



02 **Collaborations**  
at Work

10 **Special**  
Feature

12 **In Search**  
of Excellence

16 **Students**  
in Action

17 **Community**  
at Heart

18 **拉大视野**

20 **Sudut**  
Utarian

Students doing research in the Food Processing Laboratory

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was inked with Hume Cement Sdn Bhd at Kampar Campus on 4 May 2016.

Representing UTAR were UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik and UTAR Vice-President for R&D and Commercialisation Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei. Representing Hume Cement were Hume Cement General Manager Joonho Choi and Hume Industries Berhad (HIB) Human Resources Head Adam Tan Lee Yee.

Other guests from Hume included Hume Concrete Products Research Centre Sdn Bhd Senior Manager for Research and Development Ng Kah Seng and Manager for Quality Control Chan Yew Lai.

"This MoU will allow us to introduce some elective courses and revise our syllabi so that our students are more exposed to the needs of the industry," said Prof Chuah, and added that the main function of a university is to produce knowledge workers who fit into the industry. He also stressed that industry collaborations are no longer seen as a luxury but a necessity.

## MoU inked with Hume Cement



Prof Chuah and Choi shaking hands while Tan (left) and Prof Lee (right) look on

"The search for talent to enrich the industry and workforce has led us to work with UTAR. The collaboration also allows the students to see the cement industry in a different perspective," explained Choi, who also mentioned that Hume Cement is member of the Hong Leong Group. "Under HIB and the Hong Leong Manufacturing Group, there is a 'Rotation Programme' which

also allows UTAR students joining Hume Cement to explore job opportunities in other sectors besides the cement industry," he concluded.

Prior collaborative projects with Hume included student internships at Hume Cement plants, exchange and sharing of testing equipment to achieve common goal towards R&D excellence, and other initiatives.

## MoU with Tan Chong Motor Holdings

UTAR and Tan Chong Motor Holdings Berhad (TCMH) established their official partnership through the signing of an MoU on 8 June 2016 at Kampar Campus.

Signing on behalf of UTAR were President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik and Dean of Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, while the signatories from TCMH were Human Resources Deputy General Manager Loke Kean Mun and Human Resources Associate Lim Xinyi. Also present at the signing ceremony were TCMH Associate of Human Resources Tan Wai Hoo.

Aimed primarily at boosting student employability as well as enriching the industry workforce, the MoU will allow both UTAR and TCMH to pursue a holistic approach in connecting with UTAR students via various activities, assisting them to explore career paths, and helping them identify and apply for career opportunities with TCMH. This will be carried out through a range of activities



From left: Prof Choong, Prof Chuah, Loke and Lim

including guest lectures, networking sessions, and mock interview sessions.

"Exposing our students to the industry allows them to build their human network as well as gain knowledge and skills which are unobtainable from lectures and tutorials, thus giving them an extra edge when seeking employment," commented Prof

Chuah. Loke said, "As TCMH expands locally and internationally, we are also in need of great people with great talent and attitude. I'm delighted to see TCMH and UTAR share common values and principles in people development which will further strengthen our ties to collaborate in developing and

attracting talent." The TCMH delegates also delivered a career talk to FBF students and promoted their two-year Management Associate Programme, a catalyst programme designed to advance high-achieving graduates into managerial positions within TCMH's business functions.

Some 180 students participated in the nine-week KLESF Mentorship Programme (KMP) at Kuen Cheng High School (KCHS) under the guidance of 42 student mentors from UTAR.

As one of the core components of the annual Kuala Lumpur Engineering Science Fair (KLESF), the programme is held throughout the year to promote Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education and raise interest in innovation and creativity among school students.

Held from February to April 2016, this KMP focused on one of the STEM tracks — Biology. Students learned through hands-on experiments such as starch and DNA extraction, cheese making, and several biochemical tests.

Present at the KMP closing ceremony at KCHS on 23 April 2016 were ASEAN Academy of Engineering and Technology President Ir Academician Datuk Hong Lee Pee, UTAR Vice-President for R&D and Commercialisation Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei, KCHS Principal Madam Gooi Swee Gaik, as well as the KMP participants and mentors.

Datuk Hong remarked, "STEM is at the heart of this era of big data. Studying STEM enables us to pick up analytical and logical thinking skills through the understanding of

## KLESF Mentorship Programme



Students explaining the Magic Balloon experiment to Prof Lee and Madam Gooi

science. More importantly, innovation is the key to optimising both personal and national development."

Madam Gooi said, "KCHS truly appreciates UTAR for providing such an enriching learning experience to our students through a variety of interesting STEM activities. Our students love the KMP and

we look forward to more meaningful learning programmes in the future."

Prof Lee added that the KMP project outcomes will be exhibited in KLESF: The Fair 2016 from 4 to 6 November 2016 at the MINES International Exhibition and Convention Centre.

The Federation of Chinese Associations Malaysia (Hua Zong) hosted "The First International Conference on South-East Asian Chinese Studies" at Sungai Long Campus on 16 and 17 April 2016.

Themed 'Malaysian Chinese in the Past, Present and Future', the conference was co-organised with Hua Zong South-East Asian Chinese Research Centre, UTAR Institute of Chinese Studies, University of Malaya Malaysian Chinese Research Centre, Xiamen University Malaysia (XMU), and New Era College (NEC).

Present at the conference were Hua Zong President Tan Sri Dato' Sri Pheng Yin Huah, Hua Zong South-East Asian Chinese Research Centre Chairman Tan Sri Datuk Ng Teck Hong, Tan Sri Dato' Tee Tiam Lee, Senator Dato' Dr Hou Kok Chung, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, XMU President Prof Wang Rui Fang, and NEC Principal Dr Mok Soon Chong.

The main objective of the conference was to congregate scholars in the discipline of South-East Asian research from across the globe to discuss the development and influence

## South-East Asian Chinese International Conference



Front row, third from left: Tan Sri Dato' Tee, Prof Chuah, Tan Sri Dato' Sri Pheng, Senator Dato' Dr Hou, and Tan Sri Datuk Ng

of South-East Asian Chinese on four major aspects, namely politics, economy, culture, and education. As a result, the conference successfully saw more than 20 prominent scholars from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, and Malaysia attend to present and discuss the aforementioned topics in the context of the past, present, and future.

The conference was sponsored by Hua Zong Tan Sri Dato' Kong Hon Kong South-

East Asian Chinese Cultural Centre; Kwang Tung Cemetery South-East Asian Chinese Studies Centre Publication Fund; The Federation of Hokkien Associations of Malaysia; The Federation of Hakka Council Associations of Malaysia; The Federation of Alumni Associations of Taiwan Universities, Malaysia; *Persatuan Fui Chiu Wilayah Persekutuan dan Selangor*; and Crystal Crown Hotel. Supporting units of the

conference were The Federation of Kwang Tung Associations Malaysia, The Federated Teochew Associations of Malaysia, The Federation of Hainan Association Malaysia, the Guangxi Association of Malaysia, *Persatuan Ka Yin KL & Selangor*, The Federation of Wu Association Malaysia, *Persatuan Keturunan Lim Pantai Klang*, Pay Fong High School Alumni Association-Central Regions Malaysia, and Yee Lee Corporation Bhd.

## Five institutions come together

More than 70 students from five higher learning institutions around Perak attended a camp named "5 Institutions Come Together (青春5林)" at Kampar Campus on 9 April 2016.

The camp was jointly-organised by Perak Non-Islamic Affairs Committee, UTAR Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS), Institut Pendidikan Guru (IPG) Kampus Ipoh, and Universiti Kuala Lumpur Royal College of Medicine Perak (UniKL RCMP). It aimed to foster closer ties among universities in Perak.

The participants hailed from UTAR, IPG Kampus Ipoh, UniKL RCMP, Sultan Idris Education University, and Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS.

