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Graduates at UTAR's 25th Convocation



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UTAR Kampus was the venue for the Asian Science Camp (ASC) 2017 from 20 to 26 August 2017.

Sultan of Perak officiates ASC 2017

UTAR Kampus was the venue for the Asian Science Camp (ASC) 2017 from 20 to 26 August 2017.

Held for the first time in Malaysia, the annual science camp aimed to deepen Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) interests among Asian youths and give them the exposure to the importance of STEM via close interaction with STEM luminaries.

The ASC 2017 opening ceremony on 21 August 2017 was graciously presided over by its Royal Patron His Royal Highness Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah Ibbi Almarhum Sultan Azlan Muhibuddin Shah Al-Maghfur-Lah, The Sultan of Perak Darul Ridzuan. Upon the arrival of His Royal Highness Sultan Nazrin Shah, he was cordially received and welcomed by the Menteri Besar of Perak Darul Ridzuan Dato' Seri DiRaja Dr Zambry bin Abd Kadir, Minister of International Trade and Industry II of Malaysia and UTAR Council Member Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan, UTAR President-cum-ASEAN Academy of Engineering and Technology (AAET) President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik and ASC Steering Committee Chairman-cum-Honorary President of AAET Ir Academician Datuk Hong Lee Pee.

Prof Chuah in his speech thanked His Royal Highness Sultan Nazrin Shah for taking the time to grace the opening ceremony of ASC 2017 and said, "We are on the opening page of a promising new chapter in international cooperation and collaboration with regards to STEM education. We can use this event to discuss and examine in depth issues close to our hearts and hopefully find common grounds for us to explore solutions that will benefit all of us, and open doors to more exchanges that can elevate the awareness and interests among youths on the importance of STEM in nation building."

Datuk Hong in his speech said, "It gives me great pleasure to welcome His Royal Highness Sultan Nazrin Shah, the Sultan of Perak Darul Ridzuan as the Royal Patron of ASC 2017 to grace the opening ceremony. Today is a very significant day for us, as we kick-start the ASC, which for the first time, is held in Malaysia. I am hopeful that ASC 2017, through its rich array of keynote address and lectures, will in some ways not only inspire people to be actively involved



Sultan Nazrin hitting the 'gong' to mark the opening of ASC 2017

in STEM projects but also utilise STEM for development and sustainability purposes. I strongly believe it is a platform that will bring to light the importance of developing talents in STEM."

Also present at the opening ceremony were the Orang Kaya Bendahara Seri Maharaja Dato' Seri DiRaja Tan Sri (Dr) Mohd Zahidi bin Haji Zainuddin, Science Advisor to the Prime Minister of Malaysia Prof Tan Sri Zakri Abd Hamid, Orang Besar Jajahan Kampar Toh Sedewa Raja Datuk Abdul Talib bin Abdul Fahmi, Perak State Secretariat Dato' Seri Abdul Puhat bin Mat Nayan, Chairperson of the Committee of Education, Science, Environment and Green Technology of Perak State Dato' Dr Muhammad Amin bin Zakaria, Chairperson of the Committee of Tourism, Arts, Culture, Multimedia and Communications of Perak State Dato' Nolee Ashilin binti Mohammed Radzi, Chairperson of the Committee of Health, Public Transport, Non-Islamic Affairs, National Integration and New Villages of Perak State Dato' Dr Mah Hang Soon, Chief Executive Officer of Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad and UTAR Board of Trustees Member Tan Sri Dato' Seri Lee Oi Hian, Malaysian Industry-Government Group for



Sultan Nazrin delivering his royal address

High Technology (MIGHT) President Datuk Dr Yusoff Sulaiman, The Institutions of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM) President Ir Tan Yean Chin, UTAR Council Member Hew Fen Yee, Chairperson of ASC 2017 International Committee Prof Lin Ming-Juey, ASC 2017 Organising Committee Chairperson-cum-UTAR Vice President for R&D and Commercialisation Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei, UTAR Vice President for Internationalisation and Academic Development Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Members of the Cabinet, other Perak State Executive Council Members, the Heads of the Perak State agencies, dignitaries, government agencies, the ASC international committee, distinguished guests, participants, UTAR staff and students.

His Royal Highness Sultan Nazrin said, "This is an extremely exciting time to be a young scientist, as you are, in the many areas covered under the rubric of STEM, the theme of this year's science camp. It may possibly even be the most exciting



From left: Prof Cory, Prof Yong, Prof Gross, Datuk Talib, Prof Lin, Hew, Dato' Amin, Tan Sri Zahidi, Dato' Seri Ong, Dato' Seri Zambry, His Royal Highness Sultan Nazrin, Prof Chuah, Datuk Hong, Dato' Seri Puhat, Tan Sri Lee, Tan Sri Zakri, Datuk Yusoff, Ir Tan, Prof Roberts, Prof Poo and Prof Adams

time ever to be a scientist, as ever-more astounding advances are being made in so many fields. Advances in artificial intelligence (AI) and robotisation are pushing boundaries in directions that are both expected and unpredictable. The speed and extent of change is such that some futurists believe that we are reaching an historical tipping point, which will transform our world beyond recognition. This creates extraordinary opportunities for the world, and for yourselves, as both the beneficiaries and architects of some of these advances. But the acceleration of technological change also presents major challenges for us all, as we navigate through this turbulent and unpredictable world. Advances in AI, robotisation and biotechnology are already allowing innovations such as genetically modified insects and artificially enhanced or manipulated humans. These are very welcome for their medical and humanitarian contributions. But such developments also raise deep and challenging questions about even what it means to be human."

His Royal Highness Sultan Nazrin also said, "Beyond such difficult philosophical questions lie the more immediate and equally challenging issues of the future of work and the workplace in an era of increasingly capable AI and robotics. The impacts of recent advances will probably be felt more quickly in this area, driven by the economic logic of investment for profit. This area also has very direct implications for yourselves, whose working lives may look very different from those of previous generations. This transformation of employment patterns will also have broader political implications, as society tries to adapt to the new realities. The

economy will continue to evolve regardless, along with technological innovation. There are many dire predictions of the likely impact of the coming wave of technological change on employment and the workplace. One study suggests that at least 50 percent of seven hundred different current job categories may be fully automated in the coming years. At the same time, large productivity gains will be generated by the new technologies. But the costs and benefits of the coming transformation are unlikely to be evenly distributed, and this could contribute to worsening inequality. Combined with mass unemployment, this could result in political and social upheaval on a massive scale."

Therefore, The Sultan has called for sufficient policy-making; regulation and education in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics to ensure new technologies are used for the greater good

instead of instigating more inequality among the people. He said scientists should play an important role in policy development and regulation of scientific and technological advances to ensure they were effectively controlled and managed for the benefit of all.

On another note, Tan Sri Zakri presented a keynote address, titled "Science, Technology and Innovation as Drivers of Malaysia's Growth and Competitiveness". In relation to Science, Technology and Innovation being the driving force of Malaysia's growth and competitiveness, Tan Sri Zakri mentioned about the successful structural changes that Malaysia has gone through; from once an agriculture-based economy, to a manufacturing-based economy, and now to a service-based economy. However, he also spoke of the Fourth Industrial Revolution as being a transformation that will change society's way of living, working and relating to one another.



A group photograph with Sultan Nazrin



Sultan Nazrin at the bronze sculptures with (from left) Prof Ewe, Dato' Seri Zambry, Prof Chuah and Dato' Seri Ong



Sultan Nazrin visiting the UTAR Gallery accompanied by Dato' Seri Zambry, Dato' Seri Ong and Prof Chuah



From left: Prof Chuah and Datuk Hong



To further stimulate discussions and exchanges of ideas, Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine Prof Sir Richard J. Roberts and Nobel Laureate in Physics Prof David Jonathan Gross delivered their lectures, namely "Why You Should Love GMOs" and "The Frontiers of Fundamental Physics" respectively. Other local and international experts include Professor Emeritus of Neurobiology of University of California, Berkeley Prof Poo Mu-ming who spoke of the cognitive functions of the brain, Founder and Group Executive Chairman of Silverlake Group Goh Peng Ooi, Tan Sri Lee and Emeritus Professor (Genetics and Zoology) of University of Malaya Prof Emeritus Yong Hoi Sen delivered a series of lecture titled "A Study on Mathematical Systems and Its Relationships to Science, Economy, Management and Wealth", "Palm Oil: God's Gift to the World" and "Exceptions to the Rule: Gems of Biodiversity" respectively.

The camp also saw Professor of Molecular Genetics of The University of Melbourne Prof Jerry McKee Adams presenting his lecture titled "How Understanding of the Control of Cell Death has Led to A Promising New Cancer" and Honorary Professor of the School of Biomedical Sciences of The University of Melbourne Prof Suzanne Cory sharing about "Regulating Cell Life and Death in Health and Disease". "Manufacturing Excellence for the World" and "Innovation Makes You Fly Higher" were delivered by Founder

and Executive Chairman of Top Glove Corporation Berhad Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai, and Datuk Hong respectively. The participants also went on an exciting excursion where they visited some main attractions spots in Perak. The closing ceremony of the ASC 2017 was held on 25 August 2017 which saw poster preparation, team presentation, cultural evening and farewell dinner.

