

UNIVERSITI TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN

HORIZON

Broadening Horizons, Transforming Lives

2019 Issue 1

- 02 **Collaborations** at Work
- 10 **Special** Feature
- 12 **In Search** of Excellence
- 18 **Students** in Action
- 19 优大视野
- 20 **Sudut**UTARian





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Collaborations at Work

Rankings by Times Higher Education 2019

The year 2019 marked another milestone for UTAR when it retained its rankings at #501-600 for the second year in a row in the *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings 2019 and at #111-120 in the *Times Higher Education* Asia-Pacific University Rankings 2019. In addition, UTAR is also ranked #117 in the *Times Higher Education* Emerging Economies University Rankings 2019.





Previously, the Times Higher Education ranked UTAR #99 in its Times Higher Education Asia University Rankings 2018 and #101-150 in Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2018. UTAR's placing in the rankings reflected the immense efforts and strategies put in place by the University since its inception in 2002.

The Times Higher Education Asia-Pacific University Rankings 2019 and Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2019 used 13 performance indicators to judge institutions on their teaching, research, citations, international outlook and industry income.

Research collaboration with CATA, HATA and MKAKK



From left: Dr Te, Prof Ng, Dr Bai, Prof Ngeow, Dr Liu, Prof Chuah, Dr Cheng, Dr Fan, Dr Lai, Dr Jiloris, Prof Yap and Dawn

Sin Chew Education Awards 2018/2019



Outstanding Educational Institution 2018/19: Private Universities/Colleges Category

TAR won the Sin Chew Education Awards 2018/2019 in the Outstanding Educational Institutions: Private Universities/Colleges category. The award was presented on 25 January 2019 at the Sin Chew Education Awards Presentation Ceremony, held at the Grand Ballroom of Setia City Convention Centre in Shah Alam, Selangor.

UTAR was among the 13 universities who won the Outstanding Educational Institutions: Private Universities/Colleges category. Participated in the category were 34 universities/colleges around Malaysia.

The Sin Chew Education Awards 2018/2019 was organised by Sin

Chew Media Corporation Bhd with the objective to recognise target audiences who provide excellent education so that they can be encouraged to do more for the betterment of the industry while contributing to the overall economic development of the nation. Besides, it also aimed to promote the reputation and image of the target audiences so that they can upgrade and excel further and compete internationally as well as contribute to the overall betterment of education in nation building.

The eight qualitative assessments for the award category were general information, programmes related info, academic and support staff, physical resources, student services, employability



UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat (right) receiving the award on behalf of UTAR from the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Law) YB Datuk Liew Vui Keong

of graduate, achievements, awards and recognition as well as other important info or achievement.

Previously, UTAR has also won the Sin Chew Business Excellence Award (SCBEA) 2017 in the CSR Excellence Award category on 10 November 2017. elegates from Chinese Anti-Tuberculosis Association (CATA), Hunan Anti-Tuberculosis Association (HATA) and Kota Kinabalu Public Health Laboratory (MKAKK) visited Sungai Long Campus on 26 December 2018. The visit was organised to discuss collaborations under the Belt and Road Initiative. It also aimed to build a good rapport between UTAR, CATA, HATA and MKAKK.

Among the delegates were CATA President-cum-Deputy Director-General China CDC Dr Liu JianJun, Division Chief Dr Fan Haiying,



Emeritus Prof Cheong (left) presenting a token of appreciation to Dr Liu

Secretary-General Dr Cheng Shiming; HATA Secretary-Generalcum-Vice President of Hunan Provincial Chest Hospital Dr Bai Liqiong; MKAKK Director Dr Jiloris F Dony and Laboratory Officer Dawn C Paul.

Welcoming the delegates were UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Division of Community and International Networking Director Assoc Prof Dr Lai Soon Onn, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS) Dean Emeritus Prof Dr Cheong Soon Keng, Head of Department of Chinese Medicine Assoc Prof Dr Te Kian Keong, Centre for Research on Communicable Diseases Chairperson Prof Dr Ngeow Yun Fong, Deputy Dean for R&D and Postgraduate Programmes Prof Dr Yap Sook Fan, Deputy Dean for Academic Development and Undergraduate Programmes Prof Dr Ng Teck Han and Department of Biomedical Science lecturer Saw Seow Hoon.

Prof Ngeow suggested to conduct a collaborative research on Tuberculosis (TB), develop apps for TB information and result delivery, look into constructing affordable yet effective BSCs for the processing of clinical samples and adopt the practice of using Artificial Intelligence and Big Data analysis in TB surveillance.

"I'm glad that the discussion today has paved us a good platform to exchange beneficial ideas. Every two years, we would organise an international exhibition and each year has seen a successful participation of about 3,000 international academic staff. Hence, we would like to extend our invitation to UTAR to participate in our exhibition in the future as well," said Dr Liu.

