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HORIZON

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UTAR and I-Chem Solution Sdn Bhd signed an MoU at Sungai Long Campus on 4 May 2017.

Signing on behalf of UTAR was its President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik witnessed by the Vice President Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei while I-Chem was represented by its Chief Executive Officer Lee Tiong Do witnessed by General Manager for Sales and Technical Chan Boon Chew.

Present at the signing ceremony were I-Chem delegates Advisor Dr Tay Kin Bee, Advisor Lai Kar Kheong, General Manager for Sales and Marketing Ravi, General Manager for Sales and Marketing Chan Khon Nyan and General Manager for Operation Yee Siew Chin.

Representing UTAR were Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science

MoU with I-Chem Solution



From left: Dr Ong, Dr Tee, Dr Mah, Dr Gulnaziya, Dr Lai, Prof Lee, Prof Chuah, Lee, Chan, Dr Tay, Ravi, Lai, Chan and Yee

(LKC FES) Deputy Deans Dr Lai Soon Onn and Dr Gulnaziya Issabayeva, and LKC FES Head Dr Mah Shee Keat.

The MoU intended to facilitate development exchanges between both parties.

UTAR Tun Tan Cheng Lock Centre for Social and Policy Studies (TCLC), Centre for Chinese Studies and the Institute of Strategic Analysis and Policy Research (INSAP) held a seminar themed 'Trends and Challenges of Chinese Malaysian Population' on 21 April 2017 at Sungai Long Campus.

Present at the seminar were Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Ir Dr Wee Ka Siong, INSAP-cum-TCLC Steering Committee Chairman and UTAR Council Member Senator Dato' Dr Hou Kok Chung, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Political Secretary to the Prime Minister's Datuk Wong Nai Chee, INSAP Director Yap Hon Lun, UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei, TCLC and Organising Chairperson Prof Chin Yee Mun, and Institute of Chinese Studies Dean Assoc Prof Dr Chong Siou Wei.

The seminar aimed to serve as a platform to discuss trends and challenges of the Chinese population in Malaysia.

Seminar on population trends and challenges



Sixth from left: Prof Chuah, Datuk Seri Wee and Dato' Hou together with the organising committee members and some speakers at the opening ceremony

The Kuala Lumpur-Singapore High Speed Rail (HSR) Project Conference 2017 which was held at Berjaya Times Square Hotel, Kuala Lumpur from 3 to 4 May 2017, assembled 15 industry experts of high speed rail sector to share insights and bring the project to reality.

The conference aimed to provide update on the HSR project and offer business opportunities to all forward-thinking industry players.

Speaking on behalf of UTAR was Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) Assoc Prof Ir Dr Low Kaw Sai and LKC FES Assoc Prof Dr Tioh Ngee Heng with their award-winning research titled "Multi-tiers bamboo-geotextile buoyant system as a reliable method to support heavy construction over those potentially soft areas along the High Speed Rail site".

Following its good reception at the conference, Prof Low and Prof Tioh have been invited to speak on the HSR project in Indonesia on 12 and 13 September 2017.

HSR Project Conference



Dr Tioh (left) and Dr Low (right) at the conference

MMLM Mind Competitions 2017



Participants at the Random Words competition

About 800 participated in the Mind Competitions 2017, organised by the Malaysia Mental Literacy Movement (MMLM), UTAR and Tunku Abdul Rahman University College held at Sungai Long Campus on 15 April 2017.

This competition aimed to enhance various skills such as brainpower, creativity, intelligence quotient, emotional intelligence, memory skills, mind mapping and critical thinking skills of Malaysians. The competition consists of three main categories, namely Memory Competition, Mind Mapping Competition and Mental Calculation Competition.

The participants stand a chance to win a share of RM60,000. The Winner, 1st Runner-Up and 2nd Runner-Up from each of the categories will receive RM5,000, RM2,000 and RM1,000 respectively. MMLM will also award five consolation prizes worth RM100, Best School Prize, Special Prize for Senior Citizens (age 60 and above), and Children (age nine and below) worth RM500 each for all categories.

With the aim to promote collaboration with Henan University of Chinese Medicine (HUCM), the Department of Chinese Medicine Head Dr Te Kian Keong exchanged an agreement on clinical posting regarding student internship with the Faculty of International Education Dean Prof Lu Mei on 18 April 2017.

According to the agreement, HUCM would provide 41-week of intensive Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) courses for UTAR undergraduate students, where the participating students will be offered a clinical practice in the medical department, acupuncture-moxibustion department, massage department, gynaecology department, paediatrics department, oncology department, ward, pharmacy department and other clinical departments of the affiliated hospital.

An in-depth discussion on future cooperation was conducted and both universities have reached a preliminary consensus to carry out teacher training, Chinese medicine culture root-seeking tour project, Chinese medicine clinical specialist short-term training and other aspects.

Agreement with HUCM



Dr Te (left) and Prof Lu Mei (right) exchanging the agreement

FAA calls on UTAR

Visiting UTAR Kampus and the Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) on 7 March 2017 for the second time were delegates from the Financial Accreditation Agency (FAA), namely Strategic Corporate Relations Managers Avinesh Varma and Jonathan David.

The representatives from FBF there to welcome them were Dean Dr Au Yong Hui Nee, Deputy Dean Yew King Tak, Deputy Dean Dr Lau Lin Sea, Department of Business Administration Head Choong Yuen Onn, Department of Finance Head Kuah Yoke Chin, Department of Marketing Head Choy Johnn Yee and lecturer Lim Chong Heng.

The visit aimed to promote the benefits of accreditation to UTAR and to help raise the standards and quality of professional learning and development for the industries. Also, to provide FBF with valuable input, feedback and advice on how to improve the content and structure of its programmes.



Dr Au Yong (left) presenting a souvenir to Avinesh (centre) as Jonathan looks on

UTAR was delighted when Ng Kam Sin, Chief Technical Officer of Recogine Technology Sdn Bhd proposed, developed and contributed two mobile apps for free to the University. To fine tune the development of the mobile apps, Ng collaborated with

Mobile apps for bus and security management

UTAR's Software Development and Multimedia Services Centre and IT Infrastructure and Support Centre to work on the implementation of the two mobile apps named the UTAR Patrol and the UTAR bus Go.

The UTAR Patrol is a security monitoring system which can be used

to facilitate the live location tracking of campus security guards whereas the UTAR bus Go facilitates the tracking of the location of UTAR buses at both its Kampus and Sungai Long Campuses.

UTAR is indeed grateful for Ng and his generosity in donating the mobile apps to the university.

Fo Guang University (FGU) visited Sungai Long Campus on 6 May 2017.

Delegates from FGU were its President Prof Yung Chaur-Shin; International and Cross-Strait Affairs Office's Director Prof Hsieh Ta-ning, Vice Directors Assoc Prof Chang Wei-yi and Chief Chen To-yu; Department of Health and Creative Vegetarian Science Director Prof Derek Hsu; Department of Buddhist Studies Dr Kan Cheng-Tsung; and Fo Guang Shan (Malaysia) Dong Zen Temple Ven Miao Feng.

Representing UTAR were its President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Vice President Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Institute of Management and Leadership Development Director Prof Cheng Ming Yu, Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science Dean Prof Goi Bok Min, Institute of Chinese Studies Dean Prof Chong Siou Wei, Department of Mass Communication Head Dr Lim Chai Lee, and Faculty of Accountancy and Management Dr Cham Tat Huei and Dr Ng Kar Yee.

Visit by Fo Guang University



FGU delegates and UTAR representatives at the campus

At the visit, both parties endorsed several areas for collaborations to facilitate greater instructional and research opportunities.

UTAR Kampar to hold ASC 2017

UTAR Kampar Campus will be the venue for the upcoming Asian Science Camp (ASC) 2017 which will be held for the first time in Malaysia from 20 to 26 August 2017.

The week-long annual camp aims to deepen science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) interests among Asian youths and give them exposure to the importance of STEM via close interaction with prolific STEM experts.

The ASC 2017 will see four Nobel Laureates and an array of distinguished scientists and technologists sharing their insights and knowledge with approximately 350 participants from across Asia.

The four Nobel Laureates include Nobel Laureates in Chemistry Prof Lee Yuan-Tseh, who is also the Co-Founder of ASC, and Prof Dr Ada E. Yonath; Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine Prof Sir Richard J. Roberts, and Nobel Laureate in Physics Prof David Jonathan Gross.

Other local and international experts include Science Advisor to the Prime Minister of Malaysia Prof Tan Sri Zakri Abdul Hamid, Academy of Sciences Malaysia Senior Fellow Prof Emeritus Dr Yong Hoi Sen, CEO of Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad Tan Sri Dato' Seri Lee Oi Hian, Founder and Executive Chairman of Top Glove Group of Companies Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai, Founder and Executive Chairman of Silverlake Group of Companies Goh Peng Ooi, Recipient of the 2016 Gruber Neuroscience Prize Prof Poo Mu-Ming, and distinguished Molecular Biologists Prof Suzanne Cory and Prof Jerry McKee Adams.

"This is the first time where we have four Nobel



Prof Lee (left) and Datuk Hong

Laureates under the same roof in Malaysia," said UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei.

