



# HORIZON

UNIVERSITI TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN

Broadening Horizons, Transforming Lives

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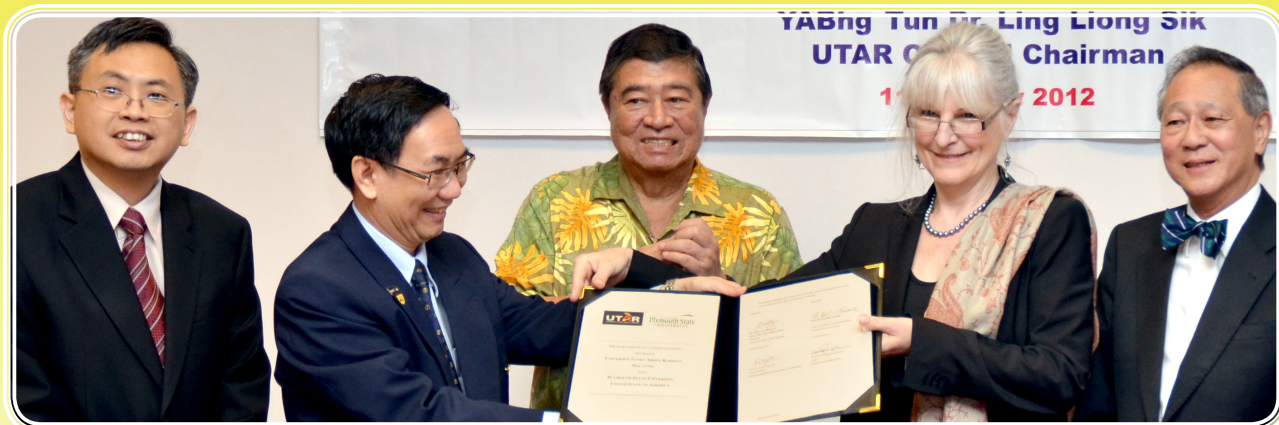
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# UTAR signs five pacts with four partners

## Plymouth State University, USA – a new partnership

Documents exchanged (from left): Prof Ewe, Prof Chuah, Tun Dr Ling, Prof Vascak and Prof Chong



UTAR and Plymouth State University (PSU) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) at a ceremony held at UTAR Perak Campus in Kampar on 11 January 2012.

UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik and PSU Dean of College of Arts and Sciences Prof Dr Cynthia Vascak signed the MoU on behalf of their universities, while UTAR Vice President (Internationalisation and Academic Development) Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat and PSU Social Science Department Chair Prof Dr Chong Peng Khuan signed as witnesses. Present to witness the signing was UTAR Council Chairman Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik.

Under the MoU, UTAR and PSU would initiate and implement international collaborative projects that cover research and

development, academic development exchange, study visit and student exchange.

“UTAR and PSU have many similarities in terms of the pleasant campus environment surrounded by mountains and similar programmes offered. I hope with this MoU, UTAR and PSU will arrange more meaningful exchange programmes for students,” said Prof Chuah.

“A fundamental goal of the partnership between UTAR and PSU is to facilitate enhanced learning and scholarship through student and faculty exchanges, study abroad, and the development of collaborative opportunities for teaching, research, and service,” said Prof Vascak.

## Queensland University of Technology, Australia – two pacts



▲ UTAR and QUT representatives posing for a group photo after the signing ceremony

UTAR and the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) renewed their international cooperation agreement and student exchange agreement at UTAR Petaling Jaya Campus on 9 February 2012.

Through the international cooperation agreement, the two universities would further promote cooperation and exchanges in all areas of mutual academic interest which included joint venture projects, organising joint academic and scientific activities such as courses, conferences, seminars, symposia and lectures, staff and student exchanges, and the exchange of materials and publications.

The student exchange agreement would facilitate the exchange of full-time undergraduate and postgraduate students of all faculties for a full semester study in the partner university.

Both agreements were signed by Prof Chuah and QUT Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International and Development) Scott Sheppard.

QUT was represented by its South and Southeast Asia, the Middle East and the Pacific Regional Manager Jason Leggatt, QUT Business School International Director Andrew Paltridge, Science and Engineering Faculty International Manager Nelson Ng, and Creative Industries Faculty International Manager Cate Gilpin. From UTAR were Community and International Networking Director Dr Tan Sin Leng and representatives from the faculties of Creative Industries, Engineering and Science, Business and Finance, and Arts and Social Science.

## Ken Holdings Berhad, Malaysia – applying green technology in construction



At the ceremony (from left): Prof Faidz, Prof Chuah, Dato' Sri Chin, Sam, Kenny and Tang

UTAR and Ken Holdings Berhad signed a memorandum of agreement for collaborative research on applying green technology in housing development at a hotel in Petaling Jaya on 20 February 2012.

The agreement was signed by Prof Chuah and Ken Holdings Berhad Executive Director Sam Tan Chek Siong, while UTAR Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Research Director Prof Dr Faidz bin Abdul Rahman and Ken Holdings Berhad Executive Director Tang Kam Chee signed as witnesses. On hand to witness the signing were Energy, Green Technology and Water Minister Dato' Sri Peter Chin Fah Kui and Ken Holdings Berhad Chairman Kenny Tan Boon Kang.

The project under the agreement, undertaken by a research team from UTAR Faculty of Engineering and Science headed by Assoc Prof Dr Ir Low Kaw Sai, aimed to develop an energy-efficient system for housing using heat insulated roofing sheets, walling blocks and panels. The research would also involve building a theoretical model for reliable prediction of indoor air temperature based on known prevailing climatic conditions.

"Plans are already underway for the 'experimental village' where a full-sized home will be built to ensure full data acquisition, and a comprehensive host of research facilities for testing and recording of research data," said Sam, adding that the project, located at Ken Rimba Township, Shah Alam, would cost about RM320,000.

