a talk titled 'The Global Nuclear Threat: Key Issues and Prospects' was organised on 2 June 2010 at the UTAR Petaling Jaya Campus.

John Isaacs, Executive Director of the Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation from Washington, US shared his knowledge and experience on the negative effects and impact of nuclear power.

In his talk, he said, "Nuclear power was not the answer to maintain peace for the past 65 years and opening of new nuclear power plants is not the solution either to protect a particular nation from the same threat."

He also stressed that thousands of nuclear weapons had been dismantled over the years in America alone since 1950's and the costs to maintain and dispose of nuclear weapons were enormous. Isaacs added, "A proper nuclear waste disposal system is yet to be discovered. Even the nuclear waste in America is stored underwater to prevent radiation effects."

During his talk, Isaacs highlighted that terrorists already had their hands on nuclear technology and the entire global nation must cooperate to tackle this problem. In addition, he stressed that although nuclear weapons were not used and only stored for security purposes in certain countries, mistakes could occur while handling them; hence, harming innocent civilians.

He added, "The future is in our hands and in order to stop terrorists from having access to nuclear weapons, developing countries should not invest tons of money in them."

"It is our duty to create a safer world for the betterment of future generations to live peacefully."

The talk definitely interested those present as they actively participated in the question and answer session.

At the same occasion, The Asia Pacific Brands Foundation awarded Isaacs the prestigious 'BrandLaureate Brand Personality Award 2010' for his contributions in the field of nuclear arms control. The Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation received the 'BrandLaureate Premier Award 2010' in the areas of national and international security.

Conquering the Challenges of K-Economy



Participants with the trainers.

In today's world, the path to corporate success is very complex. The emphasis in this age of a knowledge economy is to seek knowledge workers who are multi-skilled and versatile. Some 30 final year students took the opportunity to hone their employability skills to enable them to hit the ground running when stepping into the challenging k-economy. Sponsored by MSC Malaysia's Knowledge Development Initiatives, the 10-day MSC Malaysia Undergraduate Skills Programme (USP) was held from 17 – 26 May 2010 at UTAR Perak Campus.

The training comprised 10 modules with topics ranging from corporate image, innovation and creativity to corporate skills such as communication, leadership, problem-solving, decision-making, presentation, and team building. Programme trainers used different types of delivery methods to make the training interesting and to expose students to practical hands-on experience. Students were kept busy through activities such as business ideas presentations, exhibition, interactive group games, experience sharing, application and case study. Besides that, pre and post USP Soft Skills Tests were used to evaluate the effectiveness of the training programme.

At the end of the training, most of the participants discovered that they had become stronger persons with self-esteem and respect for others. Chang Yung Liang, a final year Marketing student said, "This programme is excellent! I have learnt to be more confident especially when handling problems and speaking in front of others."

Recognising the importance of K-workers, participant Tay Rui Gi, a final year Public Relations student said, "The programme has prepared me well on the essential skills necessary for me to face the real corporate world courageously. It helps me to avoid the usual mistakes made by fresh graduates at the workplace."

Team building activities.



A Relaxing Educational Visit by SMJK Heng Ee, Penang

It was truly a relaxing experience for a group of 37 students and three teachers from SMJK Heng Ee, Penang, as they learnt ways to de-stress at the Stress Management Workshop held during their educational visit to UTAR Perak Campus on 10 June 2010.

The students were taught the belly breathing technique to relax from stress. They were seen enjoying the calming effect as they lay down comfortably on the floor. The workshop was conducted by Liew Wai Yoon, counsellor from Department of Student Affairs.

After the workshop, Low Sew Kim, Head of Department of Psychology and Counselling, Faculty



Students from SMJK Heng Ee at UTAR Perak Campus.

of Arts and Social Science, gave an overview of the UTAR Bachelor of Social Science (Hons) Psychology programme and its career prospects.

Rosy Oh, counsellor of SMJK

Heng Ee who organised the event, was impressed with the wide range of programmes offered by UTAR.

According to Oh, the group comprising mainly of Form Five and Upper Six students, was interested to obtain first-hand information on UTAR programmes, particularly psychology, and to have a feel of university life.

The visit was fruitful as the students gained valuable knowledge and experience at UTAR.

UTAR Welcomes Delegate from Belgium

On 24 May 2010, Dominique Yernaux, Lecturer of Portfolio Investment in China from the Brussels Institute of Contemporary China Studies (BICCS), Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Belgium visited UTAR Perak Campus.