ASC 2017 Steering Committee Chairman Datuk Ir Hong Lee Pee said, "This is also the first time the talks are open to the public in order to create a much needed STEM workforce in the future."

One hundred and sixty secondary school principals, deputy principals and representatives from the SMJK Council (Majlis Pengetua Sekolah-Sekolah Menengah Conforming Malaysia) called on UTAR Kampar Campus on 18 April 2017.

Led by the council's chairman-cum-SMJK Chio Min principal Tan Teik Seong and organising chairperson-cum-SMJK Nan Hwa principal Ng Aik Geen, the delegation was received by UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei and Division of Programme Promotion Director Lee Choy Fong. Also present was Chairman of Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia's Science, Technology and Innovations Committee Chairman Datuk Ir Hong Lee Pee who, along with Prof Lee, delivered talks highlighting the importance of STEM (Science, Technology, Education and Mathematics) education.

While speaking about the importance of STEM education, Datuk Hong mentioned the worrying state of students' current disinterest in STEM subjects and that in the future, 80 percent of our jobs will be related to STEM knowledge and skills. He also pointed out that teachers should encourage students' interests in STEM as learning these subjects will effectively help students to develop their skills in logical reasoning,

SMJK Council calls on UTAR



The delegates at the iconic Dewan Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik during the campus tour

creativity and innovation. Datuk Hong also gave real life examples of the C-suites in the banking and finance industry requiring basic and adequate background knowledge and understanding in STEM. According to him, the STEM knowledge proved to be of great help in approving and auditing loans related to construction, R&D and others.

"Since 2014, UTAR has been working closely with the ASEAN Academy of

Engineering and Technology, Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology and the Institution of Engineers Malaysia in promoting STEM education," said Datuk Hong.

Prof Lee explained, "Through STEM education, the teachers are able to raise the students' awareness of contributing to the progress and development of the society, nation and the world."

BAFM Roots Short Film Contest 2017

Malaysian Chinese Culture and Arts Consultative Council and UTAR launched the Blossom Arts Festival Malaysia (BAFM) "Roots" Short Film Contest 2017 at UTAR Sungai Long Campus on 29 May 2017.

Invited to launch the contest was Deputy Women, Family and Community Development Minister-cum-Malaysian Chinese Culture and Arts Consultative Council Chairman Datin Paduka Chew Mei Fun. Also present at the launching ceremony were UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Chinese Film Association of Malaysia (CFAM) President Dennis Lai, CFAM Vice President Leonard Tee and BAFM "Roots" Short Film Contest 2017 Organising Chairperson Beh Chun Chee.

Lai said, "It's not easy to become a scriptwriter. It needs a long period of time to write and plan the story line. Scriptwriting, like any other form of professional writing, is a specific, learnable craft that requires study, talent, training, practice and an immense level of commitment."

Tee added, "Film industry comprises the technological and commercial institutions of filmmaking. A good film is one that sticks to my inner mind, heart and soul."

"We hope to receive films with high quality and connotative meaning this year. We also hope to see the participation of multi-ethnic, multi-culture and multi-religious [group]," said Beh.

Prof Chuah said, "After 60 years of independence, I think this is the best moment for us to think about our forefather's efforts and contributions in fighting independence for Malaysia, building up the nation and providing a peaceful land for the coming generations."

Datin Paduka Chew said, "Although the BAFM 2017 short film contest is organised by the Chinese community, it is open to all



From left: Prof Chuah, Datin Paduka Chew, Beh, Lai and Tee

Malaysians. I believe this contest would be a good platform for the younger generation and all the Malaysians to explore and understand the importance of our roots."

MoU for Academic Chair in Ayurveda

UTAR and the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) from the Ministry of AYUSH of the Government of the Republic of India officially inked an MoU at Sungai Long Campus on 5 May 2017.

Present at the MoU signing ceremony were the Deputy High Commissioner of India His Excellency Nikhilesh Chandra Giri and the First Secretary (Commerce and Information) to the High Commission of India Bramha Kumar.

On behalf of UTAR were its Chancellor Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik, President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Vice President Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat as well as representatives from the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences and administrative departments.

Through the MoU, an Academic Chair in Ayurveda will be set up in UTAR. Both parties will work closely to strengthen and further develop collaborations to raise awareness and quality of Ayurvedic education while broadening the learning experiences of students in Ayurvedic Science.

Prof Chuah said, "This significant MoU is initiated by Tun Ling after his visit to Jaipur, Rajasthan, India on 5 December 2016.



From left: Prof Ewe, Prof Chuah, Tun Ling, His Excellency Nikhilesh and Bramha at the MoU signing ceremony

Therefore, today's MoU for the Chair in Ayurveda is an extension of the collaboration with the aim to train quality medical professionals."

Tun Ling explained, "UTAR has embarked on the journey of setting-up a hospital in Kampar, offering both contemporary medicine and traditional and complementary medicine. Hence, the signing of this MoU is a significant step in

helping the university to train quality medical professionals and the establishment of the hospital."

His Excellency said, "We are pleased to liaise with UTAR through this MoU to set up a Chair for Ayurveda. I believe this is just the beginning of our meaningful collaboration with efforts from High Commission of India in Malaysia, CCRAS and UTAR."

UTAR Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) in collaboration with the

Malaysian Finance Association (MFA) organised the 19th Malaysian Finance Association Conference (MFAC) 2017 from 16 to 18 May 2017 at Kampar Campus.

The three-day conference themed

'Challenges and New Directions amidst Global Financial Uncertainty' was a great platform for knowledge sharing on research findings and networking.

The opening ceremony was officiated by the Deputy Minister of Ministry of Finance Dato' Lee Chee Leong. He was accompanied by UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei representing UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, President of MFA Prof Dr Obiyathulla Ismath Bacha, Vice President of MFA Prof Dr Catherine Ho Soke Fun and Organising Chairperson of the 19th MFAC 2017-cum-Dean of UTAR FBF Dr Au Yong Hui Nee.

UTAR hosts 19th MFAC 2017



The VIPs, organisers, speakers, sponsors and participants after the opening ceremony

Dr Au Yong said, "The conference encourages intellectual presentations of research findings from researchers, academics, and postgraduate students."

Prof Lee said, "We're thankful for the opportunity to host the conference. It's truly an eye-opening experience to be present among the esteemed speakers."

Prof Obiyathulla said, "This year's theme enabled us to think of the new challenges and policy directions that will be needed in facing the uncertainties."

Dato' Lee enthused, "I believe this conference enables the participants to realise the importance of addressing the

current financial crises and pave the road for potential global collaborations."

UTAR Vice President Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong said, "As a university committed in research excellence, we truly welcome this opportunity which allows us to engage with a wider network of academics and practitioners."

Prof Ho said, "I would like to thank the organising committee for a job splendidly done and I believe that the conference's enriching keynote lectures have benefitted the participants in many ways."

Qinzhou-Malaysia Industrial Park training

The Institute of Management and Leadership Development (IMLD) hosted a 14-day Qinzhou-Malaysia Industrial Park training programme named "ASEAN Traditional Advantage Industries and International Industrial Capacity".

The closing ceremony was held on 26 May 2017 at UTAR Sungai Long Campus.

Present at the closing ceremony were Malaysian Prime Minister's Special Envoy to China Tan Sri Ong Ka Ting, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Deputy Director-General Dr Huang Kehong, UTAR Vice Presidents Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat and Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei, IMLD Director Prof Cheng Ming Yu, and the programme participants from QIPAC.

The closing ceremony also saw the presence of representatives from the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA), East Coast Economic Region Development Council, Halal Industry Development Corporation, Malaysia Service Providers Confederation and Royal Bird's Nest Sdn Bhd.

Additionally, UTAR and QIPAC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), witnessed by Tan Sri Ong at the Sungai Long Campus. Signing on behalf of UTAR was



Tan Sri Ong (fifth from left) and Prof Chuah (third from left) with the 10 training participants from QIPAC after the MoU signing ceremony

its President Prof Chuah, while on QIPAC's behalf was Dr Huang.

Prof Chuah said, "This training provided the participants with a better idea about the strengths and advantages of traditional industries in Malaysia and ASEAN. I also believe that the MoU will bring about more opportunities for both parties in the future."

Dr Huang said, "This learning experience is beyond our expectations and has certainly

provided us with important insights for future plans. Besides, we are glad to ink an MoU with UTAR."

Tan Sri Ong said, "I am happy to see that UTAR is able to share our expertise with other countries through a training programme as such. It is also very crucial that both economies are able to share resources and train the manpower to foster strengths for project like CMQIP."

eRezeki Global High Income Programme

UTAR in collaboration with the Multimedia and Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation and Digital Content Alliance Sdn Bhd conducted a training session called "eRezeki Global High Income's (eGHI) Training of Trainers" (ToT) from 25 to 28 April 2017 at Kampar Campus and from 3 to 9 May 2017 at Sungai Long Campus.

Apart from generating additional income, the programme is also aimed to pave road and train low income families on how to capitalise and earn income in digital space.