ASC has been held annually in different parts of Asia including Taiwan, Thailand, Indonesia, India, Singapore, Japan and South Korea since its debut in 2007. The annual camp has been seen as an opportunity for the promotion of international friendship and cooperation among the best young minds of the next generation in Asia. It also opens doors to more international exchanges among participants, further elevating the awareness and interest among youths on the importance of STEM in nation building and to the Asian continent.

ASC 2017 is the eleventh edition hosted by the KLESF, an initiative promoting interest in STEM among primary and secondary school students, and jointly organised by UTAR, AAET, MIGHT and IEM.

The week-long camp saw the presence of two Nobel Laureates and an array of distinguished scientists and technologists sharing their insights and knowledge with over 340 participants from more than 30 economies including Malaysia.

The ASC 2017 included informative lectures, interesting dialogue sessions, creative poster competition, cultural showcase and excursion, which took place on alternate days throughout the week.



Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine Prof Sir Richard J. Roberts



Nobel Laureate in Physics Prof David Jonathan Gross



Professor Emeritus of Neurobiology of University of California, Berkeley Prof Poo Mu-ming



Founder and Group Executive Chairman of Silverlake Group Goh Peng Ooi



Emeritus Professor (Genetics and Zoology) of University of Malaya Prof Emeritus Yong Hoi Sen



Chief Executive Officer of Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad Tan Sri Dato' Seri Lee Oi Hian



Honorary Professor of the School of Biomedical Sciences of The University of Melbourne Prof Suzanne Cory



Professor of Molecular Genetics of The University of Melbourne Prof Jerry McKee Adams



Founder and Executive Chairman of Top Glove Corporation Berhad Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai



Science Advisor to the Prime Minister of Malaysia Prof Tan Sri Zakri Abd Hamid

With the vision to promote mental literacy and create awareness about the human mind and its unlimited potential, the Malaysia Festival of the Mind (MFotM) started this year with its first session at Tunku Abdul Rahman University College (TAR UC) Kuala Lumpur Main Campus from 8 to 9 July 2017 followed by the second session at UTAR Kampar Campus from 15 to 16 July 2017.

Jointly organised by the Malaysia Mental Literacy Movement (MMLM), UTAR and TAR UC for the 11th consecutive year, the 'Great Mind' - themed 13th MFotM also aimed to introduce and promote various techniques and skills pertaining to the improvement of mental literacy.

Invited to launch the festival at TAR UC were the Guest of Honour LBS Bina Group Managing Director Tan Sri Lim Hock San, UTAR Chancellor Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik and TAR UC President Datuk Dr Tan Chik Heok. Launching the 13th MFotM at Kampar Campus were Guest of Honour Honorary President of ASEAN Academy of Engineering and Technology Ir Academician Datuk Hong Lee Pee, Tun Ling and Prof Chuah. Also present at the launch were Datin Lim Miao Yong, Toh Puan Ena Ling, UTAR Vice Presidents Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat and Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, UTAR Council Member Hew Fen Yee, UTAR Planning and Development Committee Advisor Tan Sri Hew See Tong and the MMLM committee members.

In his welcome speech, Tun Ling emphasised, "I am happy to see MMLM and its members are able to once again hold the MFotM to teach us more about the greatness of the mind as well as the brain and memory skills. There are many techniques and skills that could help us enhance and preserve memory."

Datuk Hong said, "We're deeply concerned over our school students' waning interest in learning sciences. This festival is indeed a platform for

13th Malaysia Festival of the Mind



From left: Prof Chuah, Tun Ling, Tan Sri Lim and Dr Tan launching the 13th MFotM with the "Genetron" created by UTAR Architecture students at TAR UC Kuala Lumpur Campus

the students to learn about their mind and it will also help to promote students' interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics."

Tan Sri Lim said, "I am glad that the MMLM has been playing an important role in the society by establishing such a notable platform. Achieving mental fitness is as crucial as keeping a routine workout of physical fitness."

A parent of a primary school child, Wong Tzyy Tyng said, "This is indeed a precious platform that will inspire people from all walks of life to explore the strengths of our brains. Through the talks and workshops I also learnt some skills that are very much relevant and applicable to my daily lives."

Form Six students Ooi Zhi Wei, Helmy Ikram bin Hasim and Sharvena V. Ravi enthused, "There were many booths that provided consultations and various activities. We also learnt a lot about the potential of the human brain and enjoyed the activities at the festival very much especially at the Green Glade Corner."

One of the event highlights was a memory demonstration by the International Guest Speaker Huang Sheng Hua from China who has achieved all the Master titles of Memory in the World. He said, "It's true that certain brain

changes are inevitable when it comes to aging, but regular brain exercise is a promising way to enhance our memory power."

The annual two-day empowerment festival also saw the presence of mental arithmetic expert West Wong Woon Chieng, Malaysia Memory Sports Council founder Teo Kim Foo as well as other prolific experts such as Dr Justin Woo, Lau Jin Woon, Kenneth Ch'ng, S. Jeyaraman, Kaygarn Tan, SK Tan, Teoh Poh Yew, Jimmy Yeoh, T. Elanggovan and many more to shed light on the benefits and importance of mental literacy.



From left: Tun Ling, Datuk Hong and Prof Chuah at Kampar Campus



A group photograph of all the camp participants



Paper Plane Challenge



Hourly activities at the Green Glade Corner



Interaction with virtual reality through direct brain stimulation

UTAR celebrates 15th anniversary



UTAR Board of Trustees Members, Council Members, honoured guests and Student Representative Council (SRC) members at the cake cutting ceremony

UTAR commemorated its 15th anniversary at the Sungai Long Campus on 10 August 2017, with the theme 'Building Hopes and Realising Dreams for a Better Tomorrow'.

Present at the 15th anniversary celebration were Guest of Honour Minister of Transport and Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA) President Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai, UTAR Chancellor Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik, UTAR Council Member Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan, MCA Youth Chairman Senator Datuk Chong Sin Woon, UTAR Board of Trustees Chairman Tan Sri Dato' Dr Sak Cheng Lum, UTAR Council Chairman Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Ting Chew Peh, Senator Dato' Dr Hou Kok Chung and UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik.

The celebration started with the seasons drum and Chinese orchestra performance by the UTAR students who showed great passion and commitment towards performing arts. A group of Engineering students who designed and constructed the number 15 at

the entrance of the campus also showcased a drone performance in prelude to the video presentation of the 15th anniversary celebration.

Prof Chuah said, "As we celebrate UTAR's 15th anniversary, it is not only to share the university's milestone achievement, but also to pay tribute to all believers and contributors who have made all this possible for the university. We are thankful to the believers, donors and the MCA for their aspirations and passion for education that have led to the establishment of today's UTAR."

Tun Ling enthused, "UTAR is built by public donation. We cherish the contributions and support from the community and many individuals. Regardless of their status, those philanthropists and benefactors including hawkers, taxi drivers and businessmen, have contributed and paved the way for UTAR's existence."

Dato' Sri Liow said, "UTAR has created a nurturing environment conducive enough to stimulate the students' quest for

knowledge, as well as grooming them to be outstanding individuals who will proceed to make contributions in every segment of the society. A university must not only educate its students to serve the society and country, but also to enable the world to become a better place to live in."

The 15th anniversary celebration was followed by the presentation of the list of donors and a diabolo performance by Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science student Soon Yong Wei. Besides, Civil Engineering undergraduate Lim De Sheng who also teaches Chinese calligraphy in the Chinese Language Society demonstrated his calligraphy skills by brushing "志学之年再创高峰" on his painting and presented the calligraphy work to UTAR. The celebration ended with a cake-cutting ceremony. The cake was a replica of the KA Block of the UTAR Sungai Long Campus.

UTAR 15th anniversary celebration also saw the presence of Toh Puan Ena Ling, former UTAR President Tan Sri Datuk



Prof Chuah expressing his gratitude



Tun Ling sharing moving stories on the establishment of UTAR



Dato' Sri Liow expressing his support towards UTAR's initiatives and future plans

Seri Dr Ng Lay Swee, wife of the late Datuk Leong Tang Chong Datin Kok Yew Shong, MCA Wanita Chief Datuk Heng Seai Kie, MCA Vice President Datin Paduka Chew Mei Fun, UTAR Planning and Development Committee Advisor Tan Sri Hew See Tong and UTAR Council Member Hew Fen Yee, Endowed Chair Donor Datuk Tan Kim Leong, Building Management Association of Malaysia President Tan Sri Dato' Teo Chiang Kok, Brunfield Intl Group Managing Director Tan Sri Dato' Dr Ir Gan Thian Leong, The Society of Logisticians Malaysia President Major Chang Kah Loon, SHL Consolidated Bhd Executive Director Dato' Sri Yap Chong Lee, Tunku Abdul Rahman University College President Datuk Dr Tan Chik Heok, UTAR Vice Presidents Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat and Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei, honourable members of UTAR Board of Trustees, UTAR Council and International Advisory Council, as well as guests from MCA, donors and partners.