Activities during the camp included a talk, seminar, and group activities to enrich the social and communication skills of the participants.

One of the highlights of the day was the exchange session between Perak State Executive Council Member Dato' Dr Mah Hang Soon and the participants, titled "Youth and Community". The exchange focused on the current situation and future development of education in Perak. He said, "The education system in the state is systematic and provides outstanding secondary and higher education. In recent years, Perak's tourism market continues to grow. The strength of education and tourism-related



The guests and participants

fields is bringing about a return of expertise to the state."

Dato' Mah also remarked, "When youth thrive the nation also thrives, when youth are strong the nation is also strong (青年兴则国家兴; 青年强则国家强)." He appealed for the forging of a strong union among the students from the various institutions to strengthen ties.

Among the guests present were Deputy Head of Perak Non-Islamic Affairs Committee Choong Shin Heng, Head of Department of Chinese Studies for IPG Kampus Ipoh Dr Ng Sook Gun, Wong Siaw Wuei from UniKL RCMP, Ng Swee Huat and Lam Siew Tai from IPG Ipoh, and other ICS members.

The Centre for Research in Traditional Chinese Medicine (CRTCM) organised a training course on acupuncture on 2 and 3 April 2016 at Sungai Long Campus.

The invited trainers were Dr Phua Szenan from New Zealand and Dr Pak Hong Lam from the United Kingdom. Also present at the training were the Organising Chairperson Chong Kuen Yen and Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS), Department of Chinese Medicine Head and CRTCM Chairperson Dr Te Kian Keong.

Titled "Dr Tan's Balance Method Acupuncture and Acupuncture Technique Training (谭针治疗痛症分享与飞经走穴针法学习班)", the course aimed to train Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) acupuncturists on two of the most widely used TCM acupuncture techniques in the West, namely Tan's Balance Method (谭氏天应穴平衡针法) and Tong Tian Acupuncture Technique (通天针法).

The two-day acupuncture training saw more than 124

## Acupuncture training



Front row, fourth from left: Dr Phua, Dr Pak, and Dr Te with the participants

participants, including TCM students and academics from FMHS, as well as TCM practitioners from the public.

Dr Phua is a senior TCM acupuncturist and practitioner based in New Zealand. He is also a member of the Federation of Chinese Physicians and Acupuncturists Association

Malaysia, a member of

Acupuncture NZ, formerly known as the New Zealand Register of Acupuncturists, and a registered treatment provider of Accident Compensation Corporation.

Dr Pak is a veteran TCM practitioner who has practised both Western and Chinese medical principles over his 30 years of clinical and teaching experience in the field. Besides

that, he is an expert in palm and pulse diagnosis, Qigong, and acupuncture. Dr Pak is also the founder and developer of the Tong Tian Acupuncture Technique.

The training was sponsored by San-Tronic Medical Devices Sdn Bhd and Wide Tropsim Trading Sdn Bhd.

## Five-minute presentation competition

The Five Minute Presentation (5MP) and Poster Competition organised by the Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) with the participation of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) was held on 19 April 2016 at Sungai Long Campus.

Representing ICBC in the event was its Head of Human Resource and Administration Wang Shaoqiang and Senior Manager of Human Resource and Administration Alfred Chan.

The 5MP event was a research communication competition that was based on FAM students' Final Year Project. The purpose of the competition was to cultivate students' academic presentation and research communication skills.

Students were tested on the level of understanding around their research areas and their presentation skills through their conveyance of research information to the audience in a clear, concise manner within five minutes.

Wang mentioned, "Such events are important as they cultivate two important skills that



Participants of 5MP

are much needed in the working industry, which are writing and effective communication. We are very glad to participate in this event and I hope there will be future collaboration between ICBC and UTAR such as internships and exchange of financial information for further research opportunities."

"What we are doing today has been done by many universities throughout the world such as in Australia and the United Kingdom. As UTAR envisions to be a global university, we would like to

expose our students to this global standard which will be useful to them in the near future," said FAM Dean Dr Sia Bee Chuan.

The judges for the Five Minute Presentation were lecturers from FAM, namely Dr Lim Yet Mee, Dr S. Sheelah, Dr Lee Siew Peng, Prof Dr Cheng Ming Yu, Dr Hen Kai Wah, Dr Tan Pei Meng, Dr Lim Wan Leng, and Vincent Tung.

Meanwhile, the judging of the posters was held earlier through an exhibition on 15 April 2016 at KA Block. The judges

for the Poster Competition also hailed from FAM, they were Nurhayati binti Md Khair, Dr T. Puvaneswary, Tiong Kui Ming, Siti Nurhidayah Mohd Roslen, Cham Tat Huei, Kasmah binti Tajuddin, T. K Shamini, and J. Jayamalathi.

When asked, Onn Ming Kuan and Tiew Heng Chuan from the International Business programme said, "We are glad to be given a chance to participate in this competition as it enables us to build our interpersonal skills in preparation to enter the working world."

UTAR and Silverlake Group are set to collaborate on a software system for the operation, management, and strategic planning of a learning institution under the memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed on 3 May 2016 at Silverlake Group headquarters, KPMG Tower.

"The system will be a fully integrated system that enables a learning institution to be linked and supports various stakeholders through the Internet, with highly efficient, effective, and user-friendly system features," said UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik.

"The system will support individuals' lifelong learning and career development, as well as industries through comprehensive and effective matching of individuals' skills and capabilities to industries' needs," said Silverlake Group Founder and Group Executive Chairman Goh Peng Ooi.

In January 2015, both institutions launched the UTAR SilverCard for all staff and students in Kampar Campus. It serves as an ID card and e-wallet, which can be used to pay for services and merchandise in the campus.

The payment instrument aimed to transform the university into a cashless environment and enrich students' campus life by using the latest contactless payment technology.

## Software for learning institutions



Prof Chuah (left) and Goh (right) signing the MoU

## Visit by Sichuan Province education department

Delegates from the Education Department of Sichuan Province (EDSP) visited Sungai Long Campus on 19 April 2016. The visit aimed to build rapport between UTAR and EDSP as well as with Sichuanese higher learning institutions in order to promote mutual understanding and explore common grounds for future collaborations.

Representing the EDSP were its Associate Counsel Zhou Xuefeng, Office of International Exchanges and Cooperation Consultant Tan Jun, Sichuan Centre for Educational Technology Editorial Office Head Wan Shan, and Sichuan Education News Agency Editor Yu Xiaogang.

The visiting group included delegates from 16 Sichuanese institutions, namely Sichuan University, Southwest Jiaotong University, Sichuan Normal University, Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Chengdu University, Xihua University, Southwest University of Science and Technology, Southwest Medical University, North Sichuan Medical College, Leshan Normal University, Sichuan Tourism University, China West Normal University, Mianyang Normal University, Chengdu Textile College, Sichuan College of Architectural Technology, and Leshan Vocational and Technical College.

They were welcomed by Vice-President for Internationalisation and Academic Development Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, accompanied by Institute of Management and Leadership Development Director Prof Cheng Ming Yu, Offshore Office (China) Director Helen Liu, and representatives from faculties, institutes, and administrative departments.



Prof Ewe (Front row, fourth from left) and Zhou (Front row, fourth from right) with delegates from EDSP and UTAR

Prof Ewe said, "The 16 universities and colleges comprise reputable higher learning institutions in the province, each with unique features in academic disciplines such as medical sciences, architecture, technology, linguistics, and vocational training. There are a multitude of prospects that we can further explore with the 16 potential collaborative partners."

Impressed by UTAR's rapid growth in mere 14 years since its inception, Zhou said that the university has a rising reputation as a cradle of talents at both national and international levels. "In view of boosting quality education, this meeting is an initial stage in facilitating more successful educational ventures through joint efforts."