The Northern Regional Manager of "eGHI ToT" Siti Munirah binti Abdul Malik enthused, "The government is continuously trying to implement various national economic development programmes.

Therefore, this programme could be a great platform for everyone to gain benefits from it."

Chng Lee Muei from the Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology said, "I am glad to be part of this training because it provides a good exploration to various digital platforms to earn supplementary income."

Dr Chang Jing Jing from the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology said, "It was a very informative programme



Participants listening to the facilitator attentively during the ToT at Kampar Campus

where several digital platforms were introduced to earn money as a freelancer. These platforms allow one to sell their skills in areas such as website development, translation, design, and photography."

Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science lecturer Lau Kean Hong said, "We have learnt how to navigate through these new platforms and have a better understanding of the process, the market, and government's initiatives."

Faculty of Creative Industries Head Tan Han Keong said, "The eRezeki training was very informative and opened up my eyes to the endless possibilities made available for our students."

Department of Soft Skills Competency Nur Farahin binti Bahari said, "I was introduced to several platforms such as Upwork, Freelancer and Kerja Digital to generate extra income."

Japan Kobe Male Choir Concert Tour

In conjunction with the 60th anniversary of the establishment of Malaysia-Japan diplomatic relations, Japan Kobe Male Choir held a concert at Sungai Long Campus on 10 April 2017 together with UTAR Choir and Chinese Orchestra.

The Japan Kobe Male Choir was performed by 36 members and accompanied by one female pianist Watanabe Tomoko and three conductors, namely Watanabe Masayasu, Kikumoto Koyo and Kamei Seiichiro. A diversified repertoires were prepared including Japanese anime songs, famous Taiwanese song "The Moon Represents My Heart", and even Malay song "Getaran Jiwa".

"Our former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad has talked about 'Look East Policy' and it was actually about learning from Japan. I hope that our students and our staff would be able to build a human networking with all our friends from Japan," said UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik.

Also present were Kobe Male Choir President Toru Yamamoto and Embassy of Japan's Director of the Japan Information Service Orikasa Hiroyuki.

"Today, 36 members of our choir are here for the 50th anniversary celebration. But that is not the only celebration, it also marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relation between Malaysia and Japan," said Yamamoto.



Japan Kobe Male Choir serenading the audience

Hiroyuki endorsed Prof Chuah's remark, "In 1981, Tun Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad has initiated the 'Look East Policy' and this policy has contributed a lot to the strong relationship between Malaysia and Japan. I hope that the relationship will be strengthened through these events and activities, based on our trust, mutual

understanding and respect."

Meanwhile, UTAR Choir and Chinese Orchestra were also invited to perform on the stage. The two choir teams and the Chinese Orchestra performed the grand finale together, singing the Malay song "Sejahtera Malaysia".



The VIPs and the Long Service Award recipients

The UTAR Staff Long Service and Excellence Awards 2017 was held at Kampar Campus for the first time on 13 May 2017.

An annual event to reward those who have served the university for a decade and to acknowledge the academics for their excellent teaching and research endeavours as well as the administrative staff for their service excellence, the ceremony was graced by UTAR Chancellor Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik. He was accompanied by his spouse Toh Puan Ena Ling, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik and UTAR Council Member Hew Fen Yee.

Also present were UTAR Planning and Development Committee Advisor Tan Sri Hew See Tong and spouse Puan Sri Woon Mun Fah, UTAR Vice Presidents Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei and Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, Registrar Yim Lin Heng, Division of Human Resource Director Wong Lee Lan, Dean of Faculty of Science Assoc Prof Dr Lim Tuck Meng, Dean of Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology Assoc Prof Dr Yap Vooi Voon, Head of Department of Student Affairs (Kampar Campus) Chiang Jeng Fong, Head of Department of Safety and Security (Sungai Long Campus) Zainudin bin Mustaffa, and Head of Department of Alumni Relations and Placement Foo Wai Wai.

UTAR Staff Long Service and Excellence Awards 2017

Citing UTAR's success as a concerted effort, Prof Chuah commented that despite being a young 15-year-old university, UTAR still manages to produce over 48,000 graduates and have more than 26,000 students. "This year, we have also been ranked Top 120 by Times Higher Education (THE) in Asia University Rankings; Top 150 in THE Young University Rankings and 14th in the Young University: Millennial category. This is indeed a miracle made possible following the support from the general public, students, alumni and staff," he continued, and reminded all to not rest on their laurels but work innovatively and diligently to stay ahead. Prof Chuah also extended his appreciation to the university's Board of Trustees, Council, Vice Presidents, Deans, academic and administrative staff, and stakeholders for their support.

Describing great employees as four-leaf clovers which are "difficult to find but lucky to have", Tun Ling also congratulated the award recipients and thanked them for their passion and hard work invested since UTAR's inception. "To the Excellence Award recipients, it's heart-warming to note that

you have embraced opportunities, overcome the challenges and attained positive results that have culminated in today's award. To the Long Service Award recipients, like wine, we are more refined and smoother as time goes by. Hence, we must continue to adapt to changes and be better with each year that passes," remarked Tun Ling.

"I like UTAR as it appreciates the talents and willing to go the extra mile to equip academic staff with the cutting-edge knowledge and skills to excel and advance in the higher education," enthused the Long Service Award recipient Chiok Phaik Fern.

Winner of the UTAR Research Excellence Award Dr Yap thanked UTAR and his collaborators for making his research titled "The Study of Image Encryption Schemes against Various Advanced Cryptanalytic Methods" a success. "UTAR provides a good research platform for young researchers like me by funding a number of projects to help young researchers to manage their research projects and build their own research teams. This helps a lot in building the young researchers' research path," explained the UTAR Grant recipient.



The VIPs and the Excellence Awards recipients

Four teams from Studio 1 of the Department of Architecture and Sustainable Design Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science's (DASD LKC FES) façade designs were selected as the preferred designs via public voting and by White Noise at the Column Design Competition held at Commune, Sunway Velocity Mall, Cheras on 28 March 2017.

The competition required the students to design an extended façade to the existing six funnelled steel columns located on Level 5 of the mall.

The competition is also a collaborative effort between Department of Architecture and Sustainable and White Noise. Those who involved were DASD lecturers Leong Hung Sek and Tew Bun Teck, Marketing Director and Project Coordinator of White Noise Yugo Tham and Joy Ho, freelance Art Director Douglas Ho, and Entrepot Director J K Yang.

Four wins at competition



Special guest, DASD lecturers, and students

Faculty of Accountancy and Management's (FAM) Assoc Prof Dr Law Kian Aun was endowed with Outstanding Paper Award in the 1st International Conference on Global Business, Entrepreneurship, and Creative Industry (ICGBEC) which was held at Bestari Hall, University Kuala Lumpur (UniKL) City Campus on 5 and 6 December 2016.

The international conference was jointly organised by University Kuala Lumpur (UniKL) and University College Poly-Tech MARA (KUPTM). Bearing the theme 'Prospect and Challenges', the conference brought together many academicians, researchers, practitioners, professionals and students to share their topics of interest in the fields of theoretical, experimental, applied Entrepreneurship, Management and Business, and Creative Industry.

Dr Law's paper titled "A qualitative study on the perception of foreign medical tourist, on medical tourism in Malaysia", was awarded as the most Outstanding Paper at the conference.



Dr Law with his certificate

Outstanding Paper Award

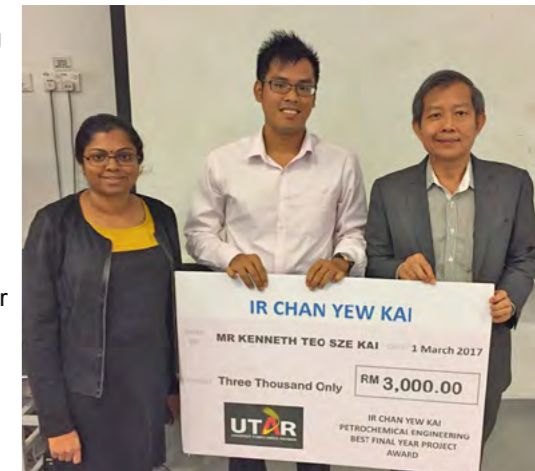
Best Project Award

Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) Petrochemical Engineering graduate Kenneth Teo Sze Kai was presented the Ir Chan Yew Kai Best Project Award during a presentation ceremony at Kampar Campus on 1 March 2017.

Also present at the ceremony were FEGT Deputy Dean Ir Dr Ng Choon Aun, FEGT Heads Assoc Prof Yamuna Munusamy and Dr Low Chong Yu, and other FEGT academics.

The annual award was presented by Ir Chan, who is an Industry Advisory Panel member of FEGT. Teo was rewarded RM3,000 as the recipient of the Ir Chan Yew Kai Best Project Award.

Titled "Fermentation of microalgae biomass through mild acid pre-treatment", Teo's FYP focuses on an alternative methodology to produce bioethanol from microalgae biomass, which is the mild acid pre-treatment procedure.