From left: Datuk Chong, Dato' Hou, Toh Puan Ling, Prof Chuah, Lim, Dato' Sri Liow, Tun Ling, Tan Sri Ting and Tan Sri Sak with the calligraphy work



All the guests and the audience wishing UTAR "Happy 15th anniversary"



The 20kg cake is a replica of the UTAR KA Block



From left: The lions greeting Dato' Sri Liow, Prof Chuah and Tan Sri Ting



UTAR students enthralling the audience with their seasons drum performance



Soon playing the Chinese yo-yo, diabolo



UTAR Chinese Orchestra performance

To commemorate the contribution from the Kuok Foundation, the Mary Kuok Library was launched in Sungai Long Campus on 14 August 2017.

Present at the launch were sister of Mary Kuok, Kuok Seok Kin, Kuok Foundation Deputy Chairman and niece of Mary Kuok, Kay Kuok, niece of Mary Kuok, Teo La Mei, Kuok Foundation General Manager Ng Teck Seng, Kuok Foundation Admin Manager Choo Hwei Miin, UTAR Council Chairman Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Ting Chew Peh, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Council Members Hew Fen Yee, Tan Sri Dato' Seri Chor Chee Heung, Ir Academician Datuk Hong Lee Pee, Datuk Lim Si Cheng, Datuk Lee Leck Cheng and Board of Trustees Company Secretary Ong Whee Tiong, UTAR Vice Presidents Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat and Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei, UTAR staff and students.

The Mary KUOK Pick Hoo Library aims to provide quality resources and services in support of the advancement of teaching, learning and research of the university which is necessary for students to continuously progress towards a better tomorrow.

Prof Chuah said, "This is a simple yet meaningful event, where we celebrate the opening of the library to witness the milestone achievement from the day of

Launch of Mary KUOK Library



From left: Prof Chuah, Tan Sri Ting, Kay Kuok, Kuok Seok Kin, Teo and Ng during the ribbon cutting ceremony

UTAR's establishment. As of now, we have more than 34,000 e-journals and 143,000 e-books. We are truly grateful for the support given by the KUOK Foundation that enabled us to accommodate the students' needs, learning and also embrace the changes for a brighter future. We will continue to try

our very best to produce more employable graduates to contribute to the nation building."

The launch was followed by a ribbon cutting ceremony and a library tour before the event adjourned.

Promoting Smart Teaching and Learning

Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA) in collaboration with Huaqiao University (HQU), UTAR and Tang Chinese Education & Technology Ltd (Tang C.E.) launched the "Belt and Road Initiative: 'Internet+' Chinese Education Smart Teaching and Learning Scheme" at Sungai Long Campus on 27 July 2017.

MCA President-cum-Transport Minister Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai was invited to grace the ceremony, together with the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Malaysia His Excellency (H.E) Dr Huang Huikang, MCA Vice President-cum-UTAR Council Member Dato' Senator Dr Hou Kok Chung, HQU President Prof Jia Yimin, UTAR Acting President Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Perfect Pentagon Sdn Bhd President-cum-Huaqiao University Board of Director Member Dato' Woo Swee Lian, Tang C.E. Chairman Fay Liu, the United Chinese School Teachers Association of Malaysia President Dato' Ong Kow Yee as well as guests from MCA, HQU, Tianjin University, Beijing Jiaotong University, Northwest University, Tang C.E., UTAR staff and students.

Prof Ewe said, "Today's event has



Presentation of plaque to the 14 secondary school representatives and UTAR

unlocked a new collaboration in Malaysia's secondary schools that could benefit our young generation."

Prof Jia said, "The HQU has developed into a comprehensive institution of higher education. We hope that we will be able to promote and improve the Chinese language in Malaysia."

H.E. Dr Huang remarked, "The rapid development of relations between China and Malaysia in several sectors will provide new development and collaboration opportunity in Chinese education."

Dato' Sri Liow said, "MCA hopes to expand the 'internet+' to all SJKCs, secondary schools and universities."

Fay Liu remarked, "Tang C.E. aims to create and publish a localised and customised courseware for Malaysian Chinese education sector by using the Tang C.E. Network Platform."

Tang C.E. Chief Executive Officer Li Jingsong remarked, "Tang C.E. can be easily accessed and we'll provide the teaching and learning contents according to the local needs and wants."

Envisioning a greener and cleaner Kampar

The Built Environment Society (BES) of Kampar Campus teams up with the Kampar District Council (*Majlis Daerah Kampar*, MDKpr) and the *Persatuan Kuasa Hijau Kampar* for the first time to launch a two-day environmental awareness campaign titled "AVENIR – The Future" at Sports @ Grand Kampar from 8 to 9 July 2017.

The opening ceremony was attended by Chairperson of the Committee of Tourism, Arts, Culture, Multimedia and Communications Dato' Nolee Ashilin binti Mohammed Radzi, MDKpr President Khairul Amir bin Mohamad Zubir, UTAR Vice President Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong representing UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Council Member of MDKpr Rafidi bin Mohd Razali, General Manager of Grand Kampar Hotel Shirilay Cheong representing Grand Kampar Hotel Director Hew Fen Yee, UTAR Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) Deputy Dean Ir Dr Ng Choon Aun, FEGT's Department of Construction Management Head Dr Olanrewaju Abdullateef Ashola, BES Advisor Dr Kwan Wai Hoe and the Organising Chairperson Lim Wei Shen. The closing ceremony was attended by Chairperson of the Committee of Education, Science, Environment and Green Technology Dato' Dr



From left: Lim, Dr Kwan, Khairul, Dato' Nolee, Prof Choong and Rafidi launching the "AVENIR – The Future"

Muhammad Amin bin Zakaria.

Lim said, "The main objective of the campaign is to raise environmental awareness among the public and enable them to understand the use of EM mud balls in purifying the lake, sea, river or ponds."

Prof Choong said, "This campaign will encourage people to be aware of how essential it is to have a pollution-free environment and the need to come together to protect the environment."

"MDKpr lends its support to this programme because it encourages the public

to conserve the environment," said Khairul.

Dato' Nolee enthused, "I am always proud to see the UTAR students engaged in various community projects that benefit the local community. I thank UTAR for being a university that nurtures its students to be community oriented."

Dato' Amin said, "I am glad to see the UTAR students keen to spread the environmental knowledge. MDKpr is indeed very lucky to have a university like UTAR to collaborate with."

In conjunction with the Blossom Arts Festival Malaysia 2017 (BAFM 2017), a mural painting project was organised by the Malaysian Chinese Culture and Arts Association (MCCA) at the Ampang Park LRT station from 1 July 2017 to 9 July 2017. This project involved students and academics from three institutions, namely UTAR, Tunku Abdul Rahman University College (TAR UC) and Malaysia Institute of Art College (MIA).

The BAFM 2017 Signature Mural Wall was launched on 18 July 2017 and was officiated by the Minister of Transport and President of Malaysian Chinese Association Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai, Chairman of Malaysian Chinese Culture and Arts Consultative Council Datin Paduka Chew Mei Fun, and Chief Executive Officer of Rapid Rail Sdn Bhd Dato Zohari Sulaiman.

Through this mural painting project, MCCA aims to reach out to the Malaysian youths, giving them the space to express themselves in order to facilitate the opportunity for them to appreciate Malaysian arts and culture.

Dato' Sri Liow said, "It is important to promote multiculturalism in Malaysia because it flourishes the uniqueness of multicultural background and religion."

"This beautiful artistic creation would

BAFM Signature Mural Wall



From left: Datin Paduka Chew, Dato' Sri Liow and Dato Zohari

have not been possible without the creative input from three of our brightest local institutions — UTAR, TAR UC and MIA," said Datin Paduka Chew.

"I really appreciate the effort taken by our students. I hope that in the future, the young generation would take their own initiative to preserve our culture to prevent it from being

lost," said Department of Multimedia Design and Animation lecturer Liang Mei Yin.

"It is my pleasure to be able to join this project. I'm proud that the artwork produced by my team will be exhibited to the public," said the Chairperson of Graphic Design and Multimedia Society Chai Jit Ted.

UTAR welcomed a total of 2,451 new graduates into the family of UTAR alumni at the UTAR's 25th Convocation ceremony held from 18 to 20 August 2017 at the Dewan Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik of Kampar Campus. It was a three-day celebration of the graduands' hard work, determination and their dedication to the ideals of UTAR.