Several UTAR academic staff were present to welcome him.

Yernaux described Belgium as a small country with a population of about 10 million and said that the country could be considered as the centre of Europe due to the cultural boundary of Germanic and Latin Europe which ran through it.

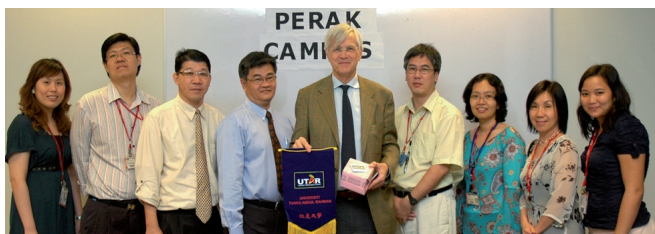


Dominique Yernaux giving a brief introduction in the meeting.

He said, "VUB was founded in 1834 to promote academic freedom, tolerance and diversity as well as active pluralism, respect and open-mindedness. Currently, over 9,000 students are pursuing their studies there in various disciplines. According to the Quality System ranking, VUB is among the top 500 universities in the world and in seventh placing in Belgium."

One of the reasons for Yernaux's visit to Perak Campus was to discuss the participation in the Erasmus Mundus programme of the European Union (EU) which provided funds for students and teaching staff mobility within the EU and other countries globally.

Yernaux added that VUB was this year's coordinator for the Erasmus Mundus programme and both the varsities also discussed the possibility of the UTAR Perak Campus applying for it next year.



Dominique Yernaux (middle) with UTAR staff.

UTAR Discusses Student and Staff Exchange with Guilin University of Technology, China

Dato' Dr. Mah Hang Soon, Perak state executive councillor, and a delegation of five from the Guilin University of Technology (GUT), Guangxi, China visited the UTAR Perak Campus on 27 May 2010.

GUT delegates were led by its Vice President Prof. Dr. Wu Zhiqiang, Managing Director of Hi-Edu Universal, Ipoh, Mooi Weng Wah who organised the visit, also accompanied them.

The delegation was welcomed warmly by UTAR Vice President (Internationalisation and Academic Development) Prof. Dr. Ewe Hong Tat and Dean of Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology Ir. Chan Cheong Loong.

In his opening speech, Dato' Dr. Mah said the visit from GUT would further enhance the existing warm and friendly relations between Malaysia and China. He added that UTAR and GUT could collaborate in areas such as student exchange, faculty exchange, research, tourism and international student recruitment.

The visitors then watched a video on the development of UTAR with highlights on the milestones achieved by the University. Subsequently, a few UTAR lecturers delivered presentations pertaining to their faculties.

This was followed by an introduction speech by one of the delegates, Assoc. Prof. Chen Wenqian. He mentioned that GUT was founded in 1956 and the University was located in the world famous scenic city of Guilin, China. GUT has 17 faculties with 59 undergraduate and 35 postgraduate programmes. It currently has more than 19,000 students.

Prof. Wu said that they were keen to establish strategic links with UTAR. The meeting ended with an exchange of souvenirs and a campus tour.



Souvenir exchange. (From left) Dato' Dr. Mah, Prof. Ewe, Prof. Wu and Mooi.

Visit by Guangxi University of Nationalities, China

Three delegates from Guangxi University of Nationalities (GXUN), China led by Prof. Xie Huanwen, Dean of College of Business visited UTAR Perak Campus on 12 June 2010.

The visit was aimed at exploring possible collaboration in international student exchange programmes between GXUN and UTAR. GXUN was keen to send their students majoring in International Economics and Trade to study in UTAR Perak Campus.

The visit started with mutual introductions by members of the two universities. Krishnan Vengidasamy, Head of Department of Languages and Linguistics, Faculty of Arts and Social Science (FAS), gave a presentation on FAS while Dr. Ooi Keng Boon, Dean of the Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF), gave an overview of business programmes offered by FBF.

GXUN practised the 2+1+1 programme, whereby each year they sent out over 1,000 third-year students for 10 months' overseas exposure. In particular, GXUN expressed interest to work with UTAR on Commerce (ACCA), Business and English programmes.

Relevant information such as tuition fees and accommodation was given to GXUN delegates. GXUN also indicated their keen interest to establish closer links with UTAR. The visit ended with the exchange of souvenirs and a campus tour.