From left: Dr Yamuna, Teo, Ir Chan

UTAR Sungai Long Toastmasters Club's Yim Kong Joe

and Faculty of Creative Industries (FCI) lecturer Saraswathy Thurairaj took home second place for the International Speech Contest and third place for the Table Topics Contest respectively at the International Speech and Table Topics Contests 2017 held on 2 April 2017 at the Open University Malaysia.

The competition acted as an opportunity for the speakers to test their speaking abilities and a platform to learn by observing the more proficient speakers who have benefitted from their Toastmasters training. The participants progressed from victories at Club level to Area level and subsequently Division.

Hosted under the wing of the Drama and Public Speaking Society Sungai Long Campus, the club offers communication programmes and leadership projects designed to help its members to master various communication skills.

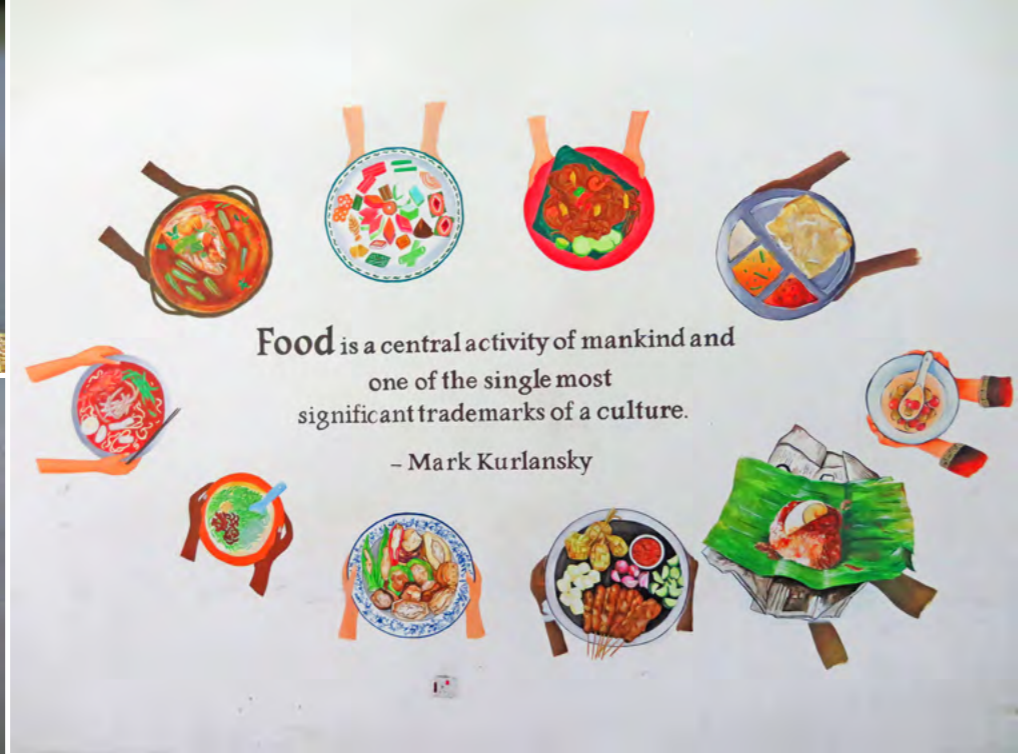
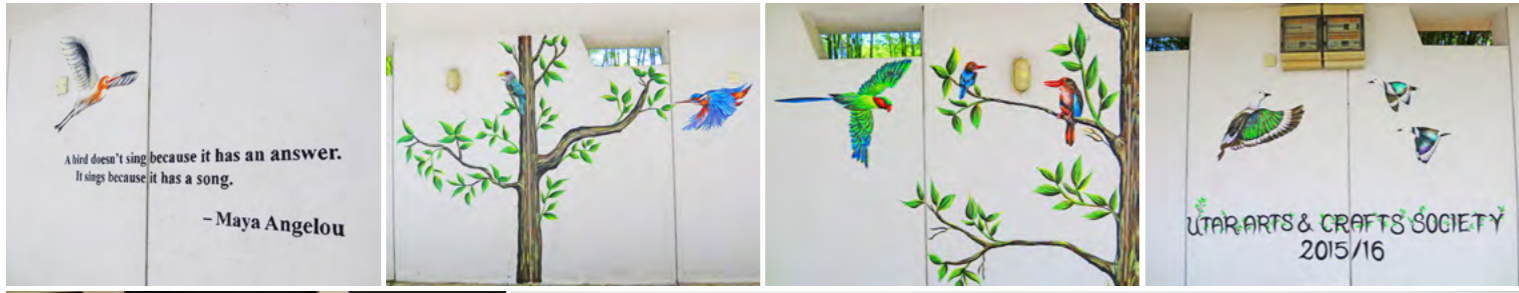
From left: Division of Human Resource Manager Khoo Suat Hoong, Saraswathy, FCI lecturer Janet Fernandez, and Yim



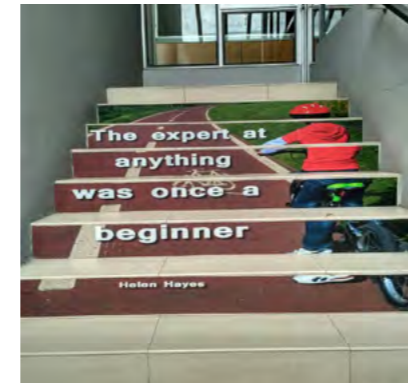
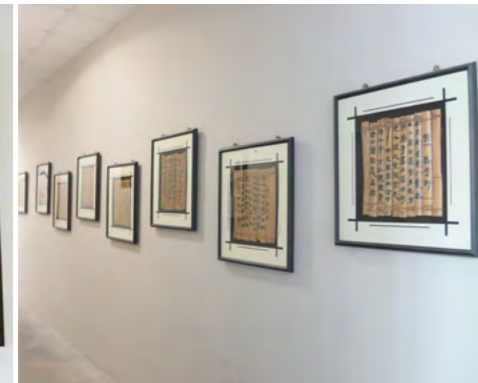
Creative murals brighten campuses

UTAR students, staff and faculties came together to transform the campus walls and corridors into a canvas of artistic and colourful drawings, showcasing creative ideas. Both the staff and most students took on the tasks of brainstorming for ideas, planning the task schedule and then painstakingly drawing, colouring and painting; which took days and weeks of patience as they worked on the intricate details. The outcome was incredibly impressive in both campuses which goes to show that teamwork and unity do promote a whole lot of creativity.

Kampar Campus



A collection of murals by UTAR Arts and Crafts Society 2015/16 members - Lim Wan Thing, Lim Chee Pin, Chong Ming Hui, Ng Yi Hui, Seah Jia Chun, Ban Mei Yee, B. Heligaa, Lam Lai Peng, Wong Jian Siang, Lai Wai Seng, Tan Wooli Leong, Wong Siew Jie, Er Siew May, Joey Goh Yi En, Lam Wan Ting, Lee Sin Yee, Tuan Jing Yong and Tan Yuen Huey



A collection of Chinese calligraphy masterpieces and Chinese knots led by Dr Lim Chee Men and his former students to symbolise Chinese traditional culture at the Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS)

Stairs labelled with motivational quotes led by former staff of Centre for Foundation Studies (CFS) Lim Jit Theam



A collection of successful CEOs motivational quotes completed by Faculty of Information and Communication Technology lecturers Dr Khor Siak Wang, Lim Ean Heng and Tan Lyk Yin



A mural by Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology lecturers Dr Khor Soo Cheen and Tan Zi Yi to promote environmental awareness



A mural carried out by Dr Sit Nam Weng and his students T. Siroshini, Tan Yin Feng, Ong Yen Hui, Ting Chee Siong and Ng Su Ming to promote STEM at the Faculty of Science



A poster featuring inspirational quotes, carried out by Faculty of Business and Finance lecturers Yew King Tak and Kuek Thiam Yong

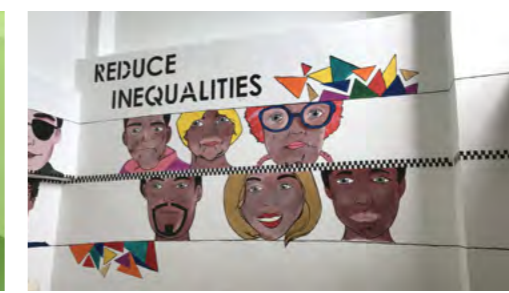


A tribute to Yasmin Ahmad by the Faculty of Arts and Social Science lecturer M. Sathish Kumar

Sungai Long Campus



From left: Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) staff Farah Waheeda binti Jalaludin, Marliana Azila binti Makhzan, Farrah Nurdiana binti Ibrahim and J. Jayamalathi



FAM lecturer Tuam Kwok Choon raises awareness through a drawing inspired by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)



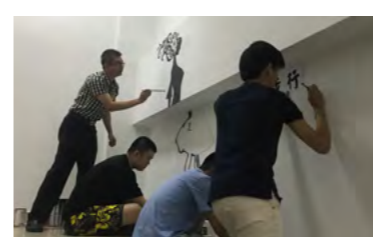
Sherry Seah Fong Ling, Lim Hui Li, Wong Hai Juan, Lim Chen Yee, Chan Boon Zhi along with some FAM staff Dr Lim Wan Leng, Lim Yee Wui, Low Suet Cheng and Noreen Kong Ching Ching portrayed the current condition of the earth through the 'Climate Action' mural