UTAR celebrates its 25th Convocation



Graduands marching their way to Dewan Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik



Guests of Honour, from left: Tan Sri Dato' Seri Chor Chee Heung, Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan, Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai and Ir Academician Datuk Hong Lee Pee



Tan Sri Chor presenting the scroll to Public Relations graduate Chong Jia Ying



Tan Sri Ting presenting the scroll to Banking and Finance graduate Kok Yong Le



Dato' Seri Ong presenting the scroll to Chemical Engineering graduate S. Vishahan



UTAR Registrar Yim Lin Heng leading the Chancellor's procession

want to go, and be what you want to be, but on the right moral path and in a good way. I believe there is a bright future waiting for those who dare to pursue their dream. Many successful entrepreneurs started their life with a dream to succeed and that was their springboard to success later in life. Many successful people had big dreams when they were young - Bill Gates, Steve Jobs, Robert Kuok, Jack Ma; just to name a few. But of course, they pursued their dreams relentlessly through sheer hard work and determination and a keen foresight. Success is never free and easy."



Prof Chuah presenting the scroll to Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery graduate B. Hezron



Hew presenting the scroll to Accounting graduate Ang Chyh Kun

UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik said, "As we are all well aware, the world is changing. The sweeping change that is brought on by technological advancements and also globalisation will have far-reaching effects, and it will most definitely bring disruptions to the labour market. Some jobs may cease to exist while others may grow or come into existence. Therefore, it is crucial for those going into the labour market or already in the labour market to shift their mindsets. It is imperative that we are aware of what is happening, not only around us but also across the globe. If not, we may wake up one day and realise that we have been swept aside by the tides of change, losing relevance."



Prof Chuah advising the graduands on the importance of lifelong learning



Tun Ling declaring the opening of Session One of the Convocation



Tan Sri Ting declaring the opening of Session Two of the Convocation

Prof Chuah also advised that, "Your journey of learning does not end here. Your graduation is not an end but it is part of a larger journey of life. All the accomplishments you have achieved during your course of study in the University are just starting points in the race of life where you participate to gather further achievements. Your graduation serves as the launching point that projects you to your future endeavours. There will be many other launching points in your life's journey that will propel you further. I hope you will recognise them and excel towards personal growth and success in your career ventures."

A total of 2,451 graduands from 88 programmes comprising 65 Bachelor (Hons) degree, 21 Master's degree and two PhD programmes, received their convocation scrolls in four sessions held over the three-day period. The Convocation also celebrated the academic accomplishments of the pioneer batches of graduates from the following programmes: Master of Arts Communication from the Faculty of Creative Industries and Master of Science (Computer Science) from the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology.

Of the 2,451 graduands, two received their PhDs, 68 received their Master's degree and 66 received their Honours Degree with Distinction, while the rest received their Bachelor Honours with Merit and Bachelor Honours degree.

The Session One of the Convocation was declared open by the UTAR Chancellor Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik; Session Two was declared

open by the UTAR Council Chairman Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Ting Chew Peh; and Session Three and Four was declared by Prof Chuah. Also present at the ceremony were other UTAR Council and Board of Trustees members.

The Guests of Honour for the four sessions of the Convocation were Director of Tenaga Nasional Berhad and the Commissioner at Malaysian Aviation Commission Tan Sri Dato' Seri Chor Chee Heung for Session One, Minister of International Trade and Industry II of Malaysia and UTAR Council Member Dato' Seri Ong Ka Chuan for Session Two, Chairman and Founder of Top Glove Group of Companies Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai for Session Three, and UTAR Council Member Ir Academician Datuk Hong Lee Pee for Session Four. The scroll presenters for Session One were Tan Sri Chor and Tan Sri Ting; Session Two was Dato' Seri Ong; Session Three were Prof Chuah and UTAR Council Member Hew Fen Yee, and Session Four was Hew again.

Tan Sri Chor said, "My message to you all is in essence, stated in this quote from Henry David Thoreau, "Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined". Yes, it is now time for you to live your dreams and aspire for the life you have imagined in all your youthful days. Your journey as a student has ended and now you will begin to live your own life; no longer regimented by your class timetable. It's an exciting life for you ahead and you must continue to keep learning and be humble to learn from others. People around us can teach us so much but we must be open to see and learn. The knowledge acquired and lessons learnt in life are more meaningful if we experience it ourselves and they become our guide to future endeavours. Be bold to face the life's journey ahead and always think twice and weigh the consequences before you take on any risks. There are positive outcomes for cautious decision-making."

He added, "I encourage all of you to dare to dream, go where you

Dato' Seri Ong in his speech motivated the graduands, "Be strong and do not lose courage and always keep up your courage. Courage is not the absence of fear. It's about being true to you. It's about holding on to what's right and holding on to the good in the darkest of the night. It's about holding the hand that needs help, holding close the weak and the worn. Standing to fight a battle you might lose because there is simply too much at stake. When that time comes, I wish for you the integrity to make the tough choices and the courage to ask others to stand with you."

He added, "The fireworks begin today for all of you. Each degree is a lighted match. Each one of you is a fuse. Education is the key to unlocking the world, a passport to freedom. Every person is the architect of his or her own future. Your imagination is your preview of lives coming attractions. It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are. All your dreams can come true if you have the courage to pursue them. The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

Tan Sri Lim enthused, "In my company, Top Glove, I have even made this part of our Quality Policy: *Continuous improvement and innovation are our duties*. Today, Top Glove is the world's largest rubber glove manufacturer. But number one is not forever. Becoming number one is hard but to sustain number one and our "world's largest" position is even harder! Even when you have achieved success, you must continue to work harder, smarter and faster, so you can remain number one. At Top Glove, we also have a company motto: *Must Know, Must Do and Must Teach*. 'Must Know' is where you are now: You have acquired knowledge and graduated. 'Must Do' means you must then apply your knowledge and skills effectively and be a positive contributor to your company, society and country. And finally, 'Must Teach' means you must share your knowledge, skill and experiences with others in order to move up the

value chain of your company, society and country."

Last but not least, Datuk Hong in his speech, elucidated, "As you strive to fulfil your dreams and partake a more adventurous journey in the next stage of your life, I urge you to keep reading and learning new skills in addition to your current achievements. It is of great importance to remember your responsibilities towards the society and to bear in mind how the people, society and nation have helped us to accomplish today's achievements. Hence, I hope you will all continue to strive for continual improvements, share your expertise with your fellow juniors, and contribute your knowledge to your nation."

He added, "I would like to share with you the main contributing factors in "Innovation and Forward Planning", to the success and achievements in career and life. Innovation, particularly Science Technology and Innovation, is one of the important pillars supporting the development and thriving of a state, a nation and an enterprise. To be successful in your career life, one should plan forward and position yourself at an early age."

Kuan Teik Hua, a graduate of the Master of Engineering (Electrical), said, "To be a good leader is by working hard because eventually, people will appreciate your effort." Established his own company, KL Automation Engineering Sdn Bhd, Kuan said to be a successful entrepreneur is to start early, as being an entrepreneur takes a lot of practice and even more hard work is needed. He added, "Malaysia has a lot of potentials and with education, success is made easier and possible."

Another high achiever was Ong Sing Hui, a graduate of Master of Science from the Faculty of Science. He said, "UTAR's education has helped me to build confidence, become more prepared, and by participating in extra-curricular activities, it also nurtures soft skills and leadership skills." He advised the juniors to be determined, persevere, never give up, and trust their abilities.

With the addition of 2,451 graduates from this 25th Convocation, the number of the University's alumni now stands at 50,506 since its inaugural convocation in 2005.



Graduands and their parents at UTAR's 25th Convocation

UTAR Chinese Orchestra performance



Musical interlude performers (clockwise from top left): Rebecca Pang Sing Yun, Soo Jun Wei, Veronica Pang Syn Ni, Ch'ng Jing Yan, Evelyn Foo Ching Lin, Yang Shun Kai, Tay Jor Jun, Xaviera Yih, Lim Sue Chee, Foo Fook Yew, Kong Eu Jinn, Kho Siew Jiuan, Lim Vi Xuen and Tan Ie Huang



Graduates in jubilant mood



Prof Chuah (middle) with some graduates



An exciting moment for the graduates



Master of Psychology (Industrial and Organisational Psychology) graduate Tan Ting Ying with her colleagues from the Department of Psychology of UTAR Faculty of Arts and Social Science



Graduates of Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences with their professors

IEM Chemical Research Paper Competition

Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) Petrochemical Engineering graduate Yong Jun Xin clinched the first spot in The Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM) Chemical Research Paper Competition 2017 at KLCC on 13 April 2017.

Organised by IEM's Chemical Engineering Technical Division, the competition was a prelude to the 17th Asian Pacific Confederation of Chemical Engineering (APCChE) Congress which was held in Hong Kong from 23 to 27 August 2017.

Yong was one of the five finalists shortlisted from the undergraduate category to be invited to present his paper titled "Production and Characterisation of Biopolyols from Crude Glycerol Based Liquefaction Process" at the International Construction Week 2017 held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre.