Cheong Chew Seong of UTAR presenting a pennant to Prof. Xie Huanwen.

CRADLE FUND IDEAS TOWARDS COMMERCIALISATION



Kenny Mah speaking enthusiastically on the commercialisation fund.

With the strategic efforts to stimulate research, development and commercialisation in the University, UTAR Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Research coordinated a Cradle Commercialisation Workshop for UTAR lecturers and researchers at UTAR Perak Campus on 23 April 2010.

Kenny Mah, Senior Executive (Initiatives) of Cradle Fund Sdn. Bhd., started with an introduction of the organisation. He said, "Cradle Fund, an agency under the Ministry of Finance, Malaysia (MOF), has allocated RM100 million for this programme. This enables potential innovators and aspiring innovative entrepreneurs to jump-start the transformation of an innovative technology idea into commercially viable ventures."

UTAR lecturers and researchers were briefed on the two types of conditional grants, namely, the pre-seed (CIP Catalyst and U-CIP Catalyst) and seed/commercialisation (CIP 500). CIP Catalyst is targeted at entrepreneurs in general while U-CIP Catalyst is targeted at researchers and inventors based in research institutes, private and public universities, colleges and institutes of higher learning.

Both grants offer funding of up to RM150,000 to teams of individuals with innovative technology ideas in the ICT, non-ICT and high growth technology industries.

Mah emphasised, "Business plans will be evaluated based on innovation, commercial viability and team dynamics."

The workshop concluded with a video presentation on "Dragons' Den" that illustrated how entrepreneurs pitch for investment, followed by an interactive Q&A session.

Trip to a Village - An Insightful Experience

UTAR students exhibited their caring and sharing spirit when 29 undergraduates from Perak Campus became part of the 'Program Rakan Muda Wawasan Desa' together with students from Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM). They had a splendid time in Kampung Chenderong Balai, Sungai Manik, Perak from 15 to 18 May 2010.

The trip was aimed at instilling good values such as leadership, teamwork, and

cooperation among students from different higher institutions of learning in the country.

This was the first time UTAR students participated in such a trip under the programme. Their arrival was celebrated with a 'kampung style' feast. Throughout their four-day stay, students lived with foster families in the village and took part in various activities such as talks, futsal matches, games and shows with the villagers.

The students enjoyed themselves thoroughly and found that adjusting to the new surroundings was easy due to the warm hospitality of the villagers. All of them had an unforgettable experience living in Kampung Chenderong Balai and that opportunity enabled them to better understand a different way of life.



Some students with their foster families.

Aspiring Singing Stars Vie for Karaoke Championship

When he stepped on stage to belt out a Mandarin number, the audience was captivated by his singing and dance moves. Lam Sai Yuen, a banking and finance student, who sang *Hei Se You Mo* (Black Humour) and *Da Yan Jing* (Big Eyes) emerged the winner after beating nine other finalists at the Karaoke Competition 2010 held at UTAR Perak Campus on 17 April 2010.

He walked away with RM200 cash and the 'Most Popular Singer Award' plus a golden opportunity to record and release an EP. Lam said, "I love singing since school days. There were so many good performers and I never expected to win."

Organised by Perak Campus Music Club, this first-of-its-kind competition attracted overwhelming response from 190 hopefuls vying for the karaoke champ title.

It was a gruelling month of semi-finals and training with auditions starting from 22 - 26 March 2010. Out of 190 who signed up, only 20 qualified to compete in the semi-finals held on 2 April 2010.

The first runner-up was Goey Heng Ee, a public relations student, while P'ng Geok Thye, a banking and finance student was the second runner-up. They won RM150 and RM100 respectively.



Sai Yuen (left) receiving the cash prize from Dr. Lim Tuck Meng. Looking on is Organising Chairperson Loy Seng Hoong.

Freshmen Forge Friendship through Ice-Breaking and Telematch

The ice-breaking and telematch activity for freshmen for the May Intake was attended by 415 new students from different courses on 29 May 2010 at UTAR Perak Campus.

The telematch started with a series of ice-breaking games such as passing the ice cube, avoiding electrical cable, untying human knot, and lots more. The games required the participants to move from one station to another around the campus.

Though the students were tired, they had a great time. Most of the freshmen said that the event was a good way for them to interact with the seniors and familiarise themselves with the campus environment.