Dr Bai gave a brief introduction about HATA as well as its partnerships and collaborations with others and suggested some possible areas of collaboration with UTAR, MKAKK and CATA for mutual benefits.

Dawn presented a research study titled "Studies on Mycobacterium Tuberculosis Complex in Sabah". The coresearchers were Dr Jiloris, Prof Ngeow, Prof Yap and Richard Avoi from Universiti Malaysia Sabah. During the presentation, she thanked UTAR for providing the fund for their research study.

Collaborations at Work

Front row, from left: Dr Toh, Dr Wong, Dr Xu, Wu, Liu, Zhang, Prof Chuah, Prof Chen, Tan Sri Hew, Datin Hong, Datuk Hong and Prof Choong with UTAR staff and students

An artistic interaction with artists and musicians

TAR Kampar Campus was called on by a delegation of eminent artists and musicians from Shanghai, China on 4 January 2019.

The delegates included Shanghai Chinese Orchestra's (上海民族乐团) National Class-A (top class) musician-cum-Shanghai Conservatory of Music (上海音乐学院) Adjunct Prof Liu Bo (刘波), Shanghai Maritime University (SMU) Xu Beihong Art College (上海海事大学徐悲鸿艺术学院) Deputy Dean Dr Xu ChengXing (许承兴), Shanghai China Art Academy (上海中国画院) Painter and National Class-A (top class) Artist Wu MingYao (吴明耀) and Shanghai Wenshi Research Hall (上海文史馆) member Zhang Yuan (张淵).

Receiving the delegates was UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik. Also present were UTAR Council Member Ir Academician Datuk Hong Lee Pee and spouse, UTAR Planning and Development Committee Advisor Tan Sri Hew See Tong, UTAR Vice President Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS) Deputy Dean for Academic Development and Undergraduate Programme Assoc Prof Dr Wong Wun Bin, ICS Head (Kampar Campus) Dr Toh Teong Chuan, ICS Visiting Professor Prof Dr Chen ChuanXi and Division of Community and International Networking Deputy Director Dr Chen I-Chi.

Prof Chuah said, "The University has collaborative ties with over 200 local and foreign universities and more than 50 of them are from China. UTAR also places great emphasis in Chinese studies as reflected by ICS's high number of academics as well undergraduates and postgraduates, thus making ICS the largest Chinese studies institute in the country.

Liu expressed her admiration and utmost respect to the forerunners who had dedicated their lives to the betterment of education and also by establishing a not-for-profit institution of higher learning like UTAR.





Liu demonstrating her prowess in playing the ruan



Wu (left) and Zhang joining hands to complete a Chinese painting

Impressed by UTAR's prodigious growth as a comprehensive university, Dr Xu briefly introduced SMU, "SMU is well-known for its specialisation in maritime, shipping and transport education. These areas are gaining more importance following the boom of logistics in China."







UTAR Kampar Campus Chinese Orchestra Unit members (from left) Choh Chin Sing, Chin Kai Yue and Yuen Mun Kit playing the erhu (Chinese two-stringed bowed musical instrument), ruan, and guzheng (Chinese zither) respectively

An enriching experience for delegates from Bhutan

TAR's Centre for Learning and Teaching (CLT) hosted a delegation of six officers from Bhutan's Royal Education Council (REC) and Ministry of Education (MOE) for a four-day exposure tour from 8 to 11 January 2019.

They were Bhutan's MOE Department of School Education (DSE) Director-General Karma Tshering, DSE School Health and Nutrition Division Deputy Chief Programme Officer Karma Dechen, Department of Youth and Sports (DYS) Youth Centre Division (YCD) Chief Programme Officer Rinzin Wangmo, DYS YCD Assistant Programme Officer Tandin, REC Unit Head and Curriculum Developer (Social Studies and Early Childhood Care and Development) Dorji Tshewang, and REC Curriculum Developer (Biology) Karma Dorji.

The four-day exposure tour allowed the delegates to learn about Malaysia's experience in implementing the comprehensive sexualities

education curriculum. The exposure tour also connected the delegates to local educators and youth leaders via various engagement activities such as interactive learning, discussion, sharing and reflective practices with regard to youth life skills and wellbeing. The programme also served as a platform where the delegates experienced Malaysia's cultural diversity via youth centre visits, social interaction and youth camp observation.

Receiving the delegation at Sungai Long Campus was UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat. Also present were UTAR CLT Chairperson Dr Wei Chooi Yi, Programme Coordinator for Science and Technology Programmes Ts Dr Chen Kah Pin, Programme Coordinator for Non-Science and Technology Programmes Dr Ngeow Yeok Meng, Faculty of Accountancy and Management senior lecturer Er Pek Hoon, and Centre for Foundation Studies assistant lecturer Lee Cin Dee.