Yong mentioned that since Malaysia is a major palm oil exporter, there will be massive amounts of leftover waste such as palm kernel cake. "Palm kernel cake is a lignocellulosic biomass and it has the potential for the production of biopolyols. Crude glycerol on the other hand has the potential of substituting the petroleum-derived solvent for liquefaction process. Crude glycerol is an inexpensive by-product produced from the biodiesel production process due to the presence of impurities such as free fatty acids, fatty acid methyl esters and soaps, therefore requiring higher purification cost before selling,



Yong (right) with his supervisor Dr Lo

which incurs cost to the biodiesel industry," he added. Yong also stated that both materials are promising feedstock to be used in the production of biopolyols and polyurethane foams. His paper therefore investigated the feasibility of using palm kernel cake and crude glycerol in liquefaction process to produce biopolyol.

Yong thanked FEGT Deputy Dean for R&D and Postgraduate Programmes Dr Lo Po Kim for her supervision and advice. He also thanked Sime Darby for sponsoring the crude glycerol and Union Lab for the palm kernel cake.

Double recognition for research paper

UTAR Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) academics Dr Lee Voon Hsien and Leong Lai Ying added another feather in their caps when their research paper was acknowledged as "Most Downloaded Expert Systems with Applications (ESWA) Paper (2016)" and "Ranked 8th on the Top 25 Most Downloaded Article 2017" by Elsevier (USA)'s ESWA journal.

Co-written with former FBF academic Alex Foo Tun-Lee and Prof Ooi Keng Boon of UCSI University, the paper titled "Can competitive advantage be achieved through knowledge management? A case study on SMEs" had also earned the quartet the Honourable Mention Award at the Technology Innovation and Industrial Management (TIIM) Conference 2014 previously.

Buoyed by a sense of accomplishment, both Dr Lee and Leong extended their utmost appreciation to their co-writers for being professional and inspirational. They dedicated their success to UTAR and expressed their pride to be affiliated with the University. The duo also attributed their success to the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants for its research grant awarded in 2013, which financed their 12-month research initiatives.

Leong said, "Today's agile economy entails organisations to be constantly



From left: Leong and Dr Lee

building up their capabilities and capacities for the future. SMEs need to embrace the knowledge management strategy, that is, to identify, create, share, retain, and utilise knowledge in order to spur creativity."

Dr Lee said, "Information is increasing exponentially. And with Big Data encroaching into the workplace, it is becoming a growing challenge for firms to harness the multitude of knowledge. Organisations need to be

proficient to manage their knowledge systems well enough to help them know their customers and find solutions to their challenges."

ESWA is a refereed international journal with the impact factor of 3.928. It is currently ranked number One in the Google Scholar h-index listed under the top publications of Artificial Intelligence.

12th National Mathematics Competition



Prof Choong (middle) with the participants

The 12th National Mathematics Competition (NMC) was held at Sungai Long Campus on 17 June 2017. Present at the event were Vice President Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science Dean Prof Ir Dr Goi Bok Min, Chairperson of the Centre for Mathematical Sciences Dr Goh Yong Kheng, sponsors, participants, staff and students.

The objectives of NMC is to cultivate interest in mathematics among high school, pre-university and undergraduate students, and offer a networking opportunity for all.

Prof Choong said, "We need to overcome the misconception that maths is difficult. Exposure to different areas of study is crucial to learn and apply mathematics and statistics skills."

"I believe that this competition will dismantle the negative perception of mathematics and encourage students to harness their understanding and talent," said NMC Chairperson Len Yue Yang.

"I am glad to participate in a quality competition that stretches the mind and mathematical skills," said Tan Kin Aun, who won the "Ironmath Award".

Participated were Asia Pacific University, Asia Pacific International School, Brickfields Asia College, California State University, Chong Hwa Independent High School Kuala Lumpur, Foon Yew High School Kulai, HELP College Kuala Lumpur, Heriot-Watt University Malaysia, International Education College, International Medical University, Kolej Matrikulasi Kedah, Kolej MDIS Malaysia, Kolej Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman-Johor Branch Campus, Kolej Yayasan UEM, Kolej MDIS MALAYSIA, Methodist College Kuala Lumpur, Monash University Malaysia, Multimedia University, Nilai International School, Quest International University Perak, SEGi University, SM Setiabudi, SMJK Katholik PJ, SMK Taman Melati, Sunway College Subang Jaya, Sunway-TES, Sunway University, Taylor's College Sri Hartamas, Taylors College Subang Jaya, Taylor's International School Kuala Lumpur, The Alice-Smith School, UCSI University, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, Vikas International School and Xiamen University Malaysia.

Win at World Collegiate Go Championship

UTAR stamped its mark in the Fourth Annual World Collegiate Go Championship which was held at the Panyapiwat Institute of Management (PIM) in Thailand from 7 July 2017 to 13 July 2017. The championship was jointly organised by the International University WEICHI Federation, Shanghai Ing-Chang Qi Weichi Foundation, Go Association of Thailand and Panyapiwat Institute of Management.

The championship was an open international tournament for university students from all over the world, with the aim of promoting the "Go" game among universities worldwide, advance linkage and communication amongst collegiate players. It brought together more than 100 participants from 72 universities, including prestigious universities such as Harvard University, University of Oxford, Tsinghua University, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, National University of Singapore, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Melbourne, and Myongji University.

The tournament was divided into five categories following its rank. UTAR representative, Khoo Jia Ming played the matches under category D. After six rounds of intense struggle, she managed to win five games out of six and successfully took home the second place with souvenir and certificate as the prizes.

Present for the closing ceremony to award the winners were International University WEICHI Federation President Ying Ming Haw, Go Association of Thailand President Korsak Chairmisak, Chinese Weiqi (Go) Association President Wang Runan, PIM President Associate Professor Dr Sompop Manarangsan and other welcomed guests.



Khoo (second from left) with Dr Sompop Manarangsan (middle) and other winners

When asked, Khoo said, "Through the game, I've learned how to communicate effectively with people from different countries. I felt lucky when I won the tournament, and I also feel like I have reached a special point in my life."

Aid for the visually impaired

UTAR has introduced a new research project that uses the combination of ellipses and a 3D depth map for object recognition to develop an assistive device that will guide the visually impaired or robots to reach their targeted object.

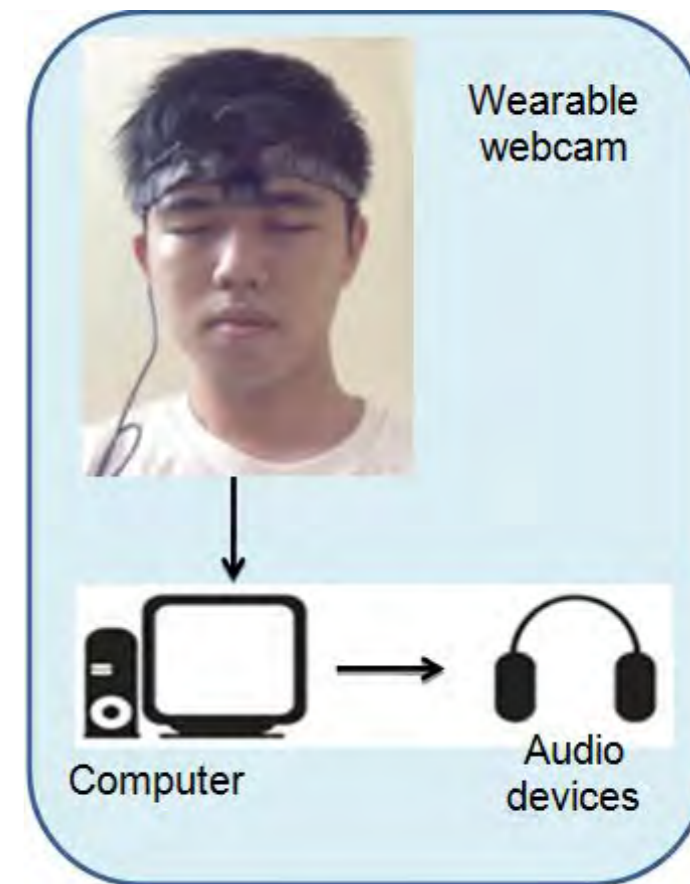
This research project was led by the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT) Deputy Dean for R&D and Postgraduate Programmes Prof Dr Leung Kar Hang as the principal investigator with his co-researchers from FICT Dr Kheng Cheng Wai, Assoc Prof Dr Lau Phooi Yee and Dr Tan Hung Khoon as well as postgraduate student Chong Ka Ying and final year project students Lee Jia Hui and Tan Ching Soon. The project was funded by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI).

The sense of sight or more familiarly known as vision plays an important role in human's life. Performing daily activities would require arduous effort without it. Traditionally, people who are visually impaired use a cane to assist them in identifying their surroundings or navigation. However, it still proved to be difficult for them to identify the objects they are seeking unless they receive aid from the others.

With the aim to help the visually impaired accomplish their daily routine with ease and give them an opportunity to be more independent, Prof Leung and his research team have been researching for an alternative to solve this problem. His research involved building an assistive tool such as the webcam, which acts as the user's eyes. The webcam will be worn on their head where it would capture the image of objects from the surrounding, imitating the function of the eyes, to help them "see" or even look for objects in their home.