The Head of Department of Student Affairs (Perak Campus) Mavis Tsang Mei Lin presented prizes to the winning teams. She said, "This kind of event helps to foster good relationships between the new undergraduates and their seniors. Besides that, this event also paves the way for freshmen to socialise. It will enable them to adapt to the campus lifestyle better."



Students playing the bucket line game.

Freshmen Flaunt Their Talents

The strike of a gong by UTAR President Ir. Prof. Dato' Dr. Chuah Hean Teik signified the opening of 'Talent Time' which was held at UTAR Perak Campus on 19 June 2010.

This event marked the finale of the orientation activities organised to give a warm welcome to freshmen as they settled into their campus life in UTAR.

In his opening speech, Prof. Chuah said, "I hope, through activities such as these, new students will have the opportunity to work closely with their seniors and blend smoothly into the big UTAR family. Thus, I encourage you to strike a balance in your university life and at the same time let your talents bloom."

Themed 'Ohana', a Hawaiian word for 'family', the event attracted a large audience of over 400 students and showcased the creativity and artistic talents of ten finalists. Performances included magic tricks, singing, dancing, instrument playing, beatboxing, and popping.

Desmond Liew How Yee, a Foundation in Science student, emerged champion after beating nine contestants. He won the hearts of the judges and the crowd with his remarkable talent in singing and prowess in playing the guitar.

First runner-up was Mike Cheong Fatt Yi, a Foundation in Arts student, who charmed the audience with his good display of vocals and sound control in beatboxing. Chiew Tien Tiam, a Foundation in Arts student emerged as the second runner-up by capturing the hearts of the audience with his swift and energetic dance moves in popping.

Besides performances by the ten finalists, there were five performances by senior students in challenge mode. The winner was Yin Hong, a financial economic student, who rendered a melodious "Tian Hei Hei" while playing the keyboard.



Prof. Chuah hits the gong to launch the event. Looking on is the Organising Chairperson Chin Lit Xin.

UTAR Staff Gain Hands-on Training on Fire Safety

A fire simulation demonstration was part of the training on basic fire safety conducted by firefighters from the Jabatan Bomba dan Penyelamat Malaysia who were at UTAR Perak Campus on 6, 7, 13, and 14 May 2010.

Some 18 staff attended the four-day training. The objective of the training was to establish a competent firefighting team as prescribed under the Fire Services Act 1988 (Akta 341), which was to provide basic knowledge of firefighting skills and techniques and equip participants with the ability to develop a firefighting action plan in case of fire or emergency.

Trainer Mohd Yamin Bin Naib, who has over 31 years of working experience, said, "Most fires can be avoided as they are caused by negligence and ignorance. We should always prevent fire accidents by maintaining good housekeeping practices where hazardous materials must be kept in safe places."

Participant Khoo Wei Ching from the Department of Safety and Security said the training had widened his knowledge about firefighting and rescue techniques.

The only female participant Ardina binti Abu Bakar, Laboratory Officer from Centre for Foundation

Studies (Perak Campus), said that learning how to put out a fire was an enlightening experience. "It is quite difficult to lift the fire hose as it weighs more than 10kg!" quipped Ardina.

Another participant, Ar. Tan Seong Yeow, Head of Department of Construction Management, Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology, said, "The Basic Fire Safety Course is very practical and useful for maintaining safety on campus. The training prepares us well in what needs to be done during emergencies. The instructor taught us how to calculate risks, think before taking the risk and put out the fire. Discipline and teamwork are also important. The safety training can be applied both in campus and at home."



UTAR staff practising the proper methods to lift the fire hose.

Charity Night Raises Fund for Nature

Organised jointly by Biological Science Society and Built Environment Society, the Charity Night, held on 9 June 2010 at UTAR Perak Campus, was a wonderful opportunity to raise awareness among students on the importance of conserving nature and protecting animals.

Slides screening the heart-wrenching state of abused and abandoned dogs and cats were shown at the opening ceremony to create such awareness among the audience. The fund-raising drive was a success as the organiser sold 320 tickets priced at RM35 each. The net proceeds of RM5,120 would be donated to Malaysian Nature Society (MNS) and Ipoh Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA).

Themed "La Nuit de Fantome" in French; which means 'Phantom of the Night', the charity night was exquisitely designed to create a mysterious and electrifying ambience. Most of the students were wearing black and white attire in line with the theme.

Also present at the event were Doh Shu Ing and Dr. Ng Choon Aun, Deputy Deans of Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT); Dr. Han Kwai Hin, Assoc. Prof. of Faculty of Science (FSc) who was also the main adviser of Biological Science Society; and Ar. Tan Seong Yeow, Head of Department of Construction Management, FEGT and the main adviser of Built Environment Society.