Prof Chuah said, "The research findings would be published in technical journals and presented in conferences and seminars to contribute to the creation of new knowledge in the academia and industry."

Congratulating both parties, Dato' Sri Chin hoped future developments in Malaysia would be of low-carbon ones, where houses would be better suited for the Malaysian climate, consumption of electricity would be reduced and people would love spending more time in their homes. He added that his ministry aimed to promote the implementation of green projects nationwide this year.

## The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants – ties strengthened

UTAR and the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) renewed their MoU at the CIMA Malaysia office, Wisma KPMG on 1 February 2012.

Under the MoU, graduates of relevant UTAR degree programmes would be eligible to register to join CIMA and be granted exemptions from CIMA's professional examinations. This would encourage successful graduates to become full members of CIMA. More UTAR degree programmes would be considered as and when needed for CIMA accreditation.

The MoU was signed by Prof Ewe and CIMA Managing Director Andrew Harding. UTAR Faculty of Accountancy and Management Dean Dr Ong Seng Fook and CIMA Southeast Asia and Australasia Regional Director Irene Teng signed as witnesses.

"Always concerned about producing the right graduates that meet the human capital demand of Malaysia and the global economy, UTAR has long been working with professional bodies from diverse fields," said Prof Ewe, adding that UTAR was pleased to work together with CIMA to uphold the professionalism of accountants.

Starting from January 2012, UTAR would also assist CIMA to identify potential students of relevant UTAR programmes and who were interested to take up the CIMA qualification. These students could register as CIMA students according to CIMA requirements. For students in the Bachelor of Accounting (Hons) programme, upon completing their third year, they would be granted the necessary exemptions in order for them to start studying CIMA papers at



After the signing (from left): Teng, Harding and Prof Ewe

higher levels. UTAR would assist these students to prepare for CIMA examinations before they graduate. Students in the Bachelor of Commerce (Hons) Accounting programme could proceed to the CIMA programme upon completing the three-year programme at UTAR.

With regards to joint research, CIMA would strive to source for funding for UTAR academics and postgraduate research students to undertake research work in various topics in relation to the business and social science fields, in particular, management accounting, business, management, finance, corporate governance and business ethics. CIMA would co-opt UTAR academic staff to be guest speakers, facilitators and trainers at various workshops and conference sessions organised by CIMA. Similarly, UTAR would organise conferences, workshops and talks in relevant fields related to business and social sciences, inviting CIMA representatives as guest speakers.



## Successful alumnus shares about forex trading

UTAR alumnus Naysan Munusamy (picture) shared about his career advancement process and provided tips on employment at UTAR Perak Campus and Sungai Long Campus on 8 and 9 February 2012 respectively.

Graduated with a UTAR Bachelor of Commerce (Hons) Accounting degree in 2006, Naysan started his career as a management trainee at Standard Chartered Bank. He eventually emerged as a successful foreign exchange (forex) trader at Goldman Sachs (Asia) LLC in Hong Kong heading the department for Asian emergent markets (see also UTAR Horizon October 2011 issue, page 18).

“My job involves a rather high degree of risk;

it sometimes requires me to work around the clock, and that is why I work an average of 12 hours in a workday,” said Naysan, after introducing to the audience the various functions in the banking and investment world.

On employment tips, he said having relevant softskills and presentable personal appearance were important. Even his interviewer told him to dress professionally. He added that the first impression created during the initial two minutes of the interview carried a lot of weight in determining whether one would get his job. He advised the audience, “Making mistakes is not a problem, but a heart that is eager to learn is crucial.”



## Understanding design in a social context



Prof Dr Suzette Worden (picture) from Curtin University of Technology, Australia, talked on design and its role in a social context at UTAR Petaling Jaya Campus on 15 February 2012.

The talk addressed several important issues in design which included the need for creative responses to global environmental, political and social conditions, and providing innovative and creative solutions needed to effect changes in the social context.

Prof Worden mentioned that there was an emerging design activist movement whose members were demonstrating how design could be an agent for social change. She provided certain definitions of design activism and presented an overview of some current projects based on activist principles. She also contextualised her work by looking at historical precedents and the legacy of radical design ideas from the previous century.

## Three universities talk on Photonics



UTAR, Universiti Malaya and University of Ottawa, Canada, got together and held a seminar on Photonics – the study of the properties and behaviours of light. The seminar was held at UTAR Faculty of Engineering and Science at Kuala Lumpur Campus on 15 December 2011.

More than 80 participants attended the second in a series of three seminars organised by the three universities. Several presentations on the diverse areas in Photonics were delivered by speakers from the three universities.

## Learn how to think, not what to think

“In the past employers expect students to master only one specific field but today students need to be flexible and adaptable,” said Future Problem Solving Program International Executive Director Marianne Solomon (picture) in her talk titled ‘New Approach to Education: Learning How to Think, Not What to Think’ at UTAR Petaling Jaya Campus on 23 February 2012.

UTAR Centre for Extension Education organised the talk to address the changes in expectations of employers and the necessary changes in the role of educators to help students to cope with the increasingly more challenging demands of their future employers.

Solomon said that gone were the days when teachers taught only core subjects through memorisation of facts but they must redesign classroom sessions to address both left (analytical) side and right (innovative) side of the brain.

Solomon also said that the skills necessary in life and career in the 21st century include creativity and innovation, critical thinking, problem-solving, communication and team work, and added, “Creativity can be taught and should be used in the classroom, so students can become more spontaneous in their thinking.”





## Global technopreneur shares success story



"I appreciate his willingness to share his experience with all the young people here and we hope with this talk, we will have more 'Pua Khein Seng's in Malaysia," said UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik in his welcoming speech in the UTAR Entrepreneurial Talk Series titled 'Driven to Success' by Pua Khein Seng (picture), Chairman and CEO of Phison Electronics Corp, Taiwan at UTAR Petaling Jaya Campus on 4 February 2012.