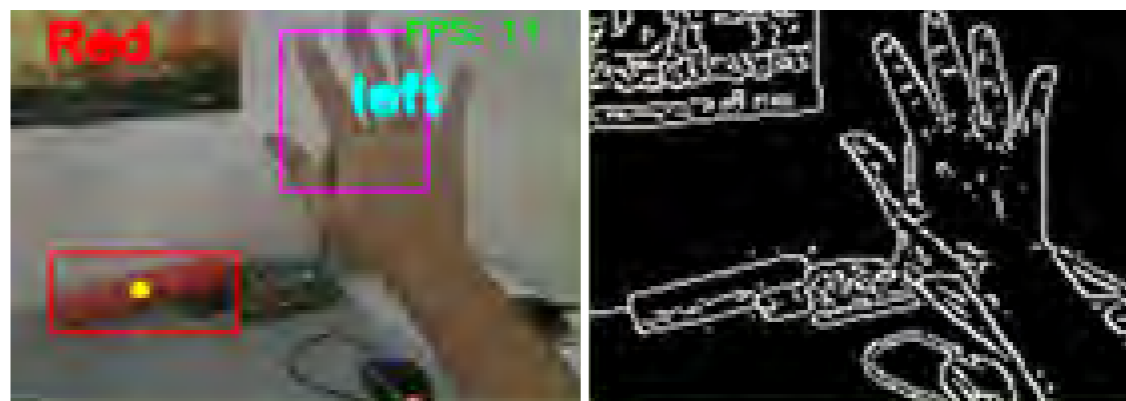
As the user navigates through their home, an audio signal will be sent to inform the user when their hand and the objects are detected overlapping by the webcam. In a much simpler explanation, the webcam will "tell" the user when the object is near. In addition, if the webcam senses some distance between the object and the user's hand, an audio signal will still be sent to guide the user's hand to move up, down, left or right to get near to the targeted object.

Other than that, the application of this research indirectly helps the family of the visually impaired by lessening the cost required for their care as the lack of sight will no longer be a major barrier in their daily life. This will also increase their confidence as they will no longer have



An example on how the assistive device will be worn

An example on how the assistive device works



If the detected hand is at right side of the object, the system will issue 'Left' command to guide the visually impaired to move his hand to the left



If the hand and object regions overlap, the system will issue 'pick up' for the visually impaired to grab the object

the need to be dependent.

According to Prof Leung and his team, other than a webcam, the same application can be implemented on service robots for commercial value as well. The implementation will enable the robots to detect the primitive of ellipse from an image, improving their accuracy and providing a better detection result. If this is successfully commercialised, the application can be innovated into an app that will be able to run on devices such as handphones or even Google Glasses.

Prof Leung and his team hope that further research in this direction will enable them to enhance the reliability of the application, making it run in real time in a much more complex environment. Once it is successful, they will be able to build an object recognition system on top.

Se7en

Se7en, an appreciation event to acknowledge the tireless and endless hardship of the clubs and societies' leaders was held on 7 July 2017 at Sungai Long Campus. It was organised by the Student Representative Council (SRC) Sungai Long Campus 2016/17 and sponsored by Hong Leong Assurance, MYC!, Hajimeru and Mix-mix Catering.

Invited to grace the ceremony were UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Registrar Yim Lin Heng, Department of Student Affairs Head Loh Nyuk Leung, SRC 2016/17 Chairperson

Ng Zi Kent, SRC Chairperson 2017/18 Lee Jing Heng, DSA staff and clubs and societies' advisors.

Se7en Organising Chairperson Andrik Nge Hau Shuen welcomed all the audience and said, "I would like to express my gratitude to all the leaders for their support throughout the years. Today's event will be the first step to strengthen the communication and relationship between clubs and societies. Being part of the outgoing leaders, we also have the chance to inspire upcoming leaders with our experiences and ideas."

Lee Jing Heng thanked 2016/17 SRC members for their efforts in the last term and said, "It will be a challenging term but SRC

2017/18 will always be ready to serve all the clubs and societies' leaders and UTARians. I hope SRC and all the clubs and societies can bond up and support the student community hand by hand in future."

Prof Chuah said, "There is no perfection in our life and we learn as we go along. I am glad that 2016/17 SRC has shown their professionalism on building a good relationship with the students. I thank all the clubs and societies' members for their contribution and time for serving our students. I urge 2017/18 SRC to continue the good work and effort for the betterment of the university."



Organising committee with 2016/17 and 2017/18 SRC members and clubs and societies student leaders

In collaboration with the Sports Club, UTAR First Aid Society held its second consecutive year of seven kilometre run named Cardio Night Run 2.0 on 17 June 2017 at Sungai Long Campus from 5pm to 11pm.

Cardio Night Run 2.0 aimed to promote health awareness among the public and strengthen the bonds between the University and the communities.

The opening ceremony kicked off with an energetic cheerleading performance by *Dynamitez* from Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Damansara Jaya, followed by an aerobic warm-up session conducted by Sheela Samivellu, the Champion of Half Marathon in Standard Chartered KL Marathon 2016.

The ceremony continued with an opening speech by the Organising Chairperson Phua Cher Khey. She said, "It is my honour to organise this event with a great team of committee members. We hope that we will be able to provide a quality and fun running experience to all the participants. We are very pleased that the tickets were sold out within two days. I also wish to express my gratitude to all the sponsors for their generous support. Without them, this event wouldn't be a success."

The Cardio Night Run flagged off at 8.15pm and the closing ceremony began at 10.30pm with the 24 Festive Drum performance followed by a dance performance. During the presentation of prizes, the winner went home with a RM300 Skechers cash voucher. The run ended with a

Cardio Night Run 2.0



Participants at the finish line

rave party by the DJs from *BassKikDrop*. Cardio Night Run 2.0 received great support from private companies including main sponsor Inta Bina Group Berhad, silver sponsor i-Chem Solution Sdn Bhd, bronze sponsor Mudah.my, official apparel

sponsor Ultron, official merchandise sponsor Skechers Malaysia, official drinks sponsor Yeo Hiap Seng (Malaysia) Berhad, and official supporters including Gomeq, Sunlac Malaysia, and Ewanta Malaysia Sdn Bhd.

R&D Colloquium 2017

The Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Research (IPSR) once again successfully organised its seventh R&D Colloquium at Kampar Campus on 22 July 2017.

Some 130 local and foreign researchers joined and came together during the university's biannual colloquium on research and development. The UTAR R&D Colloquium (1.0) 2017 brought research participants together to present and share their research efforts in multiple fields of studies.

Themed 'Global Challenges towards 2050', the one-day conference continued to strengthen and nurture regular communication between researchers from the 28 research centres in UTAR through establishing research collaborations and reinforcing cross disciplinary research. It also served as a platform for a continuous update on research outcomes to the research centres, faculties, IPSR, and the Vice President's office for R&D and Commercialisation.

A total of 13 presentations on various topics including developments in the education system, cyber security, data privacy, wastewater treatment, fourth industrial revolution, virtual reality learning, smartphone addiction and the impacts of education in the fourth industrial revolution, were delivered.

UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr



Prof Lee and Prof Faizd (seated front row, fourth and fifth from left respectively) with presenters and participants of the colloquium

Lee Sze Wei said, "It is indeed a great platform for all researchers to share their research methodologies and findings with other researchers and students. This colloquium also aims to help the participants to develop their analytical skills and engage in multi-disciplinary research." IPSR Director Prof Dr Faizd bin Abd Rahman in his closing speech said, "The network session will enable the participants and presenters to exchange ideas, which will eventually improve the quality of the research."

One of the participants of the colloquium, the Chairperson of the Centre for Accounting, Banking and Finance Dr Krishna Moorthy Manicka Nadar enthused, "We need this type of colloquium that is vital to help the R&D flourish."

The truths and myths of entrepreneurship

"Live life to the max," enthused Jacky Cheng Hock Leu at "The truths and myths of entrepreneur" talk that was jointly organised by the Entrepreneurship Society, Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF), Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT) and Department of Consultancy and Commercialisation (DCC) at Kampar Campus on 3 July 2017.

Joining 143 students at the talk were FBF Dean Dr Au Yong Hui Nee, DCC Head Ching Yen Choon, FICT lecturer Aamir Amin, FBF lecturer Adi Wira bin Mohd Zin, and Entrepreneurship Society Chairperson Chong Kuang You.

Similar to the previous activities that were part of the University's initiative to offer students a holistic learning experience, the talk enabled them to keep abreast of the latest happenings in the business field and to strengthen their sense of professionalism and social responsibility. The talk also aimed to educate students on the how-tos of becoming a successful entrepreneur.

"Do not be afraid of failures and learn from them, even if it takes multiple trials. Be willing to take risks," advised Cheng. It is the mindset that Cheng mentioned of as being an important tool for overcoming obstacles, which is by keeping a creative and positive mindset when solving problems.