When asked about the experience gained by coordinating the event, Organising Chairperson Clement Wong Kiing Fook said, "This charity night has provided us the chance to do our part for the community. It was a great experience when we all came together for a good cause."

The highlight of the mesmerising night was the enchanting fashion runway show by ten finalists of UTAR Model Search 2010 and the crowning of the Prom King and Queen.

Chan Wei Kee, a Marketing student, and Wong Pooi Ting, a Biomedical Science student, were crowned the Prom King and Prom Queen respectively.



Winners and participants.

活到老，学到老 拉曼教职员齐聚学电脑技巧

配合推广终身学习运动，拉曼大学的继续教育中心常年开办各种进修课程，供各领域的人士和团体选读，包括有非全日制的学士学位课程、专业资格课程等。同时，为提升本校教职员的能力，该中心也举办关于沟通技巧、电脑技能等在职培训课程。

该中心于2010年5月20日至21日，在八打灵再也校区举办了“Microsoft Excel Tips and techniques”的培训活动。负责这项培训活动的导师是Palani Murugappan先生。

这款由微软开发的软件自1987年（用于微软视窗作业系统）面世以来，因为能有效及快速地处理数据而受到许多用户的欢迎。Palani先生以2007年版本的Excel软件为主，教导学员Microsoft Excel重要的捷径和使用技巧。

Palani先生表示，这项活动并非以教导Microsoft Excel的基本使用法为旨，因此他仅在活动开始时向学员略微涵盖了此款試算表软体的入门法后，便讲解Microsoft Excel内的逻辑函数、Vlookup函数、Hlookup函数、金融函数、数据透视表等难度较高的公式。

除了示范各类公式的使用法，他也在每个章节结束后让学员们练习，以提高他们对这些公式的掌握。

这款软件能够协助我校教员们迅速地统计出学生的成绩，节省许多时间；同时也让职员们更有系统地针对各类数据进行储存、统算、查找、分析等，因此是项培训活动吸引了我校许多教职员参加。

通过这项培训活动，我校教职员得以在短时间内了解此软件的运用方法。然而，所谓：“时用则存，不用则亡”，因此亦要多加练习，才能更好地掌握之。

掌握职场表达方式 提升工作效率



吴先生（站者）正在讲解“第一印象”的重要性。

有些人喜欢说话，但却不懂得说话的技巧，结果常不小心开罪别人而不自知；有些人喜欢涂涂写写，但总写不好。说话和写作，都是知易而行难的学问。没有经过自身努力和不断地练习，是无法掌握好的。

是故，拉曼大学继续教育中心在2010年5月27日和6月17日，于八打灵再也校区举办了“职场的沟通原则：说话技巧”与“商业的沟通原则：写作技巧”这两项在职培训活动。借着这两个培训活动，参训人员得以全面地学习到许多适用于工作中的沟通与写作方法，同时提升自己的表达能力。这两个培训活动分别为期两天，由经验丰富的吴吉成先生负责授课。

首次见面的时候，要怎么介绍自己才能让人留下良好和深刻的印象？面试时什么应该说，什么不应该说？面对个性不同的同事和上司，要怎么和他们沟通才能有效合作？会议记录要怎么写？公函的格式是什么？精简的文章应该怎么写？一份完整的报告应该包括什么？怎么样的文章才能吸引别人阅读？这些都是培训活动中所涵盖的课题。

吴先生指出：“沟通并不只是单纯的说话而已，肢体语言和脸部表情也很重要。这是很多人忽略的一点。说话时看着对方，脸上保持微笑，与谈话者保持适中的距离等等，都可以予人真诚、积极的正面感觉。”

他也补充表示：“有效的沟通是双向的，除了说，也要听。多数人都喜欢表现自己，让别人听自己说话，可是却很少人喜欢听人说话。学会聆听别人，而不是敷衍对方，也是一种学问。”

在吴先生活泼的教学方式和生动的肢体语言下，原以为沉闷的课题也变得有趣。他亦不时与大家分享自己的故事，让参训人员能更了解某些课题。此外，他还准备了一些题目，让参训人员分组练习，并且当场改正，让大家能够从错误中学习。