Introducing UTAR as a 17-year-old comprehensive not-for-profit private university, Prof Ewe said, "With over 300 collaborative partners comprising local and international universities and industry players which have brought about various mutually beneficial exchanges, we are certainly looking forward to the potential collaborations with universities in Bhutan such as students exchange programmes."

"We're here to learn about the experience of the Malaysian society in dealing with issues related to health, sex education, and life challenges, particularly among the young generations," explained Karma Tshering, drawing his concern on coping with the fast pace of young people's life in the Himalayan kingdom with more than 500 schools and three universities.

The delegates also made a trip up north on the following day where they were given a tour around the award-winning Kampar Campus by Faculty of Business and Finance academics Lau Siew Yee and Lau Wai Kwan. While in Kampar, the delegates also took the opportunity to visit Westlake International School.

With Malaysia being widely known as Asia's cultural melting pot, the delegates were also keen to learn about how topics such as healthy relationships among peers are being talked about by both religious and non-religious groups as well as youth engagement activities. Hence, they visited the International Youth Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Buddhist Maha Vihara Malaysia, the National Population and Family Development Board under the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, and the Young Men's Christian Association.



Faculty of Creative Industries lecturer Foo Mei Li explaining the ongoing effort to create awareness for endometriosis



From left: Dr Chen, Er, Dr Ngeow, Dr Wei, Karma Dechen, Prof Ewe, Karma Tshering,



Karma Tshering introducing Bhutan and sharing how the country measures success using the Gross National Happiness



The delegates with UTAR 24 Festive Drums performers



Faculty of Arts and Social Science Psychology and Counselling lecturer Tan Soon Aun explaining Malaysia's approach in implementing sexual and reproductive health education in schools

OY | Collaborations at Work

MoA with CRSE



Prof Faidz (left) and Paul Lim during the MoA exchange ceremony

memorandum of agreement (MoA) was exchanged between UTAR and Colas Rail System Engineering (CRSE) Sdn Bhd on 14 January 2019 at Sungai Long Campus to mark the collaboration between the two

Present at the exchange ceremony were Pestech International Bhd Chief Executive Officer Paul Lim, Corporate Communication Manager Phoebe Lim, HR Manager Rosmeyuzai and ICP Executive Nor Amira. Representing UTAR were its Vice President Prof Ts Dr Faidz Abdul Rahman and Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science Dean Prof Ir Dr Goi Bok Min.

The MoA aimed to provide a platform for the parties to work together closely on a research project called "Research in Railway Power Supply and Distribution Systems" which studies the power adequacy and power quality of MRT2 power supply and distribution systems.

Prof Faidz said, "This collaboration with the industry will allow the academics and students to gain knowledge and be informed of the latest technology which is relevant to the industry."

Paul Lim said, "This collaboration promotes the localisation of technology, human capital development in the high technology area, research and development and collaboration with Malaysia higher learning institute."

Tan and Prof Lim also presented their research studies titled "Research on Railway Power Supply System" and "Grid-Integrated Energy Storage System for Providing Clean, Cheap and Reliable Electricity to Developing Nations under Growth of Renewable Energy"

Collaborative partnership with Antah Schindler



Stefano Montresor presenting (right) a token of appreciation to Prof Chuah

TAR officially inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Antah Schindler Sdn Bhd, a leading global elevator manufacturer, at Sungai Long Campus on 15 January 2019.

Signing on behalf of the parties were UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik and Antah Schindler Sdn Bhd Managing Director Stefano Montresor. The signing was witnessed by UTAR Vice President Prof Ts Dr Faidz bin Abd Rahman and Antah Schindler Sdn Bhd Human Resource Director Serena Tan.

Also present at the signing ceremony were Antah Schindler Sdn Bhd Head of Technical Training Ir Lee Wei Jye, Learning and Development Manager Suellen Teh, Existing Installation Director Alvin To, Human Resources Business Partner Ann Chong and Assistant Manager Muhamad Fairuz Zainal Abidin. Representing UTAR were Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) Dean Prof Ir Dr Goi Bok Min, LKC FES Student Development and Industrial Training Deputy Dean Ir Dr Lim Jee Hock, Division of Community and International Networking Director Assoc Prof Dr Lai Soon Onn, heads and lecturers.

In his remarks, Prof Chuah expressed his appreciation to Antah Schindler Sdn Bhd for their kind assistance and willingness to work with UTAR LKC FES in providing more collaborative opportunities such as internship, recruitment of students and R&D. Stefano Montresor, on the other hand, thanked UTAR for the warm welcome and stressed on the importance of the MoU as a great opportunity to tap into some of the brightest young minds as well as to develop their talents and potential.