## Beijing Dance Academy visits UTAR

Delegates from the Beijing Dance Academy visited UTAR Sungai Long Campus on 4 April 2016. Visiting on behalf of the Beijing Dance Academy were its Head of Dance Teaching and Research Office Assoc Prof Yu Xiao Xue and the Head of Administrative Office Dr Xue Li Li.

The delegates were warmly welcomed by UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Faculty of Accountancy and Management Dean Dr Sia Bee Chuan, Faculty of Creative Industries Dean Dr Chin Yee Mun, Institute of Chinese Studies Dean Assoc Prof Dr Chong Siou Wei, Division of Community and International Networking Director Assoc Prof Dr Tan Sin Leng, and Centre for Extension Education Director Lim Guat Yen.

The main objectives of the visit were to look for future collaboration between both universities in the aspect of student and staff exchange programme and to discuss on future co-operation in incorporating the cultures of both countries into a dance performance. Besides that, both universities hoped to have future joint research collaboration.

Prof Yu said, "We look forward to future opportunities in areas such as a partnership in organising a dance performance which incorporates Malaysia's culture and China's culture into its dance moves."

"We welcome students and teachers from Beijing Dance Academy to come for an exchange programme, whereby the teachers may come here to teach UTAR students various dance classes, while students are encouraged to participate in the English programmes offered by our Centre for Extension Education," said Prof Chuah.



Prof Chuah presenting a souvenir to Prof Yu and Dr Xue

## Visit from Norton University



UTAR delegates together with the visitors from Norton University

UTAR Sungai Long Campus received visitors from the Graduate School of Norton University from Cambodia on 8 April 2016. There were 15 MBA students along with two lecturers and one official. Their visit aimed to build rapport between UTAR and Norton's Graduate School in order to promote mutual understanding and explore common grounds for future collaborations.

Dr Sia Bee Chuan, Dean of UTAR's Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM), welcomed the visitors with a speech.

Afterwards, they were brought on a tour of the Sungai Long Campus.

The students were also treated to three talks by three speakers from FAM. They were MBA Industry Advisor Dato' Dr Ir Andy Seo Kian Haw, FAM Head of Postgraduate programme Dr Lau Teck Chai, and Centre for Sustainable Development and Corporate Social Responsibility in Business Chairperson Dr Mohammad Falahat Nejadmahani.

## Visit by industry advisor

The Faculty of Arts and Social Science's (FAS) newly appointed Industry Advisors for the Department of Public Relations (PR), Manminder Kaur and Puspavathy Ramaloo from intelektasia, a Public Relations Consultancy and Training Firm, made their maiden visit to Kampar Campus on 8 April 2016.

As part of UTAR's commitment in maintaining a strong undergraduate programme which encourages the intellectual and personal development of students, the industry advisors were sought for their feedback and advice on the latest requirements of the industry and market to enhance existing programmes.

Visiting the campus for the first time, the duo was received by FAS Dean Dr Alia Azalea, Head of Department of PR Pong Kok Shiong and fellow staff members where they had discussion and reviews on the current PR syllabus. To further groom our students to be knowledgeable and industry ready upon completion of studies, Manminder, who is the CEO of intelektasia, advised the inclusion of digital media topics as well as more subjects which hone the practical skills of students. Other topics discussed also included sentiment analysis especially in social media, advocacy in PR, PR measurement, digital branding, and news values.

In a bid to encourage mutual and lifelong learning, the Department of PR also arranged a talk by Manminder on the meteoric rise of digital media which has greatly impacted the industry. Through the talk, staff and students' awareness and understanding of the effects of technology to the PR industry were heightened, thus better preparing them in the evolving digital age.

Speaking from her experience and expertise, Manminder mentioned that the widespread use of social media has actually provided an opportunity to reach consumers through various channels. Some examples of popular social media tools mentioned are Facebook and YouTube.

"These social media channels have contributed to the brand's overall personality and have helped consumers to



Manminder and Puspavathy (middle) posing with students

obtain deeper, personal connection with the brands. These channels have also become a platform for consumers to freely voice their opinions or to question the brand itself. Therefore it is vital for the brands to respond effectively and quickly," explained the award winning PR expert.

As Manminder spoke further, she mentioned that these opportunities of social media not only provided easy access to consumers but have also witnessed the increasing demand for more PR professionals to collaborate with brand owners. She mentioned that from those collaborations, brands are able to develop meaningful and purposeful relationships with their collaborators so as to create impactful campaigns.

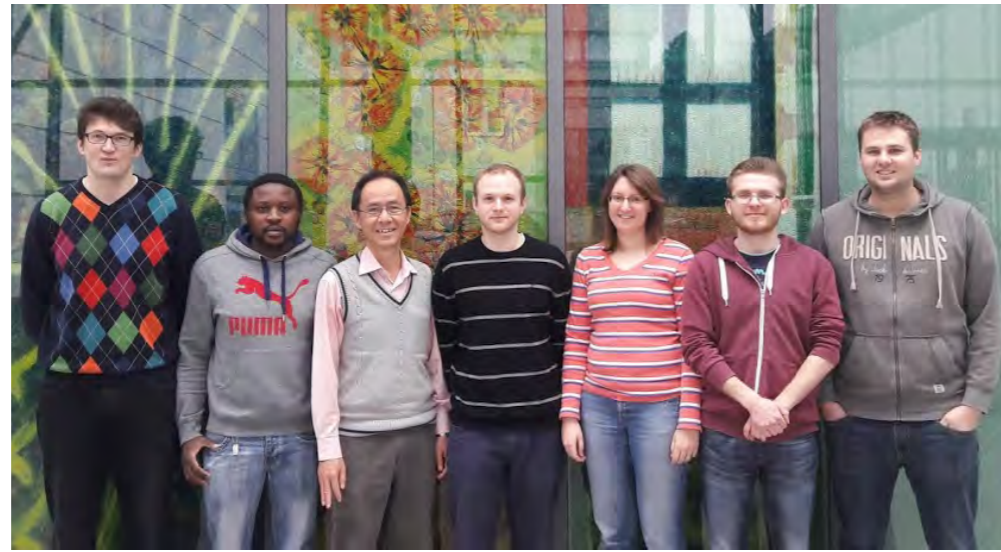
"Recognising the opportunities in social media enable brands to stay ahead of the digital media development, bringing values to their brands, and creating stronger customer loyalty," stated Manminder.

## FEGT Dean teaches in Germany

Following the MoU signing ceremony between UTAR and the Regensburg University of Applied Sciences (*Ostbayerische Technische Hochschule Regensburg (OTH Regensburg)*) from Germany in 2014, both parties have constantly worked together to hold productive collaborations in order to benefit one another.

UTAR and OTH Regensburg have conducted numerous projects together, with one of the recent projects being the Dean of UTAR's Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology Dr Yap Vooi Voon offering block courses at OTH Regensburg. Dr Yap most recently conducted a block course titled "Multi-processor and Multi-core Designs for Reliable Embedded Systems" from 1 to 18 March 2016.

The block course focused on engineering reliable embedded systems and was delivered to German students who are pursuing their Dual Master's Degree Programme in Electrical and Microelectronic Systems. Apart from block courses carried out by Dr Yap, three UTAR students are currently doing their Dual Master's Degree Programme in Electrical and Microsystems Engineering (OTH) / Electronic Systems (UTAR) in OTH Regensburg. These students organised a mini Malaysia Day in conjunction with Dr Yap's trip to Regensburg. Through the mini Malaysia Day, the three UTAR



Dr Yap (third from left) with OTH Regensburg students

students assisted in promoting Malaysian culture through presentations and a Malaysian food tasting event. Prof Rupert Schreiner gave an overview of the OTH Regensburg-UTAR Dual Master's Degree Programme and Dr Yap presented the UTAR corporate video followed by a power-point presentation of UTAR and FEGT.