短短两天的培训活动或许无法让所有参加者真正掌握说话与写作的要点，但只要勤加练习，“铁杵磨成针”的日子相信亦不远矣。

澳洲莫纳什大学与拉大携手打造更安全的道路

拉曼大学与澳洲莫纳什大学缔结合作协议，并于2010年6月4日上午十时许在吉隆坡校区签署该份备忘录，为两校的合作关系正式划下美好的开始。

此签署仪式的代表是拉曼大学副校长（研究与商品化）李仕伟教授和事故研究中心（Monash University Accident Research Centre，简称MUARC）处长Rod McClure教授，并由理工学院副院长陈永才博士和马来西亚莫纳什大学分校事故研究中心的副处长Jennifer Oxley博士见证。

签署仪式后，双方代表也趁机进行了简短的讨论，为两校之间往后的研究和学术交流制定可行的方向。

实际上，Jennifer Oxley博士已开始和我校运输科技研究中心主席陈清祥博士合作，进行一些研究项目。Jennifer Oxley博士说道：“事故研究中心是个综合性的科研单位。我们不仅研发产品，也确保人们能够安全地使用它，降低受伤的机率。”陈博士表示：“我们计划开办有关交通工具安全性及事故研究的短期课程。此外，我们也希望两校在未来可进行师生交换计划。”

她指出，虽然事故研究中心在澳洲本土已有逾22年的历史，但在马来西亚成立仅两年，因此他们希望和我国的高校、政府部门、科研机构等一起合作。作为澳洲最大的事故和伤害预防研究机构，事故研究中心不仅在本国拥领先地位，在国际间同样树立了威信。

她补充道，透过合作备忘录，希望双方未来可以有更进一步的合作，进而达成长期的合作关系。她也表示，以拉曼大学在科艺上的技能，配合中心的安全技艺，相信可以开拓出卓越的成果。她也不忘打趣说道：“马来西亚的道路不太安全，相信未来两造会有许多工作要做。”

会谈结束后，两位来宾也在我校代表的陪同下，参观了由我校硕士生正进行的一些研发产品。



诸位代表在签署仪式后合照留念。

与多媒体大学签备忘录

拉曼大学与多媒体大学于2010年6月3日正式签署了合作备忘录，为两校往后的交流合作创建了平台。该项合作备忘录的交换仪式在拉曼大学霹雳校区进行。

我校理事会主席敦林良实与夫人、策划与发展委员会顾问丹斯里丘思东、多媒体大学名誉校长敦西蒂哈斯玛、两校高层人员等皆出席了是项交换仪式。在众人的见证下，我校校长拿督蔡贤德教授和多媒体大学副校长杜德扬教授交换了该合作备忘录。

当天的仪式以名为“拉曼大学霹雳校区：锡矿变大学”的短片掀开序幕。短片叙述了我校如何从昔日的废

推动两校教育和研究

矿湖转变成今日拥有现代化设施，优良环境的校园。

拿督蔡贤德教授在致词时表示：“透过这份合作备忘录，两校在未来将有更紧密的联系。这将创造机会让两校在研究和学术上合作。”

他也强调：“结合拉曼大学和多媒体大学两校的能力，有望促进理念的创新，开拓卓越的创意，进而为知识型经济作出贡献。”

杜教授认为，两校

之间可携手合作的领域很多，亦能达到互利互惠的效果。他补充道，这项协议将为两校的教职员和学生制造合作平台，在相关领域进行更多交流。



（左起）杜德扬教授在敦西蒂哈斯玛和敦林良实的见证下，和蔡贤德教授交换合作备忘录。



团员们与参与激励营的应新小学生合影留念。

拉曼生社区服务团 助提升乡区教育水平

拉曼大学首届社区服务团（金宝校区）于2010年5月27日至29日在霹雳双溪古月的应新国民型华文小学举办了一场题为“爱回恩”的激励营。这场激励营由马华社区教育发展局主催，双溪古月应新小学及我校社区服务团（金宝校区）联办。当天的开幕礼由我国内政部副部长兼金宝区国会议员拿督李志亮先生、应新小学家教协会主席蔡富财先生、校长王耀斌先生及马华社区发展局北马区协调主任张荣福先生主持。

“爱回恩”激励营的宗旨有三：一、提升孩童对教育的关注，让他们明白教育的重要性；二、激发孩童的能力，发掘他们的潜在天赋；以及三、灌输孩童有关终身学习的概念。该社区服务团团长王素韵说：“这场激励营的对象是五至六年级的小学生。‘爱回恩’欲带出的，是教育参与的营员爱惜、环保及感恩的重要性。”