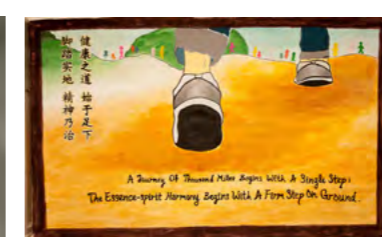
Mural painting by Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS) Prof Shelly Soo and Year Four student Rishvinder Singh



A mural by Prof Shelly Soo and Rishvinder Singh to encourage staff and students to exercise their lungs



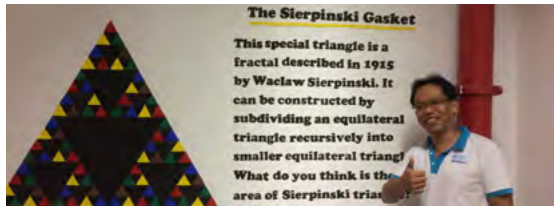
Dr Te Kian Kong and his students outlining the mural



A mural by Dr Te and his students to encourage people to use the staircase



A mural by Prof Shelly Soo and her students to cultivate the fitness and health



Chew Chun Yong with the Sierpinski Gasket mural



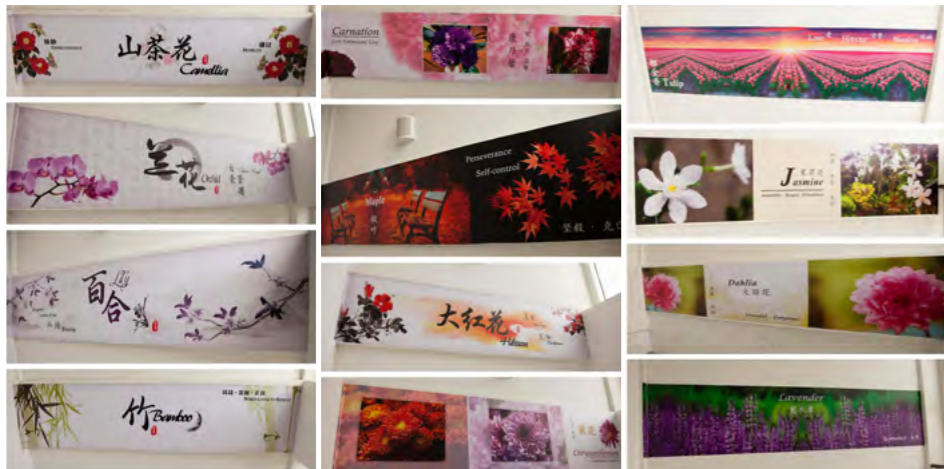
Dr Chang Yun Fah's mural eliminates the negative perception towards maths



Chin Ching Herry with the Seven Bridges of Königsberg mural



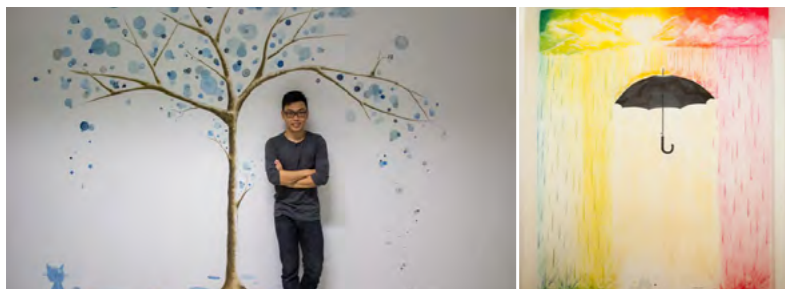
Architecture students Bong Jie Si, Chen Lit Ying, Cheng Hui Wen, Chua Siu Ting, Chuah Li San, Goh Ee Xuan, Heng Vee Yi, Dorcas Lee Xian, Oh Xiao Li, Wong Shi Weei, Jordan Yeap Su Mann, Yeong Wai Kit, and Department of Architecture and Sustainable Design lecturer Tew Bun Teck enlivened LKC FES with "The Swimming Koi Fish mural"



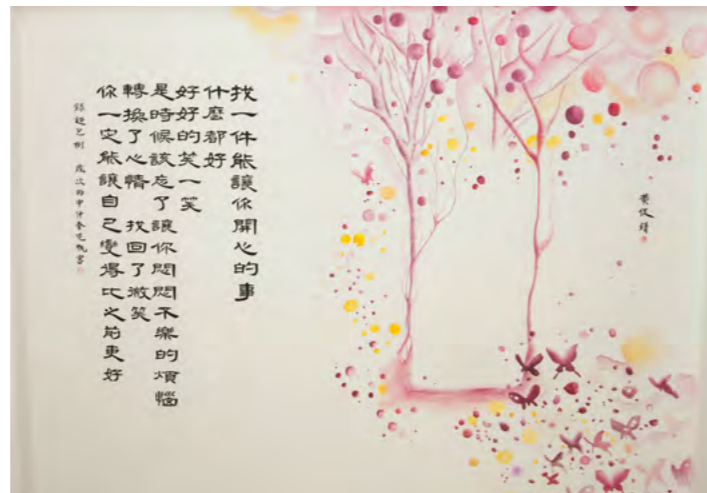
Wall decals by students and staff from ICS and CFS - bearing the theme of the four-season flowers



Faculty of Creative Industries (FCI) lecturer Eugene Foo Shyang Yu, students and faculty members decorated the stairs with inspirational quotes



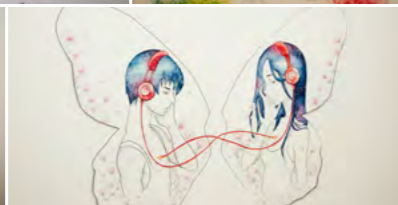
SRC representative Wu Chu Jing inspires UTARians through his painting



Wu and Soh Keh Fan's mural help students to cope with stress



SRC representative Wu Chu Jing inspires UTARians through his painting



Wu, Lim Chew Ying and Chia Xin Ying's mural inspired by Japanese animated fantasy film My Neighbour Totoro



Dr Teoh Lay Eng (left) and Choo Ley Ya with the Monty Hall Problem mural



Thai Chiew Ann and Lim Guat Jin's mural portrays the common problem faced by all UTARians - deciding what to eat

FYP poster competition

The Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) Final Year Project (FYP) Committee organised a FYP poster competition on 12 April 2017 at Sungai Long Campus. The competition aimed to cultivate creativity, problem solving skills and research interest among LKC FES students that would benefit the society.

The posters were categorised under six tracks, namely Sustainable Development and Green Technology, Social Studies and Project Management, Software Design and Prototypes, Theoretical or Experimental Sciences, Applied Mathematics, Process Automation and Simulation, and Applied Engineering.

Each champion and the first runner-up went home with a cash prize



Special guests, judges, and award recipients

of RM250 and RM150 respectively, as well as a trophy and a certificate. Also, the most liked poster on Facebook was awarded a cash prize

of RM250, a trophy and a certificate. The event was sponsored by Sricool Engineering Sdn Bhd.

Two teams from the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT) secured third and fourth prizes at the 2017 F-Secure Inter-University IT Security Competition held on 17 March 2017 at the Capri by Fraser @ Bangsar South in Kuala Lumpur. The teams were led by the FICT lecturers Prof Lau Phooi Yee, Dr Gan Ming Lee and Dr Vasaki Ponnusamy.

The competition was aimed at cultivating local talents and encouraging more undergraduates to venture into the field of IT security. The competition tested the participants on the general knowledge of cybersecurity, news and current issues related to cyber threats, understanding security and targeted cyber-attacks, programming, debugging, understanding algorithms and coding in C/Python, predicting the output of code snippets, and digital forensics.

UTAR wins in cybersecurity competition



The proud winners with their mentors and organisers

Second in UltiMake Makerthon

It was a proud moment for a team of five UTAR students to emerge as first runner-up in the Nottingham University Robot Competition (NURC) "UltiMake Makerthon 2017", an annual international robot competition held at The University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus in Selangor from 8 to 9 April 2017. The team comprised of Electronic Engineering students Tan Boon Kai, Chew Jia Ching, Eileen Tan Mei Foong, and Foo Kian Sang from the Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology; and Computer Science student Lim Yun Kai from the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology.

The team members walked away with a cash prize worth RM800, three silver medals and three Raspberry Pi Model 3Bs, a credit-card sized computer that is plugged into a television and a keyboard to imitate the similar use of a desktop PC.



From left: Mei Foong, Lim, Chew, Foo and Boon Kai

Second in National Chem-E Car Poster Competition

It was a crowning moment for a team of UTAR students from the Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) to win the second prize in the 12th National Chem-E Car Competition 2017 for the Poster Presentation category held at the Universiti Malaysia Pahang in Gambang Campus from 7 to 8 April 2017.