The trip also marked another substantial milestone as OTH Regensburg and UTAR's FEGT successfully secured a second grant

called "Practice Oriented Partnerships" worth RM1.8million from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). The grant will support students from the Department of Electronic Engineering at FEGT to complete their final year projects at OTH Regensburg in association with German companies such as Infineon and Osram. The grant will also support staff exchanges between both universities.

## Upholding integrity through film

The Malaysian Institute of Integrity (INTEGRITI) aimed to raise awareness on the value of integrity among students through a short film competition themed 'The value of integrity of various religion brings prosperity (*Nilai-nilai Integriti Pelbagai Agama Teras Kesejahteraan Rakyat*)', organised with UTAR's Faculty of Creative Industries on 19 April 2016.

"Solidarity and harmony are important values for Malaysia's growth and development. Universal values such as love, peace, respect, and understanding found in different communities should be upheld and applied to all," said member of the Board of Directors of INTEGRITI Dato' Sri Dr Sharifah Zarah binti Syed Ahmad.

Dr Sharifah, who is also the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission Secretary-General, said the ministry would try to air short films that meet broadcasting quality and standards on Radio Television Malaysia.

"Allowing students to express their creativity through film will encourage more of them to take up the challenge compared to giving them a talk on integrity," said INTEGRITI President and CEO Dr Anis Yusal Yusoff.

UTAR Vice-President for R&D and Commercialisation Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei stressed that higher learning institutions in



From left: Dr Anis, Dato' Sri Dr Sharifah, and Prof Lee officiating the competition

the country are responsible for educating and promoting the value of integrity among students and youths.

Prof Lee also hoped that both UTAR and INTEGRITI will be able to collaborate and support efforts in making Malaysia a country that possesses a strong sense of integrity.

This competition is open to all students from private universities and colleges in

Malaysia, and is free of charge. Participants are required to submit a three to five minute long clip before 20 July 2016.

All participants stand a chance to win up to RM2,000 in cash prizes for their entries. Detailed rules and regulations can be found in the registration form at [integriti.my/dev](http://integriti.my/dev).



UTAR Vice-President for Internationalisation and Academic Development Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat (far left) at the launch of Cloudera's BASE (Big Analytics Skills Enablement) Initiative

Cloudera, the global provider of the fastest, easiest, and most secure data management and analytics platform built on Apache Hadoop and the latest open source technologies, announced that UTAR has joined the Cloudera Academic Partnership (CAP) programme. The partnership will allow UTAR students access to a curriculum, software, and skills training for the Hadoop platform.

Cloudera's Senior Director of Marketing for Asia-Pacific, Daniel Ng said, "A rapidly evolving data landscape is giving rise to a strong demand for skilled professionals that are able to deploy and manage big data initiatives on the Apache Hadoop data platform. CAP is one of the ways that Cloudera is leading in putting more data-skilled talents into the workforce."

Ir Dr Karl Ng, Director of Innovation

## UTAR joins Cloudera Academic Partnership

Capital at Multimedia Development Corporation (MDeC) said, "Data professionals are very much in demand right now and they are in short supply. Malaysia is poised to become one of Southeast Asia's leading BDA hubs and with Cloudera's CAP programme, we hope to close the talent gap as well as spread the awareness on the need for more data professionals, including data scientists."

UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik commented, "UTAR is committed to promoting the use

of ICT and IT-intensive learning through innovative courses and learning support systems. Cloudera's CAP programme allows us to put together a strong curriculum that encourages the intellectual and personal development of students. The programme also allows our students to gain valuable skills that are in demand across sectors in the industry."

UTAR is the first university in Malaysia to officially join the CAP programme, which already counts over 100 academic institutions across the globe as members.

## R&D Colloquium 2016

"In today's global world, it is essential for academics and industrial scholars to work together in research and development to generate new knowledge and turn them into new products and services. Academia's engagement with the industries is crucial to maintain and enhance competitiveness as well as to maximise the social and economic benefits of new ideas," said UTAR Vice-President for R&D and Commercialisation Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei in his welcome remarks at the opening ceremony of UTAR's R&D Colloquium (1.0) 2016 held in Kampar Campus on 28 May 2016.

Organised by the Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Research for the fifth time, the biannual R&D Colloquium continued to nurture regular communication between researchers from the 28 research centres in UTAR through establishing research collaborations and reinforcing cross disciplinary research. Themed 'Social and Economic Wellbeing for Nation Building', the R&D Colloquium saw more than 150 participants.

There were a total of 31 presentations whose topics included developments in the health system, stress management, tourism, communication and social behaviour, leadership management, and the role of multimedia elements in teaching as well as nation-building.

Head of the Department of Languages



Prof Lee (first row, fourth from right) with the participants of the fifth R&D Colloquium

and Linguistics-cum-participant Christina Ong Sook Beng enthused, "The R&D Colloquium has not only opened my eyes to research from other field of studies, but also to different perspectives in the field of education such as adopting robots to teach English as a foreign language, using multimedia to teach finance, and the importance of language in solving mathematical problems."

The colloquium is supported by the UTAR Strategic Research Funding Scheme to promote continuous excellence in research that expands the boundaries of knowledge. As a progressive university, UTAR constantly holds conferences and colloquia as platforms for researchers to share their research findings and network with others for more collaborative opportunities.

# Long Service and Excellence Awards



UTAR Staff Long Service and Excellence Awards was held on 17 May 2016 at UTAR Multi-purpose Hall. The purpose of this event was to honour the contributions and unconditional dedication of staff who have served UTAR for more than ten years.



The Long Service and Excellence Awards recipients

UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik in his speech mentioned that, "UTAR is all about the staff, their dedication and commitment to the university and its students. I always think that for any organisation, particularly within a university, it is not so much about the syllabus, but is eventually about the capability of the staff. With this I would like to thank all the Long Service Award recipients for your ultimate dedication and commitment towards UTAR. I am very sure that all of you have worked very hard, but I would like to urge all of you to work smart and to be efficient. If a person can only perform if he has been given everything under the sun, he is just a mediocre person, but if a person can perform with constraints then he or she is a real achiever. I urge all of you to think out of the box and by this, to know which box you are in first. Competition will always be there and there is no guarantee in life, so we have to continuously improve ourselves to stand out, be more efficient and effective."

Prof Chuah further iterated, "A university is not just a teaching college, as teaching is just the dissemination of knowledge. The university also has a duty to continuously create knowledge by conducting research that have high impact to the society as a whole. The six guiding principles in UTAR, which are Virtue and Morality, Knowledge and Intellect, Physical and Mental Health, Sociality and Humanitarianism, Aesthetics and Harmony, and Creativity and Innovation, must be used to preserve our harmonious working environment and lift UTAR to greater heights."

All the long service award recipients were then invited onto the stage to receive their award and gift presented by Prof Chuah himself as a token of appreciation.

"UTAR provides the ideal environment, motivation, and support towards intellectual property development and research commercialisation efforts. I would say it can be exciting but taking caution with public disclosure is important when aiming for patent filing," said Dr Wong Mee Chu who was one of the recipients of the Research Excellence Award 2015.



Prof Chuah giving his speech

S. Poongothai from the Centre for Extension Education mentioned, "Throughout the years of working at UTAR, I have picked up English and Bahasa Melayu and this helps me in improving myself so that I can serve UTAR better."

"I love my job as I am very energetic and passionate about my work which enables me to move around," said Tahrin bin Uda Abdul Rahman from the Department of General Services.

Dr Lim Eng Hock from the Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science and a recipient of the Research Excellence Award 2015 said, "It is important to note that regardless of the constraints we may face, we must find a way out. We must try our best to do high-impact research and actively seek for supporting funds that enable UTAR to march forward to its goal to become a

global university of educational excellence with transformative societal impact which strives for excellence in research. I believe that good researchers will always want to stretch their mind to propel it further so that it does not stay at the same dimension all the time. Also, we need to always look beyond the present to remain relevant to the industries."