"I can share one thing with you; many people think that being an entrepreneur is exciting and enjoyable, but I like to highlight that it is the opposite," said Pua, sharing his experiences with an audience of more than 400.

Pua left Malaysia for Taiwan to pursue a degree in electronic and control engineering at National Chiao Tung University. During his third year, he began research in flash memory technology. At 26, he founded Phison Electronics with four partners, producing the first USB flash drive.

## Interpreting the Arab Spring

The recent political upheavals in the Arab world, now commonly known as the Arab Spring, were the subject of a talk by Dr Filiz Otucu (picture) from Plymouth State University of USA at UTAR Petaling Jaya Campus on 2 December 2011.

Dr Otucu addressed several pertinent issues which included the root causes of the protests in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Yemen, Jordan, Libya, Syria and Bahrain, and the consequences and effects of the protests on the politics and economics in the volatile region.



## The effects of 2012 Budget



UTAR Centre for Extension Education (CEE) held a business forum (picture) at UTAR PJ Campus on 3 December 2011 to provide the general public with some insights on the effects of the 2012 Budget.

Invited speakers from the industry were Ho Hup Construction Company Berhad General Manager Dr Ronald Leong and RHB Research Institute Sdn Bhd Vice-President Peck Boon Soon. The two panel members from UTAR were Faculty of Accountancy and Management Asst Prof Ong Gim Yan and the Faculty of Business and Finance department head Wong Chin Yoong.

The seminar shed some light on how the 2012 Budget would affect the business and working communities, the long-term internal and external outlooks for the Malaysian economy, policy directions from a business perspective, and foreign trade and investment.

## Learn to announce in Tamil

Transport Minister Dato' Seri Kong Cho Ha recommended that, starting in 2012, announcements in Tamil be made available in the Kuala Lumpur International Airport and the Low Cost Carrier Terminal. To prepare for this, Malaysia Airports Holdings Berhad (MAHB) selected UTAR CEE to provide training on making announcements in Tamil. A one-day training was conducted by Tamilselvi Selvanathan (sitting, fourth from left), a CEE English language instructor, for 20 MAHB staff (picture) at the Malaysia Airports Training Centre, Sepang on 22 November 2012.

The appointment of CEE by MAHB to provide training in Tamil language indicates that the industry recognises CEE as an excellent training provider.





## National Chin-Yi University of Technology, Taiwan



Delegates from National Chin-Yi University of Technology of Taiwan, led by its President Prof Dr Chen Kun-Sheng (holding UTAR pennant) and UTAR Industry Advisor Ir Den Low (left), visited UTAR Kuala Lumpur Campus on 31 January 2012. Welcoming the visitors were UTAR Vice President (R&D and Commercialisation) Prof Dr Lee Sze Wei (on Prof Chen's left) and Community and International Networking Director Dr Tan Sin Leng (fourth from right).

## Reitaku University and International Development Centre of Japan

Prof Lau Sim Yee from Reitaku University and Dr Masaoki Takeuchi and Dr Michio Watanabe from International Development Centre of Japan visited UTAR on 24 and 25 February 2012 to further discuss on Japanese students coming to Malaysia for tertiary education. The idea, initiated when Prof Lau visited UTAR previously, considered the multicultural context in Malaysia as a good exposure for Japanese students from a monoculture society. Such exposure would increase their employability in both Japanese and non-Japanese organisations.



## Malaysian Chinese Medical Association



Six delegates from Malaysia Chinese Medical Association, led by President Cheah Kok Kay (sitting, third from left), met with UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik (sitting, centre), Vice President Prof Ewe Hong Tat (sitting, right), the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Dean Prof Emeritus Dr Cheong Soon Keng (sitting, second from left) and Chinese Medicine department head Prof Dr Zhai Yachun (standing, fourth from right) at Sungai Long Campus on 9 January 2012. The other visitors were Lim Sin Hoe, Lim Lian Seng, Teng Chee Wi, Ng Hong Cheong and Teng Ji-Yun.

## Christian Brethren Secretariat Malaysia (CBSM)

UTAR Perak Campus welcomed 20 delegates from Christian Brethren Secretariat Malaysia on 29 November 2011. Upon their arrival, the visitors were briefed on UTAR history and development. Later they were given a guided campus tour which included the library and the bird sanctuary of the campus. All the delegates were impressed with the picturesque campus and unanimously agreed that it would provide the students with an environment conducive for study.







## Marcus Tan Chee Tiong

Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, 2010

PhD scholarship student, Bond University, Australia

### Straight from bachelor's to PhD

The most defining moment as a scholar for UTAR alumnus Marcus Tan Chee Tiong was when this bachelor's degree holder received a Commonwealth Scholarship awarded by the Australian government to pursue a doctorate degree at Bond University, Australia commencing in January 2012 without the need to complete a master's degree first.

Tan said that he attributed his success in getting the postgraduate scholarship to his alma mater. His research area was 'Marketing Strategies for Sustainable Development'. He also thanked UTAR for shaping him into a competent engineer who had performed well in his previous job as a design engineer in a Sony R&D centre.

"My course in UTAR was well structured to cover all knowledge needed by an electrical engineer in different perspective," said Tan, adding that elective subjects enabled students to pursue knowledge in areas of their special interest. He said his university life in UTAR was challenging but enjoyable.

## Marie-Elena Isaac

Bachelor of Social Science (Hons) Psychology, 2010

Human Resource Consultant, KPMG Business Advisory

### Proven: UTARians are readily employable

"There was never a day that I could remember where there was unpleasantness among the students in my course," said UTAR alumna Marie-Elena Isaac, describing her campus life in UTAR. She added that although her classmates came from different backgrounds, the differences were never noticed in the classroom, and that made every class so memorable to her until today.