王同学补充说：“爱，是指父母的爱，对动物的爱，对地球的爱等。我们希望通过此激励营增进父母和小朋友们（营员）的感情，同时让家长了解，他们的陪伴将让小朋友对上学更感兴趣。回，代表回收、环保和再循环。我们认为，环保应从小开始，就算是小朋友也能为拯救地球出一分力。当然，我们更希望提高各位父母及小朋友的环保意识，在日常生活中也能身体力行，为环保而努力。恩即知恩、感恩、报恩、饮水思源，主要的讯息是让营员学会感谢父母、师长、兄弟姐妹，同时也感谢地球给予我们的一切。从中他们可以意识到自己的幸福，并珍惜自己垂手可得的求学路，进而努力向上来报答父母的恩惠。”

该社区服务团由37位来自我校各个科系的学生组成。参与该激励营的应新小学生共有80位。为了达到上述宗旨，筹委会设计了一系列内容丰富的活动和游戏，如讲座会、美化校园、科学实验、电影分享会、侦探游戏等等，以开拓营员们的视野，鼓励和推广阅读风气，进而培养好学的习惯。游戏的设计增添了浓厚的欢乐气氛，让营员在学习之余，更能够乐在其中。此外，为了让该区的家长和中学生对我国的教育机构有更多认识，服务团的团员们办了一场教育展，同时也给予他们咨询。

另外，每位团员会被当地家庭“认领”，收作谊子或谊女，因此也举办了一场简单的结谊仪式。社区服务团的副团长梁智棋说：“活动期间，团员们会去拜访谊家，和谊父母和谊弟谊妹建立良好的关系。谊父母会向我们叙述谊弟谊妹的性格、日常作息等。这样一来，我们便能够更容易亲近他们（谊弟谊妹）。有了正确的沟通管道，向他们灌输教育的重要也就变得轻而易举了。”

王同学说道：“社区服务团集合了来自不同地方、不同背景的人，而大家都为了一致的目标而努力。这是很难得的。同时，我们亦明白到，合作是成功的关键。我希望，来年可以再举办这么有意义的活动。”

梁同学补充道：“要达到目标，团队精神和纪律非常重要。我认为我们建立了一个非常棒的团队。”谈及未来的计划，他表示，他们希望可以为当地学生开办补习课，同时举办一些节日庆祝活动。

王同学表示，虽然不期望每一个五、六年级的小朋友能在参与激励营后完全了解爱惜、环保及感恩的意义，但希望能够启蒙他们，让他们慢慢了解。《大专生社区服务计划》不止是学术性的推广，同时也灌输他们上述知识，使他们懂得如何去爱他人、接受他人的爱，爱护地球及饮水思源。

纵然激励营在27日才正式开始，但37位团员却早在一天前便抵达当地，以进行筹备活动。同时，他们也与当地筹委会成员交流，更深层地了解村民们的生活及教育背景。务求完美的他们也在每天活动结束后开检讨会议，深入讨论活动细节及不足之处，以便能找出解决方案。在激励营圆满结束之后，他们也为了收拾东西，而押后一天回家，服务精神让人钦佩。

此激励营的概念缘起自《浮罗交怡教育振兴计划》。《浮罗交怡教育振兴计划》的主要目的是推广教育领域，同时提高华人新村及其他乡区的教育水平，培育学有所成的年轻一代，为国家作出贡献。为了达致目标，这项计划推行了五项策略，其中一项即为《大专生社区服务计划》。这项策略的意义在于唤醒家长及年轻一代对教育的重视。在大专生的带动下，举办系列辅导活动改变乡区学生和父母的观念与行为，提升教育教育水平。同时，通过《大专生社区服务计划》的培训活动，让大专生体验团队训练，体会自我激励、自我调整、自我成长的重要，了解自己的办事和应变能力，然后提升自己以迎合未来社会的展望。

“我们希望让外人看到拉曼大学图表设计及多媒体系学生在过去三年来，所学习及努力的成果。这是我们展现才华和能力的时候。”

凭着这个信念，一群学生于6月6日至13日在八打灵再也校区举办一场名为“PrimeTime”的毕业作品展，展出的内容涵盖了该系学生所习得的技术，以摄影、平面设计、动画片、素描等形式展现他们的作品，相当丰富多样。