During the event, UTAR also announced that the Centre for Communication Systems and Networks (CCSN) had been awarded

the UTAR Research Centre Excellence Award 2015 that provides a research grant amounting to RM100,000. The CCSN focuses on telecommunications research such as broadband network technologies and management, wired and wireless internetworking systems, communication theory and applications, and applied electromagnetics. It is a place that has gathered researchers, providing them with

a hotbed to do multi-disciplinary research. To date, the centre has 14 researchers who have actively worked around the clock to secure external grants amounting to more than seven million ringgit, as well as publishing more than 40 peer-reviewed journal papers, one monograph, four book chapters, and participating in many conferences.



Prof Chuah presenting the award to Dr Lim accompanied by UTAR Vice-President for R&D and Commercialisation Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei

Awards	Recipients
Innovation Excellence Award 2015	Dr Wong Mee Chu from LKC FES
Research Excellence Award 2015	Assoc Prof Dr Lim Eng Hock from LKC FES
Teaching Excellence Award 2015	For Each Centre/Institute/Faculty: Mohammad Reza Dehghani from CFS-SL Phang Ying Ning from CFS-KPR Yong Tien Fui from FICT Teo Aik Chuan from FBFB Yuen Hawk Leong from FSc Jayamalathi a/p Jayabalan from FAM Renu a/l Kailsan from FAS Dr Shwe Sin from FMHS Dr Carmen Nge Siew Mun from FCI Dr Yong Chin Khian from LKC FES Dr Tan Beng Piou from ICS Dr Ng Choon Aun from FEGT
E-Learning Excellence Award 2015	Dr Victor Tan Hock Kim from LKC FES
Service Excellence Award 2015	Tang Kin Leong from ITISC

## Outstanding Asian Researcher Award

Faculty of Arts and Social Science Deputy Dean for R&D and Postgraduate Programmes Dr Kok Jin Kuan has been awarded the Outstanding Asian Researcher Award by the Philippine Association of Institutions for Research (PAIR), in conjunction with the 4th International Conference on Multidisciplinary Research held from 26 to 27 May 2016 at Berjaya Times Square Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

The award is given to researchers who had their research cited often by other academicians. PAIR selects based on the publication record of all the researchers who participated and presented papers in conferences via the Google Scholar Citation System. Dr Kok's research received international recognition with 54 citations and a Hirsch index of four.

"It was a pleasant surprise for me. I am grateful to the research culture in UTAR. It has provided a rich research environment for me. I am very motivated to grow in this aspect," she said. Dr Kok has also written a book titled *Metamorphosis: The Joy to be Transformed* and about 14 journal publications.

She has extensive clinical experience working with clients of different backgrounds such as secondary school students with mental health challenges, parents with



Taylor's University Senior Lecturer Dr Gul Muhammad Baloch (right) presenting the award to Dr Kok while PAIR President Dr Genaro V Japos (left) looks on

difficult children, people with adoption and abortion cases, families and couples in need of counselling, and those caring for the terminally ill. She is a registered counsellor and certified supervisor with the Singapore Association for Counselling.

PAIR is an organisation comprising

research institutions and researchers with 88 members. It organises conferences, publishes academic journals, and conducts research trainings. It also provides recognition to researchers with outstanding achievements.

## Envisioning a green neighbourhood

Final Year Environmental Engineering student Lee Jia Yi won the "Green Neighbourhood Initiative Award - Friend of 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)" on 21 December 2015 at Kompleks Pentadbiran Majlis Daerah Kampar (MDKpr).

Organised by the Kampar District Council, the Green Neighbourhood Initiative was a collaborative effort with the community to raise awareness on the importance of the 3Rs among the public. Lee used his final year project to participate in the environmental programme.

Titled "Waste Composition and Students' Acceptance of Waste Segregation in West Lake Student Hostel Area", the project uses an environmental management system and constant monitoring to ensure the continual improvement of the project's performance. Implementing the waste segregation programme at the hostel area, students will have increased awareness and improved behaviour on waste management.

Lee's lifelong passion is to work in the solid waste management field, and with that purpose, he was further driven to make his project a success. "I like the quote 'there is no waste in this world', because it reminds me that the success of my project will not only bring benefit to the environment, economy, and society, but is also very meaningful for me, and motivates me to make it a success," enthused Lee.

The segregation programme focused on separating materials such as paper or cardboards, metals, plastics, glass, food wastes, and e-wastes. To ensure the smooth operations of the programme, trainings were conducted to educate students on the segregation practices.

In hope of making waste segregation a sustainable culture in Malaysia, Lee plans to work as an environmental officer in his homeland, Penang. "UTAR's Environmental Engineering Programme



Yang Dipertua MDKpr Khairul Amir bin Mohamad Zubir (centre) presenting the certificate to Lee (left) while Setiausaha MDKpr Nor Akmal bin Yang Ghazali looks on (right)

has taught me a lot and my supervisor Dr Mohammed J. K. Bashir (Department of Environmental Engineering Head), has guided me well. I hope I will be able to apply all that I have learnt into improving the implementation of waste segregation programme in our country," said Lee.

## Anugerah Tokoh Siswa 2015

awards contested under the categories of leadership and volunteerism. Meanwhile, the special award category was chosen based on their achievements and recognition on the international level.

UTAR Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science student Loh Hong Khai received the "Penghargaan Khas Ketua Pengarah Pendidikan Tinggi" award during the *Anugerah Tokoh Siswa 2015* for his achievements on the international stage.

Loh has represented UTAR and the country on five different occasions, which are the Procter & Gamble (P&G) ASEAN Business Challenge (ABC) 2013, the Bayer Young Environmental Envoy (BYEE) Programme 2013, the East Asia Final of Go Green in the City 2013 Challenge, the Bosch World Experience 2014, and the 1st SEAMEO (Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization) Youth Leadership Forum 2014.

Anugerah Tokoh Siswa was organised by the Ministry of Higher Education and was held at Universiti Malaysia Pahang on 23 April 2016. This award was introduced in 2013 with the aim of producing wholesome undergraduates who not only excel academically but are also outstanding in the co-curricular sphere. This year, they have extended the award to include private institutions of higher learning and polytechnics.

There were 346 applicants of which only 46 were shortlisted and called for interviews at the Ministry of Higher Education offices in Putrajaya on 3 March 2016. There were 18



From left: UTAR Vice-President for Internationalisation and Academic Development Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Dato' Prof Dr Asma bin Ismail, Loh, Dato' Seri Idris Jusoh, Tan Yen Li, Datuk Mary Yap Kan Ching, Dato' Seri Ir Dr Zaini bin Ujang

A group of three UTAR Faculty of Arts and Social Science students clinched the Third Runner-up spot in the Good English Language Learner Silver State Challenge Quiz 2016 (GELL-SSCQ 2016) held at Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Perak on 2 April 2016.

The freshmen team comprising English Language student Vivian Yap Mun Kuan, English Education students P. Thanushini and Sheena William also added another feather in their cap when Thanushini was awarded Best Female Participant under the Tertiary category.

Organised by UiTM Perak, the GELL-SSCQ is an annual invitational quiz competition for public and private institutions of higher learning within Perak Darul Ridzuan. Participants are quizzed on general knowledge, geography, music, STEM, and others topics which ultimately encourages participants to communicate in English during brainstorming and discussion sessions.

"Joining the competition was an eye-opening experience for all of us and claiming the third runner-up spot was another surprise," commented Thanushini. Echoing her sentiment was Yap, who said that the win was a boost to her confidence in joining future competitions as well as driving her to push herself to her limits.