The Programme Head Digital Business of Antah Schindler Sdn Bhd, Saravana Kumar Paramasivam also gave a presentation about Schindler's new technology—Schindler Ahead during the ceremony.

MoU inked to promote China-ASEAN ties

TAR officially inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Dezhou University, China (DZU) and Farlim Group (Malaysia) Bhd at Sungai Long Campus on 21 December 2018. The MoU aimed to promote collaboration between UTAR, DZU and Farlim Group.

Signing on behalf of UTAR was its Vice President Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat. DZU was represented by its Vice President Prof Chi Yiiun while Farlim Group (Malaysia) Bhd was represented by its Executive Director Lim Chu Dick. The signing was witnessed by DZU Office of Cooperation and Development Director Dr Gao Guowu.

Also present at the signing ceremony were DZU College of Mathematical Science Director Dr Xu Fengsheng, College of Environment and Resources Planning Vice-director Dr Liu Fugang, Office of International Exchange and Cooperation Section Chief Dr Hou Zhigang, Farlim Group (Malaysia) Bhd China-ASEAN **Business Association Executive Secretary** Fung Vun Keat, UTAR Division of Community and International Networking (DCInterNet) Director Assoc Prof Dr Lai Soon Onn, Division of Programme Promotion Director Lee Choy Fong, Centre for Extension Education (CEE) Director Lim Guat Yen, Faculty of Creative Industries **Deputy Dean for Student Development** and Industrial Training Lee Lih Su and CEE



From left: Lim. Prof Ewe and Prof Chi

Business Development and Administration and Operation Unit Assistant Manager Vooi Wen

Prof Ewe welcomed the delegates and said, "We have about 1,000 students participating in inbound and outbound student exchange programmes every year, hence we would like to welcome DZU students to UTAR." Prof Chi said. "We could make an arrangement for a winter or summer camp, which could benefit the students in terms of expanding their cultural experiences." Fung said, "I hope today's MoU will not only further enhance our education system but will also move towards business, economy and culture."

tripartite memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between UTAR, MAL-TEL Technology Sdn Bhd and UBTECH Robotics Limited on 20 December 2018 at Sungai Long Campus.

Signing the MoU were UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, MAL-TEL Technology Sdn Bhd Chief Executive Officer Simon Yew Chia Wei and **UBTECH Robotics Limited Sales Director** Ray Ong. The MoU aimed to collaborate on developing and improving the local contents, syllabus and teaching methods of the robotic education and to perform ioint research on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and robotics solution to prepare the future generation in adapting the fast-changing environment.

Prof Chuah said, "Being a university at the forefront of promoting STEM education locally. UTAR is indeed honoured and heartened by both Mal-Tel and UBTECH's intention to work with us in developing and improving the local contents of the robotic education for STEM promotion in local academic institutions."

Ray said, "One of our key roles is to develop an ecosystem in education using robotics and stem technology. Hence, we take it as a responsibility to educate the

MoU to promote STEM education



From left: Ray Ong, Prof Chuah and Simon Yew

next generation on AI robotics so they could advance into the near future."

Simon said, "We want to introduce practicality in the delivery of STEM education. At the same time, we need to make learning as fun as possible thus, we need to look into opportunity and ways to encourage the younger generation to learn this knowledge."



Experiencing kampung life in New Villages



he seventh UTAR New Village Collaborative Project with National University of Singapore (NUS) successfully ended with a closing ceremony on 24 December 2018 at Kampar Campus. Present at the closing ceremony were UTAR Vice President Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, Department of Soft Skill and Competency (DSSC) Kampar staff and participants of the project.

Co-organised by DSSC, the week-long project, held from 17 to 23 December 2018, was a civic engagement programme that encouraged the practice of one's soft skills, life skills and academic learning. The New Village Collaborative Project was also an opportune platform for participants to develop international outlooks, enhance competencies of their soft skills and life skills, be prepared as a global citizen with tenacity to face challenges in a diversified cultural society and establish network and friendship.

"The common goals of both institutions to achieve a more globalised and holistic education is one of the enabler for this project to stimulate participants' interest





and develop an appreciation for diverse cultures. This form of experiential learning and interactive activities outside the classrooms will broaden participants' outlooks of life," said Prof Choong in his closing speech.

Participants who visited Chui Chak Village were NUS students Marcus Ng Aik Wei, Lassarina Ho Qixuan, Ooi Wen Ting, Jenn Seah Wan Yu, and UTAR students Wong Hui Jun and Foong Pin Yi. Kuala Bikam Village was visited by NUS students Feng Yuan Wen, Kalvinder Kaur Ranjit Singh, Myat Thu Kyaw and Goh Kher Liang, and UTAR students Lee Pei Yee and Wesley Ngoh Fook Cheng.