Apart from all the fun she had, Isaac also recalled her proudest moments in UTAR of being named in the President's list twice during her studies. The recognition had motivated her to go the extra mile to achieve her goals, and led her to realise that with determination everything would be possible.

"It has proven to me that what I heard many years back about how readily UTAR graduates are snapped up by big companies after graduation is indeed very true," said Isaac from her experience as human resource consultant in KPMG Business Advisory.







## UTAR is Schneider's champ

The three-student UTAR team (picture) emerged as the champion of the Schneider Electric University Challenge 2011 and received their trophy and cash award from the Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water Dato' Sri Peter Chin Fah Kui (second from left) and Schneider Electric Malaysia Country President Peter Cave (left) on 23 February 2012.

The team called Synergy was led by UTAR Faculty of Engineering and Science lecturer Chua Kein Huat and the three students were from different departments. They were Materials and Manufacturing Engineering student Wong Yee Shium, Mechatronics Engineering student Pan Kock Li, and

Electrical and Electronic Engineering student Lui Cai Jin.

Their winning entry titled 'Automated Day Lighting, Presence Detection HVAC and Heat Recovery System' is a three-in-one system that saves energy by using daylight for lighting, modulating air-conditioning airflow according to human presence and using heat from sunlight and hot waste water to heat clean water before it is boiled.

It was the third of such annual inter-university competition organised by Schneider Electric Malaysia. UTAR team won the second prize in 2010 (see UTAR News October 2010 issue, page 8).



## UTAR is second in NACES



UTAR Chemical Engineering students won six awards, making the University the overall second-place winner among 14 Malaysian universities and one Indonesian university in the National Chemical Engineering Symposium (NACES) 2011, which is supported by the Institute of Chemical Engineers.

The students (picture) representing UTAR, led by Asst Prof Dr Low Chong Yu and Assoc Prof Dr Lim Soo King (front, fourth and fifth from left), were Chan Jiun Khin, Elaine Lim, Gan Wei Jieh, Tshou Ka Chin, Yim Yuen Yan, Kow Wan Chin, Ho Soo Shein, Wong Yen Hen, Har Chen Loon, Jocelyn Chng and Low Kok Zhen.

## UTAR students picked for international competition



Two teams of undergraduate and two teams of postgraduate UTAR students were selected to compete in the global-level online Chicago Mercantile Exchange Group International Commodity Trading Challenge in the first quarter of 2012. They emerged in January as the top four teams in the Malaysian leg of the competition organised by Bursa Malaysia Derivatives Berhad (BMD) after beating six other UTAR undergraduate teams.

In a ceremony at UTAR Kuala Lumpur Campus, the four teams, led by the Department of Mathematical and Actuarial Sciences head Dr Goh Yong Kheng (centre, behind the rostrum), received their awards from BMD CEO Chong Kim Seng (Dr Goh's right) and Phillip Capital Malaysia group managing director Andy Lim Say Kiat (Dr Goh's left).



# UTAR research highlights



## Novel theory from Bioinformatics

**Research Team:** *Dr Goh Yong Kheng (picture) and Lim Foo Weng*  
Bioinformatics, aided by information technology, is a relatively abstract field that tries to make sense of genetic data using various mathematical models. One such effort is to infer from the evolutionary lineage and building the phylogenetics trees. "It doesn't really have direct applications, although it helps us understand the ancestral or evolutionary relationships between organisms, and indirectly this could make a big change in how diseases are treated," said Dr Goh.

One of the final outcomes of the projects is the development of a novel metric that explains how robust certain phylogenetic trees can be, and how susceptible they are to deviations. New guidelines in computational taxonomy can also be formulated, with possible positive implications for the genome research field.

## Making dual-camera system affordable

**Research Team:** *Prof Dr Lee Sze Wei, Dr Goi Bok Min, Ng Mow Song, and Low Yi Qian*

"Video surveillance such as CCTV is vital in crime prevention; but there are drawbacks in the use of a traditional video camera, as it delivers low resolution images and lacks flexibility to observe the complete scene. Therefore, we propose a method which uses two different types of cameras; a static wide angle camera and an active pan-tilt-zoom (PTZ) camera," said Dr Goi.

The static camera in the dual-camera system is used to detect targets and provide a global view, whereas the PTZ function is to receive commands and turn to a selected region based on a schedule and provide fine-scale information on the target. The research team aims to design a low-cost dual camera system (picture) for real-time human tracking for both indoor and outdoor video surveillance. This can be used for behaviour and gesture analysis, biometric security (2D-/3D-face recognition) and healthcare monitoring.

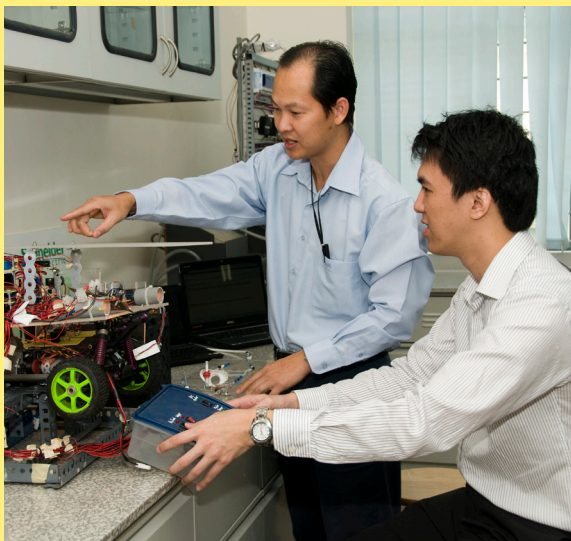


## CPS and EVICS for electric cars

**Research Team:** *Dr Chew Kuew Wai (left) and Gan Yu Han (right)*

Research at UTAR to develop electric cars started since May 2010. The researchers' efforts finally paid off when they won the Innovate Malaysia Award in the Innovate Malaysia Design Competition, which was jointly organised by Agilent Technologies, Altera and Intel partnered with Dreamcatcher Consulting Sdn Bhd and supported by MOSTI and Multimedia Development Corporation (MDeC) on 11 June 2011.