"Teamwork truly was the key to our success. Helping each other during the entire course of the competition was what got us to where we are," Sheena added, to which Thanushini concurred and ascribed her success as the Best Female Participant to both Yap and Sheena's assistance. "Sheena and Vivian Yap helped me a lot. Despite not being certain when answering certain questions, we told one another not to

## Third Runner-up in English Quiz



From left: Thanushini, Sheena, and Yap

give up easily but keep trying."

The team walked away with a cash prize of RM100 and certificates for each member, while Thanushini bagged a trophy, a certificate and a hamper.

## Second place at AYES pitch competition

“Visibility is the key to successful diversion in the recycling process. The see-through recycling bins showing ‘what goes where’ provide great flexibility to recyclers.”

That was the pitch of Wong Hong Wen, a final year Entrepreneurship student from the Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF). Wong achieved an outstanding accomplishment by winning second place in the ASEAN Young Entrepreneurs Summit 2016 (AYES) Pitching Competition held at the *Dewan Canselor Tun Abdul Razak* of Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) from 16 to 17 April 2016.

The key element of the pitch was that while all of the recycling bins were to be see-through, they are still tinged with the conventional colours that correspond to the recyclable items which will be collected. Besides that, each recycling bin will be equipped with different features according to the shapes and structures of recyclable items accepted. Apart from that, the see-through concept will also ease the task of the recyclers and collectors to confirm if they are recycling and collecting the correct material.

Wong’s project, titled “G-Synthesis”, won him a certificate of participation and a cash prize of RM80.

Wong said, “We did preparation beforehand and we also consulted some UTAR lecturers on the prospects of the project. Two weeks before the event, we were able to come up with a concept sample and used that same sample to deliver our idea during the competition. We are now discussing on whether to carry out this business plan and commercialise our product.”

The pitch competition was a seminar created for entrepreneurs with new business ideas who are in need of seed money. Organised by UKM, it was aimed at



Wong (right) receiving the prize from Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry Datuk Hj Ahmad bin Hj Maslan (middle)

young, aspiring entrepreneurs in ASEAN countries. The theme for this year is ‘Empowering Marketing for Young Entrepreneurs’.

It was also aimed to give an opportunity to students and young entrepreneurs to learn from successful entrepreneurs-cum-speakers, namely Managing Director of Nouvelle Beauty Centre Rita Dato’ Sosilawati, Executive Director of SukaSucre Dato’ Fazley Yaakob, Executive of HotelQuickly Marketing and Public Relations Tan Wen Dee, and Winner of the Apprentice Asia Founder and Managing Director of JY Ventures and Consultancy Jonathan Yabut.

## Three wins in taekwondo

UTAR students nabbed three gold medals in the categories of male heavyweight, female welterweight, and female bantamweight recently at the Nottingham Ultimate Taekwondo Showdown held in University of Nottingham, Malaysia Campus from 9 to 10 April 2016.

“This competition has always been a training ground for me to improve my physical, technical, tactical, and psychological skills for future tournaments,” male heavyweight gold medallist Calvin S’ng Kai Vee said.

“It was a good platform for all players to meet up, spar, gain experience, exchange ideas, and promote goodwill among players from other private universities,” said female welterweight gold

medallist Ban Sok Tee.

Choon Siang Yong, Female bantamweight gold medallist hopes that their achievements will inspire more students to take up the sport in the future.

Besides that, seven other students managed to win five bronze and two silver medals. Nottingham Ultimate Taekwondo Showdown 2016 was a Taekwondo tournament organised by the University of Nottingham, Malaysia Campus.



S’ng (second from left) with his gold medal



Choon (second from left) with her gold medal

## LKC FES FYP poster competition

The Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) organised a Final Year Project (FYP) poster competition on 13 April 2016 at Sungai Long Campus. The competition aimed to cultivate research interest among LKC FES students.

Electrical and Electronics Engineering student Chong Yih Lip won first place for his financial tool that analyses electrical charges. “By categorising the raw energy data into building services, an energy demand portfolio can highlight specific building services which contribute to the total energy consumption of the building,” he said.

Mechanical Engineering student Teo Yao Yi’s poster showcased a hydrometallurgical process for extracting zinc from Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) dust. “Steel making industries generate 7.5million tons of EAF dust worldwide annually. The recycling of zinc from EAF dust contributes 40 percent of the total world zinc production and offers high commercial value as a main galvanic protective coating material for steel,” he said.

Electrical and Electronics Engineering student Loh Hong Khai proposed a new algorithm suited for multi-processing. “Fountain Code is a rateless erasure code where a message of  $k$  symbols transforms into  $n$  encoded symbols, where  $n$  can be limitless,” he said.

Meanwhile, Wong Yen Shan’s poster aimed to promote the use of traffic energy harvesters on our vehicles in light of the abolishment of fuel subsidies which has worried the public recently. “There are a few methods commonly used to harness traffic energy



Middle row, from left: Dr Yong, Dr Lai, Prof Goi, Ir Shum, and Dr Stella with the winners and their mock cheques

from vehicles such as the rack and pinion mechanism, roller mechanism, crankshaft mechanism, and piezo-generators,” she said.

Special guests at the competition were Master Jaya Engineering Sdn Bhd Founder and Group Managing Director Ir Woo Ah Keong and Asia EHS Johnson Controls Sdn Bhd Director Ir Shum Keng Yan.

UTAR Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) and The Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM) Student Section Kampar Campus held a Final Year Project (FYP) poster competition on 13 April 2016.

The event was to cultivate research interest among the FEGT students. The judges for the competition were IEM Perak Branch Vice-Chairman Ir Loh Ban Ho and IEM Perak Branch Honorary Secretary-cum-FEGT Industrial Engineering lecturer Ir K Chandrasekaran a/l Krishnan. The finalists presented their posters to the judging committee and they had to select the top three posters among the 99 submitted.

Final Year Environmental Engineering student Tai Chee Yong was awarded the grand winner for his poster titled “Assessment of the Powdered Activated Carbon Hybrid Membrane and Performance of Anaerobic Membrane Bioreactors (AnMBRs) Added with Different Sizes of Powdered Activated Carbon in Palm Oil Mill Effluent (POME) Treatment”. Quizzed with multiple questions, Tai showed no defeat with his knowledge in hand. Tai commented, “Throughout my studies in UTAR, the knowledge I received was beneficial to my FYP. One particular topic on wastewater treatment was very useful for my poster presentation.” Tai walked home with RM100, a certificate, and a Challenge Trophy sponsored by IEM Perak.

Winning the second prize was Petrochemical Engineering student Hau Hui Xin with her poster titled “Development of Biochar Filled High Density Polyethylene”, which involved the use of POME derived biochar as filler to develop a less harmful and hazardous polymer composite.

## FYP Poster Competition



Ir Loh (right) presenting the Challenge Trophy to Tai (left) while FEGT Dean Dr Yap Vooi Voon (centre) looks on

Claiming the third prize was Industrial Engineering student Ding Kwong Leong with his poster titled “Vapour Chamber with Single Hollow Condenser Tube”, which featured the use of a newly designed vapour chamber that acts as a super heat conductor to cool a heated object, such as microchip.



## Activities promoting reading



A group photo of participants, schools teachers, UTAR staff and students

More than 80 secondary school students from three schools, namely SMJK Sam Tet Ipoh, SMK Methodist (ACS) Kampar, and SMK Malim Nawar, had an elevating learning experience during the "Reading Campaign" at Kampar Campus on 15 April 2016.

Organised by the Faculty of Arts and Social Science's Department of Languages and Linguistics, the campaign aimed to make English learning simple and interesting for the secondary school students. It further aimed at encouraging them to take interest in reading, learning, and using the language on a daily basis. The campaign engaged more than 30 English Education undergraduates as facilitators of the campaign. Ten reading booths with 10 different themes were filled with various exciting language games such as tongue twisters, riddles, word association, scrabble, idiom guessing, word search puzzle, speed reading, story reading, and slogan search. All games focussed on areas related to reading strategies, ways to cultivate a lifetime reading habit, the importance of reading, and

the implications of not cultivating reading habit.