NUS and UTAR students at Chui Chak Village

Cultivating research interest through competitions



he Five Minute Presentation (5MP) and Poster Competition were organised by the Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) on 29 November 2018 at Sungai Long Campus. The event was sponsored by KPMG and Cengage.

Present at the event were FAM Deputy Dean for Academic Development and Undergraduate Programmes Dr Hen Kai Wah, Deputy Dean for Student Development and Industrial Training Assoc Prof David Ng Ching Yat, KPMG Audit Enterprise Partner Florence Chua, Express Development Sdn Bhd Managing Director-cum-UTAR Bachelor of International Business (Hons) Industry Advisor Dr Peter Thong, UTAR alumna Ng Yi Yen, lecturers and students.

In the competition, participants were tested on the level of understanding of their research areas and their presentation skills through their conveyance of research information to the audience in a clear and concise manner within five minutes. The competition covered various emerging and relevant topics such as digital economy, trade issues, women's employment, real estate development and

Dr Hen said, "Being an institution of higher learning, research activities provide the basis for the creation of new knowledge. That's why UTAR is actively promoting a research culture among its staff and students. Today's event is showcasing our commitment in nurturing young academic and research scholars."

Dr Peter Thong said. "Research is ever so important because it reflects the innovation, creativity and, at the same time, understands what people want and need. This competition draws out talent from students through their research papers, presentation and poster which speaks a million words."

The Poster Competition was held on 23 November 2018. The judges were Head of Programme for MBA in Building Management Amalina binti Azmi, Head of Accountancy Department K. Shamini and FAM lecturers, namely Dr Goh Hong Lip, Dr Tan Kok Eng, Dr Lim Wan Leng, Dr M. Komathi, Dr R. Yogambigai, Ezatul Emilia binti Muhammad Arif, Rozitaayu binti Zulkifli, Dr Siti Nurhidayah Mohd Roslen and Lim Wei Yin. The competition saw the presentation of 12 posters altogether.

Judging the Presentation Competition were Florence Chua, Dr Peter Thong, Ng, FAM lecturers Dr Foo Meow Yee, Dr Ng Kar Yee, Assoc Prof Dr Lim Yet Mee, Dr Lee Kwee Fah and Division of Corporate Communication and Public Relations Director Ong Soo

A total of 12 finalists were selected to present their final year projects, in a form of one picture slide, within five minutes. The champion of the Poster Competition walked away with a cash prize of RM200 and a certificate while Most Innovative Title and Most Significant Contribution to Community took home RM150 and RM100 respectively, with certificates. The Most Popular Poster: Students' Choice and Most Popular Poster: Lecturers' Choice took away RM100 each with certificates. The champion of 5MP Competition won a cash prize of RM300 and certificates while the first and second runner-ups won RM200 and RM100 respectively, with certificates. The overall champion was awarded RM350, pewter plague and certificates. All the finalists were also awarded a certificate of participation.



Front row from right: Ong, Farah Waheeda binti Jalaludin, Ng, Dr Peter Thong, Florence Chua, Dr Hen and David Ng with FAM

Special Feature



hinese New Year (CNY) is one of the major festivals celebrated by Malaysians. UTAR holds CNY every

UTAR celebrates Chinese New Year

year to celebrate the Spring Festival and this year was no exception. Two remarkable events were held back to back to commemorate the joyous occasion.

The first event saw UTAR celebrating CNY with its alumni in Sungai Long Campus on 19 January 2019. The celebration was part of the annual UTAR Alumni Get Together with President for 2019. The event was attended by UTAR Chancellor Tun Dr Ling Liong Sik and his spouse Toh Puan Ena Ling along with UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik and other UTAR community.

The second event— CNY Carnival 2019 which was held on 20 January 2019 at Sungai Long Campus, took place with an even larger crowd, namely the Sungai Long community. Bearing the theme "Let's get 亥 (High)", the event was organised by the Student Representative Council (SRC) of UTAR. Present to grace the opening ceremony were Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry Representative Law Wen Siang and Prof Chuah. The closing ceremony saw Deputy Minister of Water, Land and Natural Resources Representative Choong Siew Onn in attendance.

The celebration aimed to provide a homely platform for UTAR alumni and students to celebrate CNY, promote Chinese traditional culture and create an atmosphere of CNY at Sungai Long area.