According to Dr Chew, this project successfully introduced a contour positioning system (CPS) and electrical vehicle intelligent control system (EVICS) to enable electric cars to run more efficiently. "The CPS and EVICS will benefit car manufacturers because problems with the electric vehicle system can be logged and extracted wirelessly and remotely into a zip file to be shared and discussed with other trouble-shooters worldwide," said Dr Chew, adding that an outcome of the project would be a prototype electric car using the EVICS.







Runners in action

“ While we celebrate the University’s 10th anniversary, let us not forget the contributions of our forerunners. From a spark of inspiration among the MCA forerunners, more than 40 years ago, came the aspiration of creating a premier institution of higher learning,”

*Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik*



# 10th Anniversary

UTAR launched its year-long 10th Anniversary celebration at its Perak Campus with UTAR Torch Run on 14 January 2012. As early as 6.30am, a large crowd of UTAR staff, students and alumni, and members of the public had arrived to register for the torch run. An hour later, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato’ Dr Chuah Hean Teik gave an address, lit the torch specially designed for the run, and passed it to the first torch bearer before he flagged off the 6.5-kilometer run.

“The UTAR torch run was chosen to be the launching celebration activity because nine years ago, in January 2003, the original UTAR Torch Run was held to raise funds for UTAR. It was a 10-leg run, led by MCA Youth, in various towns in Perak and the last leg started in Kampar town padang and ended in UTAR campus site ready for groundbreaking ceremony by the then Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir on 12 January 2003,” said Prof Chuah, adding that for the torch runners earlier that morning, they had revisited and remade history.

The runners exited at the south gate of the campus, ran through Westlake Homes residential area and Bandar Baru Kampar before returning to the campus where UTAR Council Chairman Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik was waiting at the finishing line to receive the torch from the last torch bearer.

The launching ceremony that followed was started with a unique One-Malaysia dance performed by a team of secondary school students from SMJK San Min and SMK Sultan Abdul Aziz from Teluk Intan.







▲ Launching the 10th Anniversary commemorative book (from left): Dato' Dr Hou, Tun Dr Ling, Prof Chuah and Tan Sri Sak

## 10th Anniversary Celebration

Prof Chuah said, "To celebrate the 10th anniversary of UTAR, we have come up with a Chinese duiliang or couplet specially dedicated to the celebrations. It says: "十栽培才 不忘前人多贡献 百年化雨 且看新景更辉煌". Translated into English is "A decade of forerunners' toil, we'll treasure in our hearts. A century of nurturing individuals, we'll achieve with greater glory."

"While we celebrate the University's 10th anniversary, let us not forget the contributions of our forerunners. From a spark of inspiration among the MCA forerunners, more than 40 years ago, came the aspiration of creating a premier institution of higher learning," said Tun Dr Ling, adding that the forerunners toiled for over three decades until their dream eventually came true when UTAR was born ten years ago on 13 August 2002.

Later, Tun Dr Ling, accompanied by Prof Chuah, Deputy Minister of Higher Education Dato' Dr Hou Kok Chung, and UTAR Education Foundation Board of Trustees Chairman Tan Sri Dato' Dr Sak Cheng Lum, launched the 10th Anniversary commemorative book, website and video which showcased the progress and development of the University since its inception.

Exchange students from Inje University, South Korea Gwon Deuk Yong, Kang Hyunkyon, Shin Myoung Jee, Kim Eunhye and An Jae Sung were glad that they could participate in the celebration. Gwon felt excited joining the torch run as it was rarely held in South Korea. Kang was impressed by the UTAR Chinese Orchestra that performed a harmonious fusion of traditional and modern music before the launching ceremony.





## Credit for community service



Seven UTAR students from Sungai Long Campus (top left) chose to do community service to fulfill part of their course assessment requirements.

Lee Jia Le leading fellow students Deivanai N, Lee Ja Chee, Lee Sin Ru, Theresa Wong, Ting Soo Ling and Wong Shi Hui, spent two hours a week for five weeks during the May 2011 semester doing community service at Persatuan Rumah Amal Murni Kajang, a charity home for underprivileged elders and children. The 10-hour community service aimed to inculcate civic responsibility among students, which is also part of the assessment requirements for the "Professional Ethics and Manners" subject.

In their service, the students had helped the home's caretakers in making the home a better and safer place for the residents. They held various psychomotor activities such as singing (top right),

dancing and colouring (bottom), especially to help the children with mental disabilities, besides promoting togetherness among the residents. They spent the rest of their time socialising with the residents, who were rarely visited by families and friends. The residents enjoyed the students' friendly gesture so much that they looked forward to the weekly visits eagerly. After the last weekly visit, the students were invited to the home for a party where they were presented with a certificate of appreciation from the home. The home's blog (<http://pramkajang.blogspot.com>) also featured the students' visits.

UTAR Department of Soft Skills Competency, which coordinates student voluntary service, commended their efforts and those of many other UTAR students for making a difference in the lives of others in the community throughout the May 2011 semester.







## 10th Anniversary New Village Community Project

### UTAR cares and acts at Banir Estate

On 4 February 2012, 36 UTAR students, four from the Faculty of Medical Health and Science (FMHS) while the rest from UTAR Perak Campus, gathered at Banir Estate New Village in Perak as early as 8.00 am for the Healthy Family Day programme. The programme started with 20 students performing aerobic exercises, and then five students demonstrated Wushu and Tai Chi. After the performance, FMHS Head of Department of Chinese Medicine Prof Dr Zhai Yachun shared the secrets of staying healthy and living longer. Prof Zhai also performed acupuncture on visitors (top) while FMHS students checked the blood pressure of visitors (bottom).