Shubashini Nambiar, a teacher from SMK Methodist (ACS) Kampar, said, "The campaign was really interesting and it was a good platform for school students to be aware of the importance of reading as well

as to cultivate the reading habits through simple and enjoyable techniques. It was really amazing and I truly feel contented bringing my students here today."

SMJK Sam Tet Ipoh student Chew Khai Xing enthused, "The campaign was positive and beneficial. It taught us about

the importance of reading as well as some ways on how to nurture a lifetime reading habit." The enthusiastic learner also hopes for more mind-stimulating activities in the future in order to create greater awareness on reading amongst the school students.

## UTAR Caring Community 2016

The UTAR Caring Community 2016 event was held from 4 to 9 April 2016 at Sungai Long Campus. The event included a *gotong-royong*, an exhibition, and several talks by health experts. An exhibition was held for five days which portrayed liveable city concepts that highlight the need for a multidisciplinary approach towards 21st century problems.

Present at the *gotong-royong* event was UTAR Council Chairman Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik, former Vice-President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Assoc Prof Dr Teh Chee Seng, *Penolong Pegawai Tadbir Komuniti* Suzana binti Shamsudin, *Pegawai Bomba Kanan 1 Balai Bomba dan Penyelamat Kajang* Norzaidi bin Din, Assistant Superintendent Tan Eng Bock, Sungai Long Medical Center Chief Executive Officer Alexandra Chong, International Association of Students in Economic and Commercial Sciences (AIESEC) Gary Yap, shop owners, Bandar Sungai Long residents, students, and staff.

"UTAR has always encouraged students to take an interest in the surrounding society and we believe the UTAR community can act as a catalyst for forging deeper interpersonal relationships and a more caring community," remarked Tun Ling.

The Kajang Municipal Council (MPKJ) gave a talk on maintaining a healthy



Students clearing the pedestrian walkway

and clean environment and how food premises are being graded in terms of their cleanliness. Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS) Clinical Assoc Prof Dr Myo Oo gave a talk on rodent control, while FMHS Assoc Prof Dr Robert Chen and Clinical Assoc Prof Dr Ng Teck Han

discussed ways to reduce dengue cases. Assoc Prof Dr Lai Soon Onn, Deputy Dean of the Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science, on his part presented an introduction to liveable cities.

Following the success of the first UTAR Basketball Championship League in March 2015, the Sports and Recreation Unit of Kampar Campus' Department of Students Affairs continued its effort this year by organising the second UTAR Basketball Championship League at the Sports Complex of Kampar Campus from 16 March until 8 April 2016, the day of the finals.

## UTAR Basketball Championship



The selected teams and organising committee

This year, the basketball championship which was open to all UTAR students saw a total of 15 participating teams, with each team comprising 12 players.

Sports and Recreation Unit Senior Assistant Manager Adrin Yeap Wai Kuan said, "The main goals of this basketball championship were to further improve the students' performance, knowledge, and skills in basketball. Besides that, the championship was also to promote the game of basketball, encourage a healthy lifestyle, and to instil the love of sports among UTAR students."

He added, "Besides that, this year's UTAR Basketball Championship League was also aimed to select some potential players to be fielded as the university representatives in the forthcoming UTAR Invitation Basketball Championship which will be held in September 2016. The UTAR Invitation Basketball Championship is tailored specially for talented, skilful, and experienced players, as well as state players, to compete with one

another. The top three teams in the UTAR Basketball Championship League, namely *Secret Service*, *Falcon Flare*, and *XAVIER*, were selected."

One of those selected, Goh Duan Huai said, "UTAR Basketball Championship League is a great platform for all the players to brush up on our skills and knowledge

about basketball. At the same time it also paves the way for us to build a good network among the university players."

UTAR Basketball Championship League was held as a stage for young university students to get involved in sports and lead a healthy and balanced university life.

UTAR's Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) and the Built Environment Society joined hands in initiating an environmental awareness workshop at Sports Complex, Kampar Campus on 12 March 2016.

Titled "Water Pollution? Mud Balls are the Solution!", the 1Malaysia For Youth (iM4U)-sponsored community project served as a platform to enrich the participants' knowledge on the purpose of Effective Microorganisms (EM) mud balls, the making process, and the immense benefits to lake rehabilitation EM mud balls bestow.

Invited to launch the event was former UTAR Vice-President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Assoc Prof Dr Teh Chee Seng. Also present were FEGT Deputy Dean for Academic Development and Undergraduate Programmes Dr Ng Choon Aun, iM4U officers Athifah Ain Alang and Maisurah Mazlan, and event advisors-cum-FEGT lecturers Dr Kwan Wai Hoe and Chang Kok Yung.

A guided tour around the exhibition booths ensued, followed by a mud ball making demonstration by the working committee. "Mud balls are very easy to make and are widely used to clean polluted waterways because they will inhibit the growth of algae and break down any sludge and silt in the water. Mud balls also control

## Mud balls are the solution



UTAR students guiding the participants in making their own mud balls

ammonia levels and pathogens present in rivers, ponds, or lakes. They are beginning to have acceptance in the aquaculture field due to its efficiency," explained Organising Chairperson Sik Zhii Yang during the

demonstration. The event reached its highlight when the invited guests and the organising committee threw their self-made mud balls into Westlake, a disused tin mining lake.

## 孙中山与南洋华人国际学术研讨会

为纪念孙中山诞辰150周年，缅怀孙先生的伟大功绩与不朽事业，拉曼大学中华研究中心与台北国父纪念馆于2016年6月11日在拉曼大学双溪龙校区联合举办了一场题为“孙中山与南洋华人”的国际研讨会，旨在推崇国际性的学术交流以及回顾孙先生在南洋的事迹，进而探讨孙中山与南洋华人的深厚关系。

此次研讨会也吸引了多位来自台湾的知名大学和学术机构如台湾大学、政治大学、元智大学、义守大学、玄奘大学、台北市立大学、新生护理专科学校、中国国



与会者和嘉宾于开幕典礼上合影。

民党党史馆以及来自马来西亚的马来亚大学、新纪元学院、苏丹依德理斯教育大学和拉曼大学的相关学者和专家共襄盛举，可谓阵容鼎盛。

拉曼大学中华研究院院长张晓威副教授致词时表示，此次研讨会反映出拉曼大学迈向国际，矢志成为全球性卓越教育机构的愿景。此外，他感到很荣幸能够亲眼见证这个对学者或公众都有着非凡意义的国际性讨论会的成功，同时也寄望这将会是一个交流平台，进而促进学者之间在未来的合作。

台湾国父纪念馆馆长林国章博士表示，东南亚国家特别是马来西亚拥有许多值得去考察及研究的多元文化与历史数据。通过这次的研讨会，林博士还发现很多有热忱的研究者一直在默默的、努力的研究着东南亚华社在文化、教育及经济领域上的发展。他相信这样的学术合作在东南亚华社历史发展上扮演着不可或缺的重要角色。

此国际学术研讨会分为四个环节并分别由拉曼大学中华研究院中文系客卿教授林水椽教授、台湾国父纪念馆馆长林国章博士、台湾元智大学人文社会科学院教授刘阿荣教授及拉曼大学创意产业学院助理教授吴明珠博士担任主持人。



林国章（右）赠送纪念品给张晓威。

## 黄美冰谈 篆刻艺术之奥秘

拉曼大学中华研究中心中华艺术组于2016年4月9日特别邀请了韩江学院中文系主任暨学术研究发展委员会主任黄美冰博士莅临金宝校区为中文系学生举办了一场亲自指导的篆刻工作坊，让学生们对中华历史和艺术，特别是篆刻艺术有更具体的了解。