Prof Chuah (middle) having a delightful time with UTAR Wushu







UTAR alumni, staff and guests tossing lou sang as a symbol of abundance, prosperity and vigour for the new year





A stunning martial art performance by UTAR Wushu Club of Sungai Long Campus





Lion Dance performance called "Drunken Lion" by UTAR Wushu Club of Sungai Long Campus



Participants during Chinese Calligraphy Competition



From left: Organising Chairperson of CNY Carnival 2019 Chuah Pei Lim, UTAR Vice President Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, Prof Chuah,

A vibrant traditional Chinese fan dance by UTAR Chinese Language Society of Kampar Campus

Spectacular 24 Festive Drums performance by UTAR Wushu Club









An outstanding wushu performance by UTAR Wushu Club



Performance by UTAR Sungai Long Chinese Orchestra

UTAR Dance Club performing traditional dance







Special Feature | 11 10 | Special Feature

In Search of Excellence

Master's students win second prize

aster of Science student Hillary Tan Yee Qin and Master of Architecture students Voon Jia Wen, Chong Yung Kheen and Chan Liang Yee won second prize at the Sunway Iskandar Catalytic Development Design Challenge 2018.

The competition was opened to university students from Malaysia and abroad. In the competition, participants were challenged to think 'out-of-the-box' to develop a theme park



Second from left: Chong, Chan, Tan, Dr Lim and Voon

project which will be implemented on a 77 acres land in Sunway Iskandar. The key criteria of the competition were the proposed development should not incur any entertainment tax and it should be able to generate catalytic effects to the region and fulfil Sunway's sustainable agendas.

Out of 20 participating teams,

eight teams were shortlisted for final presentation which was held in Citrine hub, Sunway Iskandar from 31 Oct to 1 Nov 2018. The winners, supervised by Centre for Sustainable Architecture Chairperson Dr Lim Poh Im took home prizes which include RM6,000 cash, certificates and four theme park tickets to Sunway Lagoon.

Recognition for research paper in high-impact journal

TAR Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) academics Dr M. Krishna Moorthy and Loh Chun T'ing have marked another breakthrough in their research history by successfully publishing a research paper, titled "Is Facebook Useful for Learning? A Study in Private Universities in Malaysia" recently in a high-impact Elsevier journal, namely Computers & Education.

The research was part of the students' final year project and was completed collectively with a group of UTAR Accounting undergraduates, namely Khor Mei Wei, Pauline Tan Zi Mei, Chai Yan Yee, Kevin Lim Jia Wern and Yue Mei Xin. The research paper was graded excellent.

The study provided a deep insight into the intentions and behaviours of undergraduates in utilising Facebook as a learning tool in private universities.

Dr Krishna, the principal author of the research enthused, "Nowadays, universities are increasingly introducing e-learning into their educational programmes. Facebook, which is primarily used in social networking, can also be used as an educational tool if its perceived usefulness is demonstrated among students." Dr Krishna also thanked UTAR for all the support given for this research project.

Loh added, "Students know how to use Facebook to find friends or connect with family, but they are hesitant to use it for learning even though they accept its perceived ease of use and enjoyment. Hence Facebook administrators should come out with more interactive learning tools and also promote its usefulness for learning."

ee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) Dean Prof Ir Dr Goi Bok Min was elected as one of the Academy of Science Malaysia (ASM) Fellows 2018 for his contributions in IT & Computer Sciences Discipline at Sunway Putra Hotel, Kuala Lumpur on 11 November 2018.

Prof Goi has contributed his expertise through the engagement as a consultant and a panel of expert with various organisations such as the Panel Expert for the Development of a National Cryptology Policy, Cyber Security Malaysia and Malaysian Society for Cryptology Research (MSCR) and Technical Committee member of Information Security and Smartcard in SIRIM (TC5). He was an Editorial Board member for various international journals and often invited as a reviewer for Journal of Information Processing and Systems (JIPS), Journal of Systems and Software, Elsevier, International Journal of Information Security, Springer and many more.

Prof Goi is also an expert in the area of cryptology, which is the underpinning technique to provide digital security services. Since 2001, he has designed and implemented secure efficient cryptographic algorithms and cryptanalysed several published cryptographic schemes. He managed to merge and integrate various techniques to propose some new variant of security techniques such as bio-encryption and key binding (biometrics and cryptography) as well as video and image crypto watermarking and multi-modal authentication schemes. He has also broken several published cryptographic security schemes, especially the PAKE, BSW schemes and watermarking schemes. He also uses his engineering knowledge and skills on embedded systems design and telecommunication to examine security aspects, design and implementation of security algorithms, smart expert and communication networking systems.

LKC FES Dean elected as ASM Fellow



Prof Goi (far right) being conferred by Prime Minister YAB Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad



Prof Chong (far right) receiving his award from YB Isnaraissah Munirah as Secretary General of MESTECC Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Azhar bin Haji Yahaya (far left) and ASM Secretary General Academician Tan Sri Dato' Ir Ts Ahmad Zaidee Laidin FASc look on



Prof Lim (far right) receiving his award from YB Isnaraissah Munirah as Datuk Seri Mohd Azhar (far left) and Tan Sri Dato' Ahmad Zaidee look on

Two wins at TRSM 2018

ee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering Prof Dr Chong Kok Keong and Centre for Power Systems and Electricity Chairperson Prof Ir Dr Lim Yun Seng won the Top Research Scientists Malaysia 2018 (TRSM) award at the Conferment of TRSM and Fellowship of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia 2018. The ceremony was held at Sunway Putra Hotel, Kuala Lumpur on 11 November 2018.