The team comprised of Petrochemical Engineering students Cheng Yi Sheng and Chong Choon Keat; and Electronic Engineering student Tan Mun Hoi. The team led by team advisors-cum-lecturers from FEGT Dr Leong Siew Yoong and Dr Gobi Kanadasan, walked away with a silver plaque.

Chem-E Car Competition is an annual university competition organised by the Chemical Engineering Technical Division (CETD) of the Institutions of Engineers of Malaysia (IEM).



The winners with their advisor Dr Gobi (far right)

Emerald (UK) Most Read Article

A research paper by Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) academics Garry Tan Wei Han and Dr Lee Voon Hsien was recently awarded the "Most Read Article" by the prestigious world-leading academic publishing company, Emerald (UK)'s *Industrial Management and Data Systems* journal.

Titled "Mobile Applications in Tourism: The Future of the Tourism Industry?", the paper which was also co-authored by Prof Dr Ooi Keng Boon of UCSI University and BellSouth Corporation Prof Dr Binshan Lin of Louisiana State University in Shreveport, USA, was given the recognition based on the number of downloads worldwide since its publishing in March this year.

Emerald (UK)'s *Industrial Management and Data Systems* journal contains a high number of quality research papers produced by reputable academics. "To have the *Industrial Management and Data Systems* editor Assoc Prof Dr Alain Chong Yee Loong, a prominent scholar at the Nottingham University Business School, China, accepting our paper is truly an honour", remarked Tan, who has also been acknowledged as the world's '10 Most Productive and Influential Authors in Mobile Commerce and Applications' by Thomson Web of Science Publications between 2000-2015. According to Tan, the applicability of mobile applications was a relatively new research area that had a significant contribution towards the Malaysia's tourism industry.

"Our study explores the psychological behaviour of consumers and how they affect the adoption process," added Dr Lee, who foresees the progress and proliferation of research articles in this area.

Both Tan and Dr Lee expressed their sincere gratitude to UTAR and attributed the success of the research to the grant funding from the UTAR Research Fund.



Tan (left) and Dr Lee displaying their commendation letters

Gold in ITEX 2017



From left: Teoh, Dr Ng and Suubitaa

A team of eight researchers from UTAR's Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) and Faculty of Science (FSc); and other local and overseas collaborative institutions won gold in the 28th International Invention, Innovation and Technology Exhibition (ITEX) 2017 held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre from 11 to 13 May 2017.

Themed 'Inventing for a Better World', the annual event aimed to bridge gaps between scientific innovation and the society, also to drive commercialisation of creative inventions and innovations.

The UTAR team comprised of team leader FEGT Deputy Dean Ir Dr Ng Choon Aun, UTAR FSc lecturer Dr Chee Swee Yong, FEGT Master of Engineering Science students Humayun Nadeem, S. Suubitaa and Teoh Wei Ping. The team also comprised of three external researchers, namely Dr Noor Zainab Habib, Dr Salah Elias Zoorob and Dr Zahraniza Mustaffa.

Plenary Oral Presentation Award

Faculty of Science's Associate Professor Dr Say Yee How received the Plenary Oral Presentation Award in the 5th Seoul International Congress of Endocrinology and Metabolism (SICEM) held at Walkerhill Hotel, Seoul, South Korea from 27 to 30 April 2017.

An official annual scientific meeting of the Korean Endocrine Society since 2013, SICEM saw the get-together of over 1,200 academicians, researchers, clinical practitioners, professionals and students from more than 15 economies to share novel ideas and to learn about the latest studies in the field of endocrinology and metabolism.

Dr Say's paper titled, "Association of dopamine receptor D2 gene (DRD2) Taq1 polymorphisms with eating behaviors and obesity in Malaysian subjects", which highlighted the influence of variants in the gene encoding for the brain chemical transmitter receptor DRD2 in emotional eating, the choice of certain foods and obesity, was awarded as one of the five best overseas plenary oral presentations.



Dr Say (far left) receiving a certificate from the Chairman of the Korean Endocrine Society Dongsun Kim; while the President of the Korean Endocrine Society Hyun Koo Yoon (far right) looks on

UTAR research initiatives

UTAR has achieved rapid growth over the years and has engaged in many projects and research that are beneficial for the Malaysian society. For example, the research on the smart grid and solar energy, improve the usage of solar panels to generate electricity and to fit that into the national grid system. It also stores the energy during the day for night usage.

Prof Ir Dr Lim Yun Seng said, "This research project is funded by the local as well as the international funding agents due to its potential of bringing significant, financial and environmental benefits to the society. The performance of the system is further improved through an international collaboration with one of the most leading researchers at UK University. Furthermore, this project has received much attention from the utility company, Tenaga Nasional Berhad, due to its potential improvement on their networks."

Another example is the project that made use of the waste of oil palm mills. There is high demand for fibres in Malaysia, but due to the decreasing amount of coconut husk to supply these fibres, people have resolved to use palm tree as an alternative. However, the processing practice has a lot of issues that need to be dealt with, such as its pungent smell and colour.

Therefore, researchers from UTAR were invited to work together with several companies to solve these problems. UTAR strongly believes that further steps should be taken to explore on how the findings and output of this project can be applied in real life. Hence, UTAR continues to work closely with the industry to serve the society, also to expand the industry in Malaysia through constant dialogues, discussions and match-making with external parties. UTAR also aims to help the industry penetrate into the international market, meanwhile improve the economy of the country.

UTAR has taken several initiatives to encourage more research and publication among the academics. One of the areas that was delve into would be the linkage between a university and an industry and it has become a challenge that all researcher's need to realise. Thus, it is vital to encourage the researchers to conduct impactful and effective research for the society with the collaboration of the industry especially in getting research funding.

Vice President Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei said, "With the current economy landscape and fluctuated expectation, the chances of



Prof Lee during the interview

obtaining research fund would be higher if the research has greater impact to the socioeconomic development of Malaysia and relevant to the Malaysian industry. There are also incentives and schemes for the researchers/staff to boost them up."

When asked about the future outlook of research, Prof Lee said, "We would continue to make UTAR's research more relevant to the industry, nation and society and at the same time we will ensure that the research done in UTAR are cost effective."

In order to provide a comprehensive overview of UTAR's R&D to the stakeholders UTAR will continue to put in immense effort and strive towards R&D Excellence.

IPSR Director elected as ASM Fellow



Prof Faiz

UTAR Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Research (IPSR) Director Prof Dr Faiz bin Abd Rahman was elected as an Academy of Science Malaysia (ASM) Fellow for contributions in Mathematics, Physics and Earth Sciences during 22nd Annual General Meeting held on 22 April 2017.

Prof Faiz is a well-known researcher in Optical Engineering in Malaysia. His current research interests are on optical fibre sensors, acoustooptic fibre filters, fibre lasers and fibre microlenses.

"It is a great honour for me to be elected as an ASM Fellow. This will drive me to be more responsible to the relative field and contribute more to the society. Being a researcher, diligence is very important because a diligent person will continually work hard towards his or her goals, makes use of the resources and opportunities that are available and these make a good researcher. Besides

that, passionate researcher laces up to make a difference," said Prof Faiz.

Prof Faiz was a Research Fellow at Telekom Malaysia Research and Development Sdn Bhd from 2003 to 2005, i.e. the Research and Development (R&D) arm of the largest Telco company in Malaysia. He is also a Professor at the UTAR Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science. He was an Exco member in the Institute Physics Malaysia from 2013 to 2015 and was a committee member for IEEE LEOS Malaysia from 2005 to 2006. He served in various capacities in agencies such as the National Professor Council, Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, and Ministry of Education to look into the R&D policies and proposals. He also served as chair and committee for various international and local conferences such as PERFIK2003, ASIL2007, PIERS2012, ISMOT2013, CIE2014, PERFIK2014 and etc.

Local Herbs Day

The Centre for Biodiversity Research, Faculty of Science and the Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Research jointly organised the Local Herbs Day for the first time at Kampar Campus on 8 April 2017.

Attended by over 150 participants consisting UTAR staff, students and the general public, the community outreach event was themed 'Health, Cleanliness and Remedy' and served as a platform to introduce and raise awareness on the usages of local herbs.

Lending more significance to the event was the presence of four experts, namely Herbwalk Consultancy Principal Consultant Dr Abdul Ghani Hussain, KL Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine academic Haw Ming Hock, AK Pharmacy and Naturopathy Center founder Prof Dr



Local Herbs Day Organising Committee, speakers and participants

Ananthan N. G. Krishnan, and founder of PK Herbal Research Centre Lee Chin Yoong, who opened the participants' eyes to the myriad local herbs and their uses.

Talks on Accounting Research and Secondary Data

The Centre for Accounting, Banking and Finance (CABF) under the Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) organised two talks titled "Accounting Research: An Experience Sharing" and "Accounting Research in Secondary Data" by Dr Yu-Hsuan Chung on 13 March 2017 and 18 April 2017 respectively at Kampar Campus.

Present at the talks were Dean of FBF Dr Au Yong Hui Nee, FBF Deputy Dean Dr Lau Lin Sea, CABF Chairperson Dr Krishna Moorthy Manicka Nadar, the FBF Head of the Department Theresa Wong Lai Har, FBF lecturers and UTAR staff.