"To make their dreams come true, students must learn to take action, learn from the winners, be a team player and be courageous in difficult times," said Dr Au Yong.



Front row: Cheng, Ching, Dr Au Yong and Chong with the participants

"Listening to the talk has once again sparked my passion to run my own self-designed T-shirt business. I had this idea when I was younger but now I am more determined to realise my dream," said Chong.

The talk then ended with a souvenir presentation to Cheng by Dr Au Yong.

“绘情画意” 诗歌与书法展



嘉宾们为“绘情画意”诗歌与书法展主持开幕仪式；左起：张晓威、曾荣盛、王嘉堃及黄丽丽。

由拉曼大学中华研究中心主办，中文研究协会协办的“绘情画意”诗歌与书法展于2017年7月5日至7日在金宝校区展出了25位马华诗人以及马来诗人的作品，让出席者共赴一场跨种族、跨语言的文学之旅。

活动负责人黄丽丽博士致词时为来宾们简介了活动的筹办背景和主题的取名缘由，源自于马来文学泰斗乌士曼阿旺 (Usman Awang) 的《Melukis Rasa Melukis Cerita (绘情画意)》这首诗。她表示，“以其诗作为活动主题，也是想借此纪念乌士曼阿旺这位在生前积极推广族群和谐的伟大诗人。”

中华研究院院长张晓威副教授致词时表示，“华巫裔之间其实可以通过艺术来交流，就像这次的活动以书法、诗歌的方

式来交流。以书法的方式把乌士曼阿旺的作品呈现出来，也是对这位伟大诗人的敬意。”

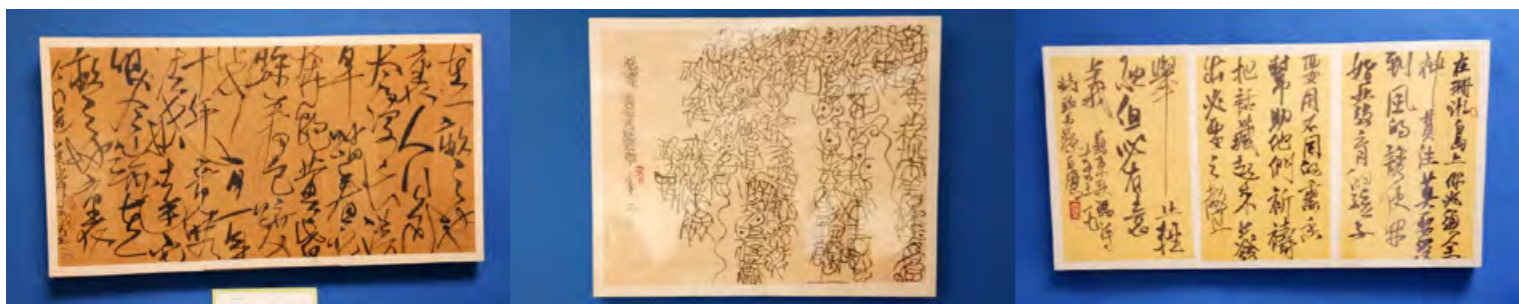
他补充，“拉曼大学自创校而来致力于东西交流、古今对话，而中华研究院不仅秉持着和大学一致的理念，同时也非常注重各民族之间的交流与对话，因此我们开办了《马华与马来文学的比较》、《马华文学》等课，旨在让学生能够对本土的文学有更深入的了解与认识。更重要的是，我们也希望通过类似的活动带动金宝社区的人文活动及文学风气，进而呼应大学取之于民，用之于民的办学宗旨。”

为期三天的展览免费开放给民众参与，所展出的书法作品包括国家文学奖得主乌士曼阿旺、安华利瑞、马华诗人吴岸、何乃建、游川等人的诗作。展览中的

诗作以书法方式呈现，而所有的中巫诗作皆参考文化工作者曾荣盛的译作，而书法作品则由资深书法美术工作者王嘉堃亲自操笔而作。曾荣盛与王嘉堃也在当天受邀前来为与会者主讲与诗歌及书法相关的讲座。

大会也特别在开幕典礼上安排了诗歌朗诵和演唱环节，其中包括由中文系生张欣慧朗诵乌士曼阿旺的《Melukis Rasa Melukis Cerita (绘情画意)》和郑芝莲朗诵吴岸的《盾上诗篇》，以及现场演唱了田思的《海螺》。

出席开幕仪式的嘉宾包括中华研究院副院长黄文斌副教授、林良城博士、研究生课程主任陈明彪博士、中文系及其他院系的讲师等。



图为展览中的部分书法诗作；左起：(图一) 吴岸《人行道》、(图二) 拉笛夫莫希丁《玛雅》、(图三) 苏东奥玛《诗致另类白鹰》

讲座(一)：《译笔生花? —— 谈诗歌翻译》

曾荣盛以《译笔生花? —— 谈诗歌翻译》为题，主讲了关于他在诗歌翻译上的心路历程。曾荣盛也是现任马来西亚译创会副会长，译著多部马来诗集，也把马华文学作品翻译成马来文。他也在2014年出版马来文诗集《Bebas (释放)》。

曾荣盛表示，“因为喜爱诗歌，也喜欢和大家一同研究诗歌，当然翻译的时候也要抱着使命感，多翻译有价值、有代表性且能够传世的作品。”对于马来文诗歌中译的选择方面，他表示自己基本上只翻译自己所认识的人或获赠诗集的诗歌，“因为通过和原作者多番交流、互动，将有助于帮助译者把原意译得更准确。”

讲座(二)：《有趣的书法》

王嘉堃为与会者主讲《有趣的书法》，其富现代感的作品让与会者感受到非一般的书法体验。他也擅长于把现代诗和歌词带入其书法作品，因为他认为“唐代的书法作品，内容是唐诗，宋代的书法作品，内容是宋词，唐诗宋词就如那个时代的流行歌曲，而每个时代都有其文学代表，所以萌生了把现代的诗和歌曲带入书法作品里的想法。”

不过他表示，在寻求书法创新之前，最重要的是把书法根基打好、打稳，“就像我们一开始练的楷书非常重要，它不仅帮助我们学习控制毛笔，也帮助我们培养写字时的空间感，我们在初学阶段把基础打稳，那么后来才能够写出比较放的线条。如果连毛笔都控制不了，就谈不了什么创新了。”问答环节中，两位主讲人和与会者交流甚欢，一同探究了与诗歌、文学翻译、翻译前景、书法、文房四宝、书法创作等相关的事宜。

拉曼大学中华研究中心于2017年7月13日在金宝校区举行了由副校长尤芳达教授所撰写的《须弥粒子：科学与佛理交融的缘起世界》新书推介讲座会，让与会者共赴一场涉足科学与佛学的跨学科分享会。

讲座由理学院院长林德明副教授负责主持。尤芳达在大学期间曾担任89/90年度马大佛学会主席，并创办马大妙喜弘法人员训练班。另外，他也曾任两届马来西亚佛教青年总会全国理事。

《须弥粒子》由佛光文化事业(马)有限公司所出版。全书共分为：缘起世间、浩瀚星空、生物演化、人类未来和正念钟声五章。另外，更附有法音清流一章，收录了他大学时期所创作的佛曲作品。

主讲人在推介礼上指出，这本书收录了自2014年至2017年间，刊载在他于《普门》杂志《须弥粒子》专栏上的文章。随后，他更进一步解析了《须弥粒子》的书名，让与会者对这个佛学与科学相融合的书名有更具体的了解。他表示，“《维摩诘经·不思议品》里提到‘须弥纳芥子，芥子纳须弥’，而在这句话里所

《须弥粒子》 新书推介讲座会



黄文斌(前排右起)、劳悦强、尤芳达、林德明与师生在签书会后合影。

提到的须弥山喻为巨大之意，而芥子则表示微小。现今的尖端物理认为，宇宙所有的物质世界，都是由各种基本粒子组成。因此，《须弥粒子》主要是融合佛教宇宙观须弥的巨大与物理世界基本粒子的微小，说明心无挂碍故大小无碍，来带出科技世界里的缘起智慧，通过圆与缘的宇宙波澜，在科技生活里让读者品一瓢自在活水。”

他用深入浅出的方式以

《须弥粒子》为题，讲述科学与佛理交融的缘起世界。当中所谈及的内容包括宇宙大小的跨度、宇宙大爆炸与细胞、人类世界的演变、几率中的因果关系、黑天鹅效应与无常、多重宇宙、地球演变史、人类的进化、智能机械人、情绪疆域等。

他说，“了解科学，可以让我们掌握知识来处理生活的问题；领悟佛法，可以让我们以智慧来化解内心的烦恼。”