The TRSM award was a project developed as part of Akademi Sains Malaysia (ASM) which focuses on fostering a culture of excellence in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI). The award was meant for Malaysian research scientists that have contributed significantly to the economic growth of the nation via generation and dissemination of knowledge, wealth creation and productive pursuit of scientific excellence for the benefits of humanity. In relation to this, the 'Top Research Scientists Malaysia' database aims to recognise and showcase the accomplishments of the Malaysian research scientists as role models of excellence, mentors to the next generation and leaders to forge ahead with the STI agenda of the nation.

The award was presented by Deputy Minister of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change (MESTECC) YB Isnaraissah Munirah binti Majilis.



From left: Loh and Dr Krishna with their certificates

Secured research grant from MTSF

ee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) lecturer Dr Mok Siew Ying was awarded the Science and Technology Research Grant amounting RM20,000 at the Malaysia Toray Science Foundation (MTSF) Prize Presentation Ceremony. The ceremony was held at InterContinental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur on 29 November 2018.

Present at the event were Minister of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change YB Yeo Bee Yin, MTSF Chairman Academician Prof Emeritus Tan Sri Dr Omar Abdul Rahman, Toray Industries Japan Executive Vice President Kazushi Hashimoto, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Malaysia His Excellency Dr Makio Miyagawa, MTSF **Examination Committee Chairman Academician Prof** Emeritus Tan Sri Dr Sved Jalaludin Sved Salim and MTSF Selection Committee Chairman Academician Prof Emeritus Tan Sri Dr Augustine Ong Soon Hock.

Dr Mok and her co-researcher Assoc Prof Dr Tang Pek Yee's research on 'A Zebrafish Model of the Schizophrenia-Drug Addiction Association' aim to study how electrophysiological activity changes in response to morphine and MK-801, an NMDAR antagonist, which has been used to mimic the negative symptoms of schizophrenia. The findings will help enhance the ability to identify the underlying pathophysiology and mechanisms that are relevant to schizophrenia and drug addiction, and further lead to positive therapeutic strategies to manage the two morbidities.

Dr Mok said, "I am truly blessed to have been



Dr Mok (far right) receiving the award

selected as one of the recipients for the Science and Technology Research Grant, given the large number of excellent applicants and the limited availability of funds. Schizophrenia is a severe mental disorder that has afflicted a large number of population in Malaysia and

internationally. There is a high prevalence of substance abuse among schizophrenia patients. This grant will help to support our study to understand the potential link between drug addiction and schizophrenia-like behavior."

FAS Academic receives Best Presenter Award



dding a feather in his cap, UTAR Faculty of Arts and Social Science (FAS) academic S Maartandan Suppiah appeared as one of the winners of the "Best Presentation Award" at the International Conference on Social Sciences and Humanities (ICOSAH II) on 31 October 2018 at Open University Malaysia, Negeri Sembilan.

Organised by the AID Conference, the annual conference aimed to provide a platform of discussions among academicians, professionals, practitioners and policy makers in the related field, establish networking among academicians and practitioners and narrow the gap between knowledge in the academic and in the industry.

The award-winning paper titled "Measuring the Relationship between Culture Intelligence (CQ) and Employability: A Survey among Undergraduates in Malaysia" was co-authored with FAS academics Dr Noew Hooi San and Pong Kok Shiong, as well as Beijing Normal University-Hong Kong Baptist University United International College academic Dr Lim Chai Lee. It aimed at measuring the level of CQ among undergraduates and the relationship between CQ and employability among undergraduates in Malaysia.

S Maartandan, also the Head of the Department of Public Relations of FAS explained that CQ refers to the ability to adapt to different environment, enabling one to embrace diversity through sensitivity, adaptability and learning. In Malaysia, the government always aspires to cultivate better CQ among undergraduates but researches showed the desired objectives are yet to be achieved.

When asked of the significance of the study, he said that it contributes to a better understanding of the role of CQ in an organisational context and highlights the needs to cultivate CQ among undergraduates in Malaysia to prepare them for the increasingly diversified working environment.

Outstanding Contribution in Reviewing



ne recent recognition from Expert Systems with Applications Journal earned Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) academic Garry Tan Wei the "Outstanding Contribution in Reviewing" certificate, which credits Tan for all the reviewing he has done for the journal within two years. He is within the top 10th percentile of reviewers for that journal.