In his first talk, Dr Chung spoke about his research experience in the field of Accounting whereas his second talk was about the practicality of secondary data in the field of accounting research.

Dr Chung is an assistant professor of the Department of Accounting at Tunghai University since 2015.



Dr Chung

Talk by OTH Regensburg

The Centre for Computing and Intelligent Systems and the Centre for Information Systems and Software Technologies organised a talk titled "OTH Regensburg: Exchange opportunities and research overview in the field of IT- Management in particular and Computer Science in general" on 3 May 2017 at Sungai Long Campus and on 5 May 2017 at Kampar Campus.

This talk aimed to discuss the exchange opportunities and internship for UTAR students and staff, as part of Ostbayerische Technische Hochschule (OTH) Regensburg's collaborative activity. The speaker was Prof Dr Markus Westner, a professor of Faculty of Computer Science and Mathematics from OTH Regensburg who specialises in IT-Performance-Management and Management Consulting.

He spoke of the exchange opportunities accessible for the students and staff, offering advice and information on all aspects of studying abroad and at OTH Regensburg, and living in Regensburg.



Head of Department of Internet Engineering and Computer Science Dr Madhavan Balan Nair (left) presenting a token of appreciation to Prof Westner

Professorial Public Talk on Research Challenges

The Centre for Sustainable Development and Corporate Social Responsibility in Business (CSDCSR) organised a professorial talk titled "Identifying Research Gap and Finalizing Research Problem" at Sungai Long Campus on 26 April 2017.

The talk was presented by Prof Dr Dileep Kumar Mohanachandran who holds full Professor of Behavioural Sciences, Consumer Behaviour, Entrepreneurship, Human Resource Management, Organisational Behaviour, Qualitative and Quantitative Research and Consultancy Strategy.

The aim of the talk was to provide an overall understanding of research and publication. The talk covers topics related to issues and challenges of doing research such as identifying research philosophy, engagement in literature review, identifying research gaps, identifying research topics, creating problem statement and methodology.



Prof Dileep (fourth from right) and the participants

A charitable cultural night

UTAR being a university that constantly emphasises on contributing to the society, through its principle "By the people, for the people" has been nurturing students to be likewise serviceable to the society regardless of age and background. Upholding that principle was the charitable "All in Cultural Night 2017" event, organised by the International Friendship Society (IFS), which took place on 1 April 2017 at the Kampar Campus.

Attracting over 2,000 audience, the event kick-started with an opening ceremony, attended by Department of Soft Skills Competency Kampar Head Hee Chwen Yee, Director of Six Base Technology Sdn Bhd Frey Wong, Director of Global Line Network (Chimaera) Vincent Wong, Director of NCT Technologies Group Simon Ng, Director of ARTH Watches Liew Han Yang, Director of J&J Commerce Jack, IFS Chairperson Goh Yi Ting, Student Representative Council (SRC)'s Faculty Representative Ang Teck Chee and Organising Chairperson Ng Kah Yan, followed by a lion dance and drum performance by the 24 Festive Drums team of the Wushu Club.

"As students who are taught to contribute to the society, our motivation came from our eagerness to help with the UTAR Hospital project and to help the less fortunate community in Kampar," said Kah Yan.

Apart from organising the event for a good cause, it was also a learning platform for both local and international participants to showcase their respective cultures and learn about others' cultures.

The event proceeded with a sequence of performances such as Wushu, Colour of Voices Acapella performance, Icelone Magic

show, Elecldxhot street dance performance and a lucky draw session. Ending the night on a good note were the special guest performances by two Taiwan artists, namely Sam Lee 李圣杰 and Lara Liang 梁心颐, followed by a heart-pounding DJ session with DJ Anna.



CAZTELO

From left: Department of Student Affairs Kampar Officer Lua Zyn Lan, Frey, Vincent, Kah Yan and Hee at the opening ceremony

School students receive free spectacles

UTAR and the Malaysian Association of Practising Opticians (MAPO) once again delivered free spectacles to a total of 78 students from SJK (C) Kampung Timah, Tanjung Tualang and SJK (C) Jeram, Perak and to 33 students from SJK (C) Chun Yin, Negeri Sembilan on 2 March 2017 and 19 May 2017 respectively.

Present at the event was UTAR Chancellor Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik, Founder of Optopreneur Education Group and England Optical Group Prof Dato' Dr Chin See Keat, The Malaysian Association of Practising Opticians (MAPO) President Tai Lee Pin, MAPO secretary Ng Yin Yoon, MAPO delegates Teng Cheok Hong, Christopher Tai and Teng E Wei, the school Principals and UTAR staff.

This ceremony marked the completion of phase one of the Gift of Eyesight project mooted by Tun Ling last year to help young students, especially the ones in need.



Form One student Lew Sheng Nan receiving spectacles from Tun Ling

EXtra English Camp 4.0

The Department of Languages and Linguistics (DLL) under the Faculty of Arts and Social Science (FAS) of Kampar Campus successfully organised a one-day intensive English camp titled "EXtra English Camp 4.0" for Form One students of SMK Methodist Sitiawan on 22 April 2017.

With the aim to bring positive changes in the community, the English camp has been a continuous effort by UTAR for past few years. Similar camps were organised in different secondary schools around Kampar like SMK Sentosa, SMK Methodist, SMK Seri Kampar and SMK Kampar.

Guided by four lecturers, namely Siti Ummaizah binti Meor Musa, Ooi Zao May, V. Deepa and Christina Ong Sook Beng from DLL, a team of 29 FAS English Education undergraduates used materials developed in



The school students and the facilitators

a subject called "UALN 3023 Teaching Materials: Selection and Development" to enhance the English learning experiences among 250 Form One students.

杨威全国大专文学奖

由马大华文学会主办的第19届全国大专文学奖（全文）颁奖典礼于2017年4月21日假马大东姑大礼堂举办，旨在提升全国大专生的文学水平和对文学的认知，同时也提供一个专属大专生能够交流及分享心得的平台，并从中发掘文坛新秀。六位来自拉曼大学的学生更获得了亮眼的成绩。



彭美君

中文系

i. 散文组首奖 ii. 小说组首奖

得奖作品：i. 《日色慢》 ii. 《旋转的木马》

作品简介：

《日色慢》描写了小区的生活，从50-60年代胶林记忆与劳动人民的生活，一直到90-00年代的中学求学记忆，去刻画小镇的人、事物的变迁、抒情与怀旧。

《旋转的木马》描写一位在父权凝视下成长的女子，对身体、性别甚至是性欲的困扰，探讨了女性与身体的书写，看出性别障碍与父权社会的关系。

获奖感言：

能在大学最后一个学期拿到大专文学奖小说和散文两个组别的首奖，对我而言别具意义，因为这不仅仅只是一个奖项，更是一种肯定，让我可以在文学的路上走得更远更远。我作为一个女生，在周遭都是男生的环境下成长，在这个过程中常常受到质疑，觉得自己到底要怎样才能成为一个“对的女生”。但成长至今天，我想说的是，当别人质疑我们的时候，不妨先去质疑这个社会，因为可能是这个社会错了，而且错了很久。对于写作，我觉得更多是关于阅读与想象，是十分个人的倾向。

彭美君从颁奖嘉宾手中接过奖项。



李淑仪
(右)
从颁奖
嘉宾手
中接过
奖项。

李淑仪

中文系

散文组评审奖

得奖作品：《我想和你聊聊》

作品简介：

《我想和你聊聊》写关于面对这个想与之说说话的人，脑子里有许多话题和想法，却每每无言以对的心情。

获奖感言：

这是我第一次投稿参赛，得知入围时心情其实很不踏实，因为自己并没有固定的写作习惯，也是自己目前为止完整度最高的一篇文章，但仍有许多需要改进的地方。这次获奖更像是一个提醒，让自己不得不更认真看待自己的文章。大学的求学过程中对我较有影响的是校外的个人生活，第一次离家独立生活，有了很多新鲜的经历和体悟，进而激发了我的创作灵感。



吴矜侦
(左)
从颁奖
嘉宾手
中接过
奖项。

吴矜侦

绘测系

小说组佳作奖

得奖作品：《新世录》

作品简介：

故事背景主要反映看似井然有序的社会表面光鲜之下的阴暗面，以及被边缘化的少数群体所遭受的剥削与打压，对于传统乌托邦文学中提倡的幸福美好提出的种种质疑。

获奖感言：

第一次尝试写反乌托邦这类大题材的小说，虽然作品水准算不上特优，但能够有幸突围，乃是一大惊喜。依据大学这几年的体验让我意识到在课业和兴趣这两者之间达到平衡真不容易，所念科系的课业超级繁重，因此常常得在报告截止日期和比赛截稿期之间抉择，仿佛得把自己分成两半，同时做到准时交功课的学生和交稿的作者这两种身份，可想而知那种疲惫感是双倍的。虽然别人常常觉得我这样实在很疯狂，但是我相信无论再怎样艰辛，持续坚持就对了，毕竟青春本来就是全力以赴的啊！