动手实践前，黄博士先以幻灯片讲演作为引介，为学生们概述了篆刻的历史渊源、篆刻工具、挥刀方法、篆刻名作等。此外，学生们对她所展出的形形色色且充满创意的字形及图案赞叹不已。黄博士不仅借出篆刻工具给学生们，更特别准备了数份小礼物给表现优异者以奖励他们。

中华研究院讲师林良蛾博士表示，希望通过此次的篆刻工作坊能够加深学生对中华文化的认识，因为篆刻是一门精妙的文化艺术，它结合了书法和刀刻的精髓，以刀代笔，从书法探讨刀刻，从刀刻探讨书法，实在是玄妙无比！



黄美冰带领参与者欣赏名家印章，并加以讲解。

拉曼大学延续教育中心特别邀请了燕窝专家——陈国方高级讲师于2016年4月21日在双溪龙校区举办了一场别开生面的“燕窝研讨会”，旨在让出席者对燕窝有更深入的了解。首先，主讲人为与会者讲解燕窝的来源，然后为大家介绍洞燕和屋燕的区别、毛燕窝等级、燕窝清洗方法、成品等级、鉴定方针、功效、燕窝的食用和正确的烹煮方法。

他透露，一般上，燕窝的来源取决于燕子的种类，其中包括金丝燕、土燕和草燕。金丝燕的燕窝等级最好，而其栖息地及燕窝产地是马来西亚、印尼、泰国等东南亚国家。另外，谈到洞燕和屋燕的差别时，人们总认为洞燕的营养价值比较高，但主讲人认为这可不一定，但可以肯定的是洞燕的金属含量会比较高。

值得注意的是，在燕子的饲养过程中，环境扮演着极其重要的要素，因为燕子是非常敏感的鸟类，燕屋环境的声音、味道、空气等都会影响燕子的生长。此外，燕屋的湿度与水质也是决定燕窝品质的重要因素，若湿度和水质不理想，燕窝将会发黄、发霉或裂开。至于如何分辨燕窝的等级，一般上可从其外形判断，较好的燕窝在采收时将会呈现完美的盏形。

在清洗和加工的部分，传统的清洗方法涵盖了浸泡、修剪、挑选、定型、晾干，最后完成成为燕饼。但这传统的清洗方法有其缺点，包括耗时耗力、无法掌握其品质及容易受到污染等问题。因此，目前半湿清洗模式渐渐广为使用，它不但能解决传统清洗法导致的问题，而且在湿度控制得宜下更能减少燕窝营养价值在过程中流失。在燕窝的成品等级鉴定上，从外形来看的话，盏盖是最好，而燕碎则最差。至于更进一步的鉴定，则需要通过膨胀率测试，这方法一般用于行家或商家。

## 燕窝知多少



燕窝专家——陈国方

最让与会者感兴趣的莫过于燕窝的成效和烹煮食用。许多实验证明，燕窝能够增强免疫力、抗氧化、抗癌、止咳、舒缓哮喘、提升肾脏功能、加速手术后恢复等功能。而食用燕窝的最佳时间是晚上临睡前，因为丰富的抗氧化剂可以帮助人体消除自由基，并在人们睡觉时进行修复。至于燕窝的烹煮方式，最好的方式是将燕窝浸泡15分钟后，倒水滤出，在使用盅隔水炖煮，并炖上30至40分钟为佳。最后，主讲人不忘提醒大家，燕窝虽可每天食用，但不宜食用过多，建议每天食用量为三到五克，因为多余的量并不会被消化继而排出体外，造成浪费。



燕窝研讨会获得与会者的踊跃参与。



拉曼大学延续教育中心主任林月燕（右）赠送纪念品给主讲人。

# Malam kebudayaan CFS 2016

Sebagai salah satu langkah untuk menjalin hubungan yang baik dalam kalangan kakitangan akademik dan pihak pengurusan, Pusat Pengajian Asasi (CFS) Kampus Sungai Long UTAR telah menganjurkan sebuah aktiviti yang bertajuk 'Malam Kebudayaan' di Kampus Sungai Long pada 15 April 2016.

Bertemakan kebudayaan, kesemua kakitangan CFS memeriahkan lagi malam tersebut dengan memakai pelbagai pakaian tradisi Malaysia yang terdiri daripada pelbagai etnik dan kaum. Majlis tersebut juga dihadiri bekas-bekas kakitangan CFS, ahli keluarga kakitangan CFS, serta tetamu kehormat, iaitu Presiden UTAR Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik.

Ketua CFS Kampus Sungai Long Melissa Stefanie Netto berkata, "Saya berasa amat gembira untuk berucap pada malam ini. Aktiviti ini merupakan satu aktiviti yang amat bermakna di mana ia mampu menyatukan semua kakitangan CFS untuk menjalin hubungan yang mesra antara satu sama lain. Ia juga merupakan satu platform bagi kakitangan UTAR untuk bergaul, beramah mesra dan berkongsi pengalaman mengenai alam pekerjaan masing-masing."

Melissa juga mengucapkan ribuan terima kasih kepada semua yang hadir pada malam tersebut. "Terima kasih atas sokongan anda semua. Galakan dan dorongan yang diberikan oleh anda telah menyumbang kepada kejayaan aktiviti pada malam ini."

Dalam ucapan Prof Chuah, beliau mengatakan bahawa beliau berasa amat gembira untuk melihat semua kakitangan berkumpul pada malam ini untuk menunjukkan sokongan antara satu sama lain. "Hal ini merupakan satu perkara yang membanggakan. Selain penyertaan kakitangan, saya juga ingin mengucapkan syabas kepada semua pelajar UTAR yang mengambil bahagian dalam aktiviti pada malam ini. Ia merupakan satu petanda yang baik di mana pelajar-pelajar UTAR telah mengambil bahagian dalam acara luar kuliah yang bermanfaat seperti ini secara proaktif."

Beliau menambah, "Saya ingin mengatakan bahawa kira-kira 80 peratus daripada mahasiswa/pelajar kita datang dari CFS. Oleh itu, saya ingin mengucapkan terima kasih kepada semua kakitangan CFS atas usaha keras dan tahap dedikasi yang tinggi anda dalam melahirkan pelajar yang berkualiti. Semangat kerja berpasukan



Persembahan gendang 24

seperti ini menunjukkan pegangan anda sebagai kakitangan yang komited."

Aktiviti malam tersebut menyaksikan pelbagai aktiviti menarik yang menghiburkan para tetamu. Antara persembahan yang diadakan ialah persembahan gendang 24 UTAR yang dibawa khas oleh Kelab Wushu UTAR, persembahan tarian hip-hop, persembahan drama, persembahan diabolo dan sebagainya.

Penolong pensyarah Nurazrin Aidil berkata, "Majlis ini merupakan satu kenangan yang manis buat diri saya. Sebagai seorang bekas pelajar CFS, saya berasa amat teruja untuk mengambil bahagian dalam aktiviti pada malam ini. Suasana yang positif ini memberi keyakinan kepada saya untuk terus menyumbang dan menyerlah sebagai seorang warga pendidik yang baik dan berwibawa."

Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Penganjur Nicole Ngan Suet Loo juga memberi ucapan penutupan beliau. "Majlis ini merupakan aktiviti yang sangat bermakna. Saya berasa amat gembira kerana mampu mengadakan aktiviti yang membolehkan kita berkumpul pada hari ini. Saya juga ingin mengucapkan terima kasih kepada ahli jawatankuasa, rakan sekerja, rakan-rakan dan para pelajar yang telah membantu untuk menjayakan aktiviti ini. Saya berharap, penemuan ini membolehkan kita untuk terus mara ke hadapan dan menyumbang kepada kemajuan UTAR."



Melissa menyampaikan cenderahati kepada Prof Chuah



Persembahan tarian hip-hop

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