The Healthy Family Day programme is part of the We-Care-We-Act new village community service campaign initiated by the Department of Soft Skills and Competency (DSSC) in conjunction with the year-long UTAR 10th anniversary celebration. The campaign will be held in 20 new villages in Perak including Banir Estate, Tapah Road, Kampung Pahang, Pekan Getah, Temoh, Chenderiang, Bidor Station, Sungkai, Air Kuning, Sungai Kroh, Tanah Mas, Chendrong, Lawan Kuda, Simpang Pulai, Chui Chak, Kuala Bikam, Sungai Durian, Coldstream, and Batu 12.

DSSC works hand in hand with relevant departments, faculties, students, village committees and schools to ensure the success of this campaign. The campaign aims to inculcate civic consciousness and social responsibility among students while helping them to improve their leadership and teamwork skills.



### UTAR holds health screening camp

More than 40 UTAR students volunteered to help in a health screen camp held at Simpang Empat New Village in Bagan Datoh on 20 November 2011.

The community service project was organised by the Department of Soft Skills Competency of UTAR Perak Campus and UTAR Sai Baba Society.

The students (picture) set up booths, registered visitors, assisted the doctors, and served as translators during the counselling sessions.

Through the camp, the students created greater awareness on the importance of health among the villagers, while the students themselves had acquired certain soft skills such as teamwork and effective communication.

“On behalf of the villagers, I thank the students for volunteering in this meaningful project,” said village head Kee Lai Wa, adding that they hope more similar activities will be held in the future.



# UTAR welcomes 'freshies'

UTAR welcomed its new batch of students on 7 January 2012. The six weeks of orientation was held from 7 January to 18 February 2012. At the mass call, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik introduced the students to the faculty deans and senior administrative staff. To prepare students for university life, the university held various activities. They included ice-breaking and tele-match (bottom two pictures), city tour, blood donation campaign, and talks on adjusting to campus life, safety, campus facilities, financial aids, soft skills and careers.



## What do our new students say?

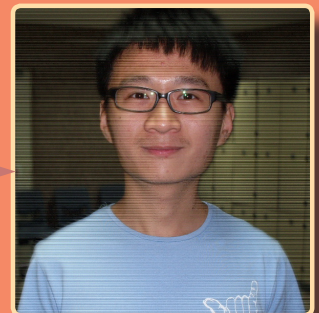


"I choose to study Project Management in UTAR because it gives me good value for money. It is also possible for me to complete the Master's programme within one year. I can also strengthen my English through the English Enhancement Programme. And most important of all is that I find the environment here conducive for learning and the staff are friendly and approachable."

**Mohamed Babikir Ibrahim Mohamed, Sudan**  
**Master of Science (Project Management)**  
**Petaling Jaya Campus**

"UTAR is widely known. In fact, it was my parents and their friends who strongly recommended UTAR when they heard that I wanted to study Building and Property Management. It is lucky for me that UTAR has just started the course and Sungai Long Campus is not far from my home."

**Lee Yee Chern**  
**Bachelor of Building and Property Management (Hons)**  
**Sungai Long Campus**



"I choose to study in UTAR because it is near my home in Ipoh. The fee of programme is really affordable and programme quality is reasonably good. I intend to study Petrochemical Science after completing my foundation course."

**Yee Kai Wen (left), Ipoh**  
**Foundation in Science**  
**Perak Campus**



"I hope to improve my English in UTAR, and the environment here is perfect for me to achieve that because the staff and lecturers are good and helpful. I hope to pursue Business Administration [degree] programme after my foundation study."

**Hou Chao Ping (right), China**  
**Foundation in Arts**  
**Perak Campus**



## Students showcase their short films

Utarians had the opportunity to showcase their short films, the entries for the Short Film Competition organised by UTAR Film Club in a small film festival from 16 to 20 January 2012.

Film Club secretary Foong Wai Leng said the competition was announced in the first week of the semester, leaving participants with only three weeks to shoot and produce their three-minute films.

Seven teams competed in the competition. Their entries were judged by a panel of three academics from the Faculty of Creative Industries (FCI). The judges were Head of Department of Media Luqman Lee (third row, left), lecturer Beh Chun Chee (Lee's left) and specialist Foo Mei Lee. The champion team comprised two Broadcasting students Paul Olikh and Vimal Manamohan, who received a certificate, a hamper and RM300 cash prize.

The screening and award ceremony (picture) was held on 17 February 2012 at FCI. Also present at the ceremony was Star Foundation Professor of Creative Industries Prof Dr William Ray Langenbach (second row, left).



## Fourth UTAR Buddhist camp



UTAR Perak Campus Buddhist Society held its fourth annual Buddhist camp themed 'Mangala Sutta' at Kuan Im Theon Temple (top), Ipoh from 11 to 14 January 2012.

The four days, three nights camp served as a platform to communicate to the participants positive values and to inculcate in them the virtues of being appreciative, having initiative, and being optimistic in their daily lives through learning sessions such as Buddhist etiquette, Sutta study (bottom), Dharma talk, meditation, games, group discussion and presentations.

"The main lesson we focused on in this camp was Mangala Sutta, a Buddha's discourse on blessings," said UTAR Buddhist Camp chairperson Lee Chin Ping, adding that judging from the

positive feedback from the participants, the camp had achieved its objectives and was very successful.





## UTAR wins first, third and fourth in Sudoku tourney



UTAR Mathematics Society organised and hosted on 11 February 2012 the inaugural Intersarsity Sudoku Tournament which was officially opened by UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato Dr Chuah Hean Teik (centre, in batik).