拉曼大学在诗歌组中成为大赢家，中文系的胡玖洲以新诗《喜欢》夺得评审奖，余钧桓和谢瑞恩则分别以《学诗》和《原谅》夺得佳作奖。



胡玖洲
(右)
从颁奖
嘉宾手
中接过
奖项。

胡玖洲

中文系

新诗组评审奖

得奖作品：《喜欢》

作品简介：

这是一首朦胧的情诗，讲述了诗人的成长过程中，喜欢的事物随着成长而不停的转变，在寻觅的过程中，纯朴的情意娓娓道来，打动人心。

获奖感言：

非常高兴能够获得这个奖项，当初只是想单纯地写首诗去投稿。这更是我诗歌创作上的一次丰收，非常感谢评审们喜欢我的新诗。我对新诗的感情正如我这篇作品的题目一样——喜欢。拉曼大学湖光山明水秀，非常适合诞生诗人，有时候骑着自行车在校园游荡，欣赏波光粼粼的湖水，走在两旁树木葱绿的小道上，聆听虫鸣鸟叫，这就是写诗的灵感和营养了。



余钧桓
(右)
从颁奖
嘉宾手
中接过
奖项。

余钧桓

中文系

新诗组佳作奖

得奖作品：《学诗》

作品简介：

《学诗》是写自己写诗历程中的心情总结，和自己的潜在对话。

获奖感言：

我一直都认为自己不会写诗，所以此前都只尝试过散文创作。在学习写诗的过程中，写了许多零散的句子，却始终拼凑不成一首诗。在面对自己一直无法写好一首诗的窘境下，而写出了这首《学诗》，总结自己在学习新诗创作路上的无力感。这首诗是我人生中第一首诗，能够得奖，给予了我莫大的鼓励。另外，我想借此机会感谢黄丽丽老师所给予的信心和鼓励。因为这首诗原是我文学创作课的期末作业，而自己对写诗的能力也信心不足，反倒是老师鼓励我把这首诗投稿文学奖。概言之，若非老师的鼓励，这首诗就不会得奖，也不会有面世的机会。

拉曼大学李光前理工学院生物医学工程系生刘国光于2017年4月15日在“马大中文系第32届文学双周：《H20》文学创作比赛”颁奖典礼中荣获散文组评审奖。

这项活动由马大中文系、马大中文系毕业生协会及一个亚洲基金会主办；海鸥集团、大马华文作家协会、星洲日报活力副刊及大马华人研究中心所协办，公开予国内各私立及公立大专生及马大深耕文学创作课程学员的参加。

他的获奖作品《白鱼》是一篇引人发省并且探讨在科学研究和实验中使用动物作为试验品的伦理道德的散文。

他受访时表示，这个奖项对他而言意义非凡，因为这是他上大学以来首次在校外的文学创作比赛中获奖，“我是从脸书上看到比赛的宣传贴文而决定参加比赛，从而也希望借此来磨练及提升自己的写作能力。虽然工程系的课业繁忙，但这让我觉得每一次挤出时间来创作的经验变得更有价值。”

他补充，“我相信许多人在中学毕业后因为种种的原因而甚少或者不再从事文学创作或参加任何的创作比赛，但我始终相信在文学上发光是一个值得坚持的梦想。”

作为一位年轻的创作者，期盼着与知音相会的他表示，“目前觉得身边甚少喜爱文学的同伴，所以正努力地在创作的道路上寻找同伴，大家一同学习、创作，也一同成长。”

工程系生喜获文学奖



刘国光(右)从散文组评委方肯手中接过奖状。

FCI anjur tayangan filem LXXI • 71

Sekumpulan pelajar tahun akhir program pengajian Penyiaran dari Fakulti Industri Kreatif (FCI) UTAR telah menganjurkan sebuah sesi tayangan filem yang bertajuk LXXX• 71 pada 23 April 2017 bertempat di Taman Teknologi Malaysia. Sesi tayangan yang dianjurkan tersebut merupakan sebahagian dari projek tahun akhir pelajar-pelajar jurusan penyiaran UTAR. Tajuk unik sesi tayangan LXXI • 71 ini terdiri daripada angka romaan yang memberi simbol jumlah bilangan krew yang terdiri daripada 70 acara serta setiap satu penontonnya.

Antara objektif utama projek tersebut ialah untuk berkongsi pengetahuan yang telah ditimba sepanjang tempoh pengajian selama tiga tahun dengan pelajar-pelajar junior program pengajian Penyiaran yang lain. Selain itu, para penonton bukan terdiri daripada pelajar-pelajar UTAR sahaja, malah orang awam juga berpeluang untuk menikmati tayangan filem yang memberi inspirasi ini. Mereka juga berpeluang untuk menambah ilham dan inspirasi baru dari filem-filem yang ditayangkan tersebut. Melalui platform ini, sebanyak lapan buah filem dokumentari dan empat *multi-camera studio production* berjaya dihasilkan oleh pelajar-pelajar jurusan penyiaran UTAR.

Dekan FCI UTAR Dr David Tneh Cheng Eng menyampaikan penghargaan beliau kepada semua pihak penaja dalam menjayakan majlis perasmian sesi tayangan LXXX• 71. Beliau berkata, "Saya berasa amat berbangga dengan para pelajar dan para pensyarah dari program pengajian Penyiaran di atas usahasama mereka dalam menjayakan sebuah program tayangan yang berskala besar seperti ini. Saya faham untuk menjadi seorang pelajar jurusan penyiaran, mereka harus dilengkapi dengan ciri-ciri seperti kemahiran berfikir secara kritis dan kreatif, bermotivasi serta komited. Di samping itu, saya juga percaya bahawa sikap keberanian juga merupakan salah satu ciri terpenting bagi seorang pelajar jurusan penyiaran. Dengan ini, saya juga berasa amat bangga dengan usaha pelajar-pelajar jurusan penyiaran UTAR yang berani mendedahkan dan menerbitkan beberapa dokumentari yang belum diterokai oleh sesiapa. Projek ini bukanlah pengakhiran buat pelajar penyiaran UTAR, tetapi ianya merupakan satu permulaan yang baru buat mereka untuk terus melengkap diri masing-masing dengan pengetahuan jurusan penyiaran. Saya berharap para pelajar mampu menganjurkan lebih banyak projek-projek yang berfaedah seperti ini."

Ketua Jabatan Media FCI Anthony Gandolfo Miranti Jr berkata,



Pengalaman yang penuh bermakna buat kesemua peserta LXXI • 71



Dari kiri: Chu, Anthony, Dr David Tneh, pakar FCI Kor Eng Choon dan tutor Nurul Ezzati

"Siaran tayangan hari ini merupakan sebuah gabungan hasil kerja pelajar-pelajar UTAR yang bersungguh-sungguh dengan berteraskan kematangan, kreatif serta keberanian. Penggambaran filem tidak boleh dilaksanakan dengan hanya oleh seorang individu. Ia memerlukan kerja berpasukan, sokongan dari keluarga dan bimbingan dari guru-guru. Saya yakin projek LXXI • 71 ini berjaya membawa pelbagai impak positif kepada para pelajar."

Presiden LXXI • 71 Chu Nung Rene berkata, "Sepanjang tempoh lima bulan proses penganjuran projek ini, kami telah melalui pelbagai pengalaman manis dan pahit. Ianya merupakan sebuah pengalaman pertama buat kami yang seramai 70 pelajar program penyiaran untuk bersama-sama menganjurkan projek ini secara baik. Kami juga ingin menyampaikan penghargaan kepada semua penaja yang telah memberi sumbangan yang besar untuk menjayakan projek ini. Projek ini merupakan satu aktiviti kami yang amat membanggakan dan ia juga merupakan satu faktor besar yang menyatukan kami untuk terus melaksanakan aktiviti-aktiviti seperti ini."

Pelajar Tahun Ketiga program pengajian Penyiaran Moh Hoy Yi mengambil bahagian dalam pasukan penerbitan untuk menghasilkan sebuah dokumentari yang bermatlamat untuk memberi kefahaman kepada penonton mengenai pergolotan dan kesusahan yang dialami oleh pekerja-pekerja asing di Malaysia. Moh juga mengucapkan terima kasih kepada jawatankuasa penganjur di atas usaha yang diberikan untuk menjayakan projek ini. Beliau menambah, "Sebelum menyertai pasukan penerbitan, saya tidak mempunyai sebarang gambaran bahawa betapa sukarnya kehidupan sebagai seorang pekerja asing di Malaysia. Selepas mendapat peluang menghampiri mereka secara peribadi, saya rasa benar-benar bersyukur kerana menjadi rakyat Malaysia dengan pertumbuhan ekonomi yang stabil, persekitaran kerja yang selamat serta keadaan politik yang aman. Selain itu, peluang ini juga membolehkan saya untuk memperkembangkan rangkaian dan dapat berkenalan dengan lebih ramai rakan serta membolehkan saya mendalami kemahiran videografi."

Sebagai penutup kepada projek ini, sebanyak empat kategori penerbitan telah terpilih dan dianugerahkan sebagai pemenang. Antara kategori yang terpilih ialah *Best Documentary*, *Best Multi-Camera Production*, *People's Choice Documentary* dan *People's Choice Multi-Camera Production*.

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