负责筹划“PrimeTime”的高永胜同学说：“毕业展是我们自己主动提出要办的，不是课程或校方要求的。我们从今年年初就已构思好这个计划。由于是义务性质，所以要说服其他同学一起办这个展览，相当不容易。”他补充道，除了沟通问题，时间不足、缺乏资金等也是他们在筹办过程中面对的问题，“就算是考试期间，我们也必须挤出时间开会讨论。展览推介礼前夕，同学们都日夜赶工，就怕不够时间。同时，办展览花费不小，所以我们要寻找赞助商。在获得赞助资金之前，我们都须自掏腰包。”

虽然该系首届学生举办过类似的毕业展，但规模都比较小，因此作为第二届毕业生的他们对于办展览，大致都处于摸索状态。询及是否受到学长们的影响，才有办毕业展的想法？高同学对此表示：“或多或少都有一点。但我们不仅想做，也希望可以做得更出色！”显然，他们的目的成功了。占用了两间视听室的毕业展规模不仅大，更集结了共63位学生的作品。为隆重其事，他们在6日当晚举办了一场推介礼，并且邀请了许多业界人士前来参观。其后多天亦吸引了不少他系学生、教职员和公众人士，展览深获好评。虽然耗时耗力，然而高同学表示：“所有辛苦都是值得的！”

选择以“PrimeTime”作为毕业展的名字，高同学表示：“PrimeTime可以有很多涵义。其一，是吸引观众。观众会特别留意PrimeTime的新闻报道，这些新闻报道不仅可信度高，涵盖的范围也广泛。我们希望表达这层意义：所展示的东西涵盖了在拉曼大学所学习到的知识以及完成的作品。此外，PrimeTime也有黄金时段的意思。这个时段的电视广告费用通常是最昂贵、重要且独家的。‘重要且独家’恰好地解释了我们希望展现予创意领域的特点，让外人，尤其是业界的人看到我们的实力。”

他继续说道：“这个展览可说是我们和业界的一个桥梁。我们希望通过这个桥梁，让相关领域的人认识我们，进而聘请我们。”因此，他们给每位来宾分发小册子，里面印有展出者的联络方式和作品，方便有兴趣的人士联络他们。

为吸引校外人士前来，除了印制小传单，办创意比赛，他们也利用了时下流行的社交网页——面子书作宣传工具，同时也利用电台、杂志等媒介。为求展览成功，可谓费尽心思。

步入展览会场，首先引入眼帘的是个巨型“箭靶”。该系学生在“箭靶”上横插许多红色长形木枝，并利用木枝为支撑点，摆放以人物、动物和静物的素描和彩画。巨型“箭靶”旁是个小小的视听角落。主办者也贴心地准备了沙发，让观者可以舒服地坐下，欣赏他们制作的宣传短片。此外，在画报角落和照片角落，学生们亦以别树一帜的方式来呈现他们的得意之作。

值得一提的是，呈长形的视听室后半部设置许多高矮不一的展示板，各位参展者发挥自己的创意，设计属于自己的空间。高同学指出：“参展的作品一部分是课堂报告，其余的则是同学们本身的创作。”在展出的作品中，

一些细腻精致，一些粗犷不羁，一些以可循环物品制成，一些带有“环境保育”意识。参展者的作品多元（一位参展者可同时展出画报、人物素描、商品设计、摄影等），且都有强烈的个人特色，让观者在欣赏的同时，也能够了解其作品想诉诸的讯息。

在筹办的过程中，难免会碰上一些困难。关于这点，高同学表示，遇到难题时会寻求老师们的意见，而老师们给予的协助让他们非常感激，尤其是创意产业学院院长黄少敏助理教授，协助他们向校方和外界进行协调工作，让经验尚浅的他们能够顺利举办毕业展。

通过这个毕业展，得到最多的是什么？高同学认真地说道：“经验！”如何策划、如何分配工作、如何与别人沟通等等，都是高同学在筹办过程中所学习到的宝贵经验。他亦指出：“我也认识了很多。以前不太熟络的同学，也因展览而有了来往互动。有机会在毕业前一起合作，觉得这样很好。”

纵然我校的多媒体设计系年龄尚轻，但情况将逐渐改变，期望这群即将在今年八月挥别学校，踏入人生另一里程碑的学生，能够不忘教诲，在创意界闯出自己的天空，为校增光。



摆在入口处的巨型“箭靶”。



毕业展中的一部分作品。