交流环节中，主讲人与出席者交流甚欢，一同探究了与人工智能、人类进化论、永生、宇宙大爆炸、佛学因果、科学的随机性、众生等与佛学及科学相关的课题。

出席嘉宾包括中华研究院副院长兼中华研究中心主任黄文斌副教授、访问教授兼新加坡国立大学中文系副教授劳悦强及各院教职员。

拉曼大学中华研究院 资深编辑陈玉莲畅谈文字工作

拉曼大学中华研究院于2017年8月9日邀请了资深文字工作者兼文玉工作室董事经理陈玉莲前来主讲以“文字，滋养和丰盈生命”为题的讲座，以她本身丰富的职场历程，带出不同刊物、领域的文字要求，说明文字滋养和丰盈生命，让出席者对文字工作有更深入的了解。

陈玉莲也是拉曼大学中华研究院(金宝校区)实习课顾问老师。她拥有丰富的文字工作及翻译经验，曾任编辑、翻译、专栏作家等，目前正在经营自己的工作室，负责撰写、翻译、编辑、校对、美编设计、桌面排版及印刷等文字与设计工作。此外，她目前也是马大中文系博士研究生，从事儿童文学研究。

陈玉莲首先以自己与文字的结缘经过分享拉开讲座序幕。本科毕业于中文系的她，原本计划投身教育界，后来在机缘巧合下展开了在出版社的职业生涯。她分享了许多她在工作中的趣事，让出席者对编辑工作有另一层的认识。

她的第一份工作是在佳辉出版社上班，负责编辑小学教科书，她表示，“除了掌握语文能力，也必须熟悉各年级课程纲要，因为各年级的学生所掌握的生字能力、理解能力等都不同，所以在编写造句、篇章及理解文的习题时都会以年级为依据。其实工作初期，在练习做习题时才发现原来自己一直以来的很多笔画都是写错了，而造句习题则被学校老师批改得满江红。在编写教科书的过程中仿佛就让自己重新复习了许多与语文语法相关的知识。另外，为了减少出版错误，必须习惯查字典、查习题里出现的图片，因为我们的出版品都是为学生准备的，一丁点的错误也可能会后患无穷，而且出版好的出版品就是我们的责任。”

除了在出版社的编辑工作经验，主讲人也分享了她旅居苏格兰时的一些体验。她书写当地的小朋友，而这些文章都刊载在国

内小学生刊物的专栏里。对她而言，这些游记让她除了把自己在异国的所见所闻分享给国内的小朋友，也被她视为一种记忆的更新。当时她出版了《陈姐姐出游记》系列。

旅苏后，她再次回到出版社编辑的岗位，但转向负责马来文和英文图书的出版。“同样的，在进行任何策划前，我们都必须弄清楚这些丛书的读者群，所以插图、字体的大小都是必须顾虑的因素。此外，除了语文掌握能力，常识也非常重要。”她也分享了在出版少儿漫画、小说及报纸部门时的编辑工作经验，其中也提及了版权漫画的处理事项及漫画里的附加知识栏的用意。

交流环节中，主讲人和出席者交流甚欢，一同探究了与编辑工作、出版社营运、市场需求、教科书、文案的创意与包装、文学经典的翻译等相关的课题。

席间嘉宾包括中华研究院副院长林良城博士、研究生课程主任陈明彪博士及教职员。

林良城(左二)在黄德厚(左一)和黄丽丽(右一)的陪同下赠送纪念品给陈玉莲。



Institusi Pengajian Cina (ICS) dan Pusat Pendidikan Lanjutan (CEE) UTAR telah menjadi tuan rumah bagi program lawatan sambil belajar untuk sekumpulan pelajar dari Jabatan Pengajian Cina dan Sejarah dari City University, Hong Kong (CityU) dari 5 hingga 25 Jun 2017 di Kampus Kampar.

Program ini merupakan satu detik pengalaman yang baru bagi kedua-dua pihak universiti di mana ia berlangsung selama sebulan di bawah naungan Pensyarah merangkap Timbalan Ketua Jabatan Pengajian Cina dan Sejarah dari CityU Prof Madya Dr Chan Hok Yin dan diiringi oleh pensyarah-pensyarah lain iaitu Prof Madya Dr Fan Ka Wai, Dr Jin Huan, Dr Lam Hok Chung, Dr Lai Hing Fong dan Calvin Wong. Program lawatan sambil belajar ini bermatlamat untuk mengukuhkan hubungan kerjasama di antara kedua-dua buah universiti dalam bidang penyelidikan dan pengajaran.

Delegasi dari CityU telah disambut oleh Dekan ICS Prof Madya Dr Chong Siou Wei, diiringi oleh Timbalan Dekan ICS Prof Madya Dr Wong Wun Bin, Ketua Jabatan Pengajian Cina Kampus Kampar Toh Teong Chuan, Ketua CEE Kampus Kampar Mohd Faizul bin Ahmad, pensyarah-pensyarah ICS iaitu Prof Madya Dr Khor Boon Eng, Dr Wong Lih Lih, Dr Tan Ai Boay dan Mok Tuck Hau.

Program ini menyediakan peluang kepada para peserta dari CityU untuk menghadiri kelas yang dikendalikan oleh ahli-ahli akademik ICS. Proses pengajaran dan pembelajaran tersebut memberi mereka pemahaman yang baik tentang latar belakang dan ciri-ciri kebudayaan masyarakat Malaysia yang terdiri daripada pelbagai kaum dan agama. Program tersebut juga telah menganjurkan sesi majlis makan tengahari dengan Penasihat Jawatankuasa Perancangan dan Pembangunan UTAR Tan Sri Hew See Tong diiringi oleh kesemua peserta dari kedua-dua pihak universiti. Majlis tersebut bertindak sebagai satu laluan bagi kesemua peserta untuk memahami sejarah dan pembangunan bandar Kampar. Tan Sri Hew mengalu-alukan kedatangan kesemua peserta dan memberi penerangan yang mendalam mengenai asal-usul Kampar kepada kesemua peserta.

Timbalan Dekan ICS, Dr Wong secara ringkas memperkenalkan kerjasama antara ICS dan CityU dan berkata, "UTAR dan CityU telah menandatangani sebuah memorandum persefahaman (MoU) pada tahun 2016. Kerjasama di antara kedua-dua institusi ini bermula dari lawatan yang dinaung oleh Dr Chan ketika beliau menghadiri persidangan di UTAR beberapa tahun yang lepas. Beliau mendapati bahawa Malaysia merupakan satu negara yang sesuai untuk warga Hong Kong mempelajari sejarah dan sekaligus menjalankan kajian lapangan serta penyelidikan khususnya mengenai kebudayaan."



Tan Sri Hew (baris kedua, ketiga dari kanan) bersama-sama dengan pelajar-pelajar CityU dan UTAR



Para peserta dari CityU dan UTAR melawat tempat beribadat agama Hindu di Malaysia

Dr Wong juga berkata, "Program Lawatan Sambil Belajar" ini merupakan satu aktiviti yang amat bagus dan fleksibel di mana para pelajar dapat mendekati diri mereka dengan para akademik dan para penyelidik di negara ini. Program ini memberi peluang kepada kedua-dua universiti untuk berkongsi pengetahuan dan pengalaman dari sudut yang berbeza. Saya berharap program ini akan bertindak sebagai sebuah permulaan untuk mengukuhkan kerjasama di antara kedua-dua institusi pengajian tinggi.

Semasa mereka berada di Malaysia, delegasi CityU juga berkesempatan untuk melawat beberapa tapak warisan di sekitar Kampar, Gopeng, Ipoh dan Pulau Pinang, dan juga diperkenalkan dengan pelbagai hidangan tempatan.

Dr Lam kagum dengan bangunan-bangunan warisan yang terletak di Malaysia, dan beliau berkata, "Secara am, tapak-tapak warisan memerlukan penyelenggaraan dan pemuliharaan yang berterusan. Saya amat kagum untuk melihat bangunan-bangunan warisan di Malaysia masih dipelihara dengan baik dan tidak banyak perubahan dilakukan berbanding Hong Kong. Ia masih mengekalkan keaslian bangunan dan ia sangat sesuai untuk penyelidikan sejarah dan kerja lapangan."

Dr Lai pula kagum dengan kebudayaan dan keharmonian Malaysia yang terdiri daripada pelbagai kaum dan agama, terutamanya di Pulau Pinang dan Gopeng. "Tempat beribadat seperti Masjid, Tokong Cina, Kuil Hindu dan Gereja didirikan dalam kawasan yang sama dan ianya menunjukkan kesefahaman dan keharmonian antara budaya berbilang agama di Malaysia. Malaysia semestinya merupakan sebuah negara contoh yang boleh dijadikan sebagai tempat untuk melakukan penyelidikan khususnya dalam aspek kebudayaan."

UTAR dan CityU menandatangani sebuah MoU pada bulan Disember 2016 bagi memudahkan pertukaran ahli akademik, penyelidikan dan pentadbiran serta pelajar. MoU tersebut juga mendorong kedua-dua pihak untuk meneroka dan bekerjasama dalam bidang pengajaran dan penyelidikan.

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