Ten teams from five institutions of higher learning competed in the tournament. The teams went through four rounds of competition of increasing level of difficulty until four top teams emerged. The overall champion team was Team 2

from UTAR. In second place was Team 7 from Universiti Sains Malaysia, and third and fourth, were Team 9 and Team 4 from UTAR (picture).

“Through the tournament we wish to promote interest in Sudoku among Malaysian undergraduates, to strengthen their Sudoku solving skills, and to foster networking and friendly relations among them,” said the tournament organising committee chairperson Yim Shou Wen.

## Fun-filled first aider camp



About 100 students attended a camp organised by UTAR First Aid Society at Hutan Lipur Kuala Woh, a forest reserve near Tapah from 4 to 6 February 2012.

On the first day, a Malaysia Red Crescent representative (picture) gave a talk and demonstrations on first aid application. This was followed by a barbecue party. Various activities and games were included in the programme to cultivate team-building spirit among the participants.

## Ernst & Young hosts 79 Utarians



Seventy-nine UTAR students (picture) from Perak and Sungai Long campuses visited Ernst & Young office in Kuala Lumpur on 11 February 2012.

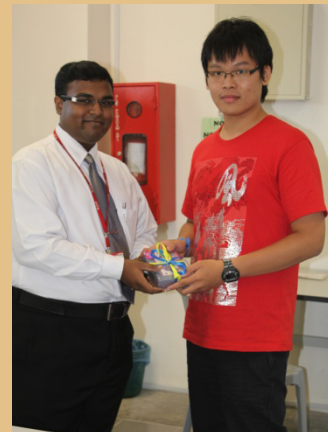
Ernst & Young is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. Headquartered in London, UK, it has member firms in more than 140 countries including Malaysia.

Organised by UTAR Accounting Society, the visit was to provide students a better understanding of this largest professional services firm in Malaysia and the world. The visit also highlighted the career prospects in the company to the students.

The company's officers warmly welcomed the students and briefed them about the company. There was an hour of dialogue which was followed by a question-and-answer session and a tour of the office.



## Briefing on Apprentice Challenge



Before the start of UTAR Apprentice Challenge (11 February to 23 March 2012), UTAR Entrepreneurship Society provided a briefing on the competition at Perak Campus on 11 February 2012.

The briefing, which attracted about 80 students, created a platform for the participants to share their knowledge and experience. After an icebreaking session, UTAR Department of Soft Skills Competency assistant lecturer Andrew Wilfred

Sandanam Samy briefed the audience on event protocol, professional mannerism and presentation skills (left). The programme also included various mind games such as ‘We are the King of Memorizing’ and a Blue Ocean Strategy Game named ‘Surf in Red. Search for Blue.’ for testing the participants’ memory and creativity skills.

Andrew (right picture, left) also received a souvenir from the organising committee chairman Johnny Ng Jian Qiang.

## The City of Arva

UTAR Arts and Crafts Society held an exhibition titled ‘The City of Arva’ on 9 February at UTAR Perak Campus. The exhibition was based on a love story evolving around an elf princess Aurilea (behind the robot) and a human prince Darius (behind Aurilea) and their battles to rebuild the City of Arva, where humans and elves could live together harmoniously.

A wide variety of artworks such as comic drawings, paintings and handicrafts exhibited had drawn many students to the exhibition. Art pieces such as castle guards, three-dimensional tea pots, tree barks, bushes and a three-tiered wedding cake crafted using cardboard and newspaper were also displayed. The most exquisite piece of work was a model castle made of paper.

The event sponsor Leong Min Zhi composed the theme music ‘The City of Arva’ exclusively for the exhibition.





## 《和乐‘龙’融庆新春》晚会



▲ 武术学会呈献逗趣的廿四节令鼓



▲ 精彩绝伦的四川变脸

配合农历新年的到来以及让外地学子齐聚一堂欢庆新春，拉曼大学金宝校区的华文学会于2012年2月4日首次举办一项题为《和乐‘龙’融庆新春》的新春晚会，让众师生及公众人士参与并沉浸于一片浓厚的新春气息当中。

这场新春晚会由拉曼大学副校长郑志成博士揭开序幕，该晚会的节目包罗万象，包括华乐团演奏、合唱团表演、小品演

唱、武术学会呈献的廿四节令鼓、各式武术、扯铃、舞蹈表演等。其中最令人津津乐道的压轴节目是由罗宾文表演的中国国粹，四川变脸及气功表演。

晚会一系列的精彩节目让观众目不暇给，令他们都乐在其中，并频频报以热烈的掌声。

## 《马来西亚的水墨艺术》



▲ 沈桂方先生现场示范水墨画法



▲ 沈桂方先生现场作品《本地水果》

拉曼大学继续教育中心主办了一场题为《如何成就我国水墨艺术》讲座会以探讨本地水墨艺术家应该如何定位自身在本土的艺术创作价值，开辟一条有别于中国传统水墨艺术的蹊径，以属于本土的创作手法与画风展现具有本土色彩的水墨艺术。

主讲人是本地著名水墨艺术导师沈桂方先生。沈先生是马来西亚艺术家协会会长及马来西亚艺术学院校友会会长。沈先生的作品遍布海内外，更于2004年获得香港主办的“中华杯中国书画世界赛”银牌奖；2009受邀为中国主办的“传统与现代”国际华人美术名家作品展的百名艺术家之一，同时被提名为2009年吉隆坡亚太文化产业成就艺术家之一。现为拉曼大学继续教育中心书画导师。

沈先生说：“艺术应表现出‘独立性’，可是许多画家在宣扬表现独立的同时作品又仅呈现传统。”他认为，身为马来西亚艺术家，作品素材应包含如椰林，本地水果，甘榜，三大种族等本土文化的素材才能表现马来西亚艺术精神和展现本地色彩和马来西亚风光。

这场讲座吸引了不少墨画爱好者，书画商，友族同胞及其他高等院校的学生出席聆听。沈先生也现场示范水墨画法，会场上也展出其多幅作品。



▲ 沈桂方先生作品《马来西亚渔村》



## 春颂，春联



▲夏振基（最左）、陈荣立（中）、何启良（右四）和张晓威（右三）

中华研究院及大马中华国学书院于1月15日假中华国学书院联合举办「春颂，春联」壬辰新春活动，获得公众的踊跃出席参与。

大马中华国学书院主席拿督斯里陈荣立在活动现场派赠潮州美点「春饼」礼盒及我国著名书法家夏振基所挥毫的贺岁春联予出席者。贺岁联的上联是「祥龙重献瑞」

，下联「盛序又维新」。壬辰是龙年的来临，祝愿祥瑞的龙年带来好运和福气，在新的岁月有更好的气象。

活动也将请来5位书法界新秀现场挥毫，民众在观赏之余也能将属意的春联带回家收藏，沾沾喜气。

## 饶师泉大师遗物馈赠感谢会

医学与保健科学学院于2月1日在双溪龙校区举行“饶师泉大师遗物馈赠感谢会”，出席者包括蔡贤德校长、饶荣芳教授及其妹妹、尤芳达副校长、李仕伟副校长、郑志成副校长、张顺景院长、梅南英副院长、各系主任和全体医学系学生。饶师泉大师亲属于2011年10月向拉曼大学捐赠中医大师饶师泉先生的一批遗物，其中包括签名书籍及珍藏照片。

蔡贤德校长在致词时表示，饶师泉大师自上海中医学院毕业后，就开始其中医实践。其实践的成果丰硕，被誉为马来西亚现代中医之父。此外，饶大师也是中医师协会的创始人，马来西亚中医药本科教育的先驱者，学验俱丰，桃李满天下。饶女士怀念其父亲时不忘鼓励新一代中医师继承饶大师的遗志，将马来西亚的中医药事业发扬光大，为人类的健康事业作出贡献。

在此次感谢会上，饶师泉家属再捐赠另一部分的珍贵手稿、书籍和照片，并赞助2万元用作“马来西亚拉曼大学国际中医医药学术论坛暨饶师泉教授逝世十周年纪念”的经费。会后嘉宾们参观了中医系中药标本中心，中心除了展示饶老遗物，也展出包括冬虫夏草等珍贵药材的数百种中药饮片标本。



▲左起：蔡贤德校长、饶荣芳教授及张顺景院长观赏饶老收藏。



## Warga UTAR prihatin



▲ Pelajar membuat pendaftaran



▲ Salah seorang pelajar sedang menderma darah

Kempen Derma Darah yang dianjurkan oleh Persatuan Pertolongan Cemas UTAR dengan kerjasama Pusat Darah Negara telah mendapat sambutan yang menggalakkan daripada pelajar-pelajar dan kakitangan UTAR.

Kempen yang dijalankan di Kampus Kuala Lumpur UTAR ini berjaya menarik lebih daripada 200 penderma yang bersama-sama menyahut seruan kementerian kesihatan dalam usaha menangani masalah kekurangan bekalan darah di hospital-hospital di negara ini.

“Sambutan yang ditunjukkan oleh warga UTAR selama dua hari kempen ini dijalankan amat meggalakkan dengan jumlah penderma yang datang mencapai sasaran kami dan diharapkan kempen ini dapat diteruskan di masa akan datang sekurang-

kurangnya diadakan selama tiga hari,” kata Siti Azura Abd Rahman, Pegawai Perhubungan Awam Pusat Darah Negara.

Menurut pelajar UTAR, Chew Siak Koh yang telah kali keempat menderma darah berkata pada mulanya beliau berminat untuk mencuba sahaja tetapi lama kelamaan menjadi satu kebiasaan bagi dirinya kerana menderma darah bukan sahaja dapat menghulurkan bantuan tetapi juga dapat menyihatkan badan.

“Pada mereka yang baru pertama kali menderma darah janganlah hanya terhenti di sini sahaja dan teruskan lagi di masa akan datang kerana ini juga merupakan satu kebajikan dan dapat membantu mereka yang memerlukan,” katanya lagi.

## Bersama kekalkan kehijauan alam

Kira-kira 16 pelajar daripada Persatuan Kidmat Masyarakat UTAR kampus Petaling Jaya telah mengadakan aktiviti gotong-royong membersihkan kawasan Air Terjun Kanching di Rawang Selangor dengan bimbingan kakitangan Jabatan Hal Ehwal Pelajar UTAR.

Mereka telah berkumpul seawal jam 7.00 pagi di blok PD sebelum bertolak ke sana pada jam 7.15 pagi dengan menaiki bas yang telah disediakan. Setiba di sana mereka memulakan aktiviti dengan melakukan pemanasan badan selama lebih kurang 15 minit sebelum bergerak ke kawasan air terjun untuk aktiviti gotong-royong.

Objektif aktiviti yang bertemakan ‘Go Green’ ini bertujuan untuk mengekalkan persekitaran kawasan air terjun yang bersih serta mengukuhkan hubungan antara ahli persatuan dan pelajar UTAR. Walaupun para pelajar sibuk dengan tugas kuliah namun mereka tetap meluangkan masa untuk melakukan aktiviti sosial ini yang dapat memberi kebaikan kepada alam sekitar serta pengunjung yang datang.



▲ Antara peserta yang mengambil bahagian

## UTAR CAMPUSES

### Petaling Jaya Campus

(KPT/JPS/DFT/US/B07)

9 Jalan Bersatu 13/4  
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