"As an active reviewer, this award definitely adds credibility to my reviewing abilities, and at the same time I feel I am contributing to something important; making sure all manuscripts submitted are of quality. A reviewer plays an important role in the publishing process as they have the responsibility towards the integrity. thoroughness and quality of the manuscript," said Tan.

He added, "This award also provides confidence to journal editors on the quality of my reviews. Added with this award, it will also indirectly allow editors to consider engaging my service as a reviewer. I was also invited by Emerald Publishing Limited (United Kingdom) to be their guest speaker at the "Inaugural Review Writing Competition", in UCSI University Malaysia in 2017."

Prior to his latest award, Garry was also named the recipient of the Outstanding Reviewer for the Journal of Industrial Management and Data Systems (Emerald, Clarivate Analytics; Science Citation Index (SCI)) in the Emerald Literati Network 2016 Awards for Excellence. He also received the Outstanding Contribution in Reviewing by Information and Management (Elsevier, Clarivate Analytics; Science Citation Index (SCI); Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI)) in 2018. In addition, he was also the recipient of the Publons 2017 and 2018 Global Peer Review

Research paper recognised as best paper

n an avenue with over 100 submitted research papers, the research titled "Fish Monitoring in Complex Environment" done by Faculty of Information and Communication Technology academic Assoc Prof Ts Dr Lau Phooi Yee and Bachelor of Computer Science (Hons) student Ling Yi Jun, stood out to be one of the best papers among 29 papers awarded.

The researchers were awarded the "Best Paper Award" at The International Workshop on Advanced Image Technology and The International Forum on Medical Imaging in Asia (IWAIT-IFMIA) 2019, held from 6 to 9 January 2019 in Singapore. IWAIT-IFMIA 2019 aimed to provide an international platform for scientists, engineers, researchers and students to share and exchange research ideas in advanced image technology and medical imaging.

"This award came as a surprise because it was evaluated based on technical evaluations, from at least two reviewers and two session-chairpersons. To be able to compete with hundreds of papers submitted and being selected as one of the best papers is definitely a joy and we are more than delighted," said Dr Lau

Ling too shared the same excitement with Dr Lau and expressed her joy for receiving the award. "I am very happy



The certificate awarded to Dr Lau and Ling

to receive such recognition. I'm also equally grateful to my supervisor for all her guidance and for the opportunity given to me. The one-year worth of hard work has paid off," enthused Ling.

Their research addressed the increasing

concern of the over effects of fishing activities on the benthic ecosystems in all regions, where commercial fishing is practised, with the evidence that fishing gear may injure benthic organisms, reduce habitat complexities and reduce biodiversity.

Outstanding reviewer award



Dr Leong displaying her certificate

aculty of Business and Finance Academic Dr Leong
Lai Ying was recently awarded the "Certificate of
Outstanding Contribution in Reviewing" by the
editors of Information & Management Journal.

The outstanding reviewer award serves as recognition for reviewer within the top 10th percentile of reviewers for the Journal in terms of the number of manuscript reviews completed in the last two years, and for Information & Management, it means a minimum of two manuscript reviews in two years. Editors can also personally select and recognise reviewers who have submitted high-quality reports and award them with a certificate of excellence.

"As an active reviewer, I am blessed to be given this award and it is certainly a boost of confidence to myself, especially in reviewing manuscripts from high ranking journals. I believe with this confidence, I would gain more forte in commenting constructively and further enhancing my quality of reviews," enthused Dr Leong.

Reviewing of manuscripts from researchers such as Dr Leong is all part of the effort to evaluate the degree of originality, significance of contribution, as well as to identify any flaws or weaknesses that needed to be appropriately addressed. Her role as a reviewer also holds significance in ensuring that the articles accepted for publications are reflecting the latest topics and trends of study. The reviewing is double-blinded, meaning the reviewers and authors remain anonymous for fair evaluation, and enables the reviewer to freely comment in hope to enhance the overall quality of the article.

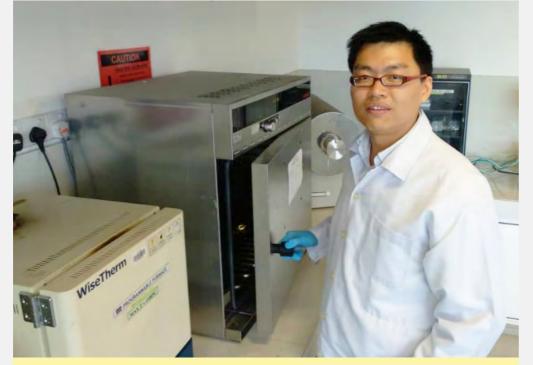
An outstanding researcher and engineer

cademician Assoc Prof Ir Dr Lee Tin Sin from the Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science was chosen as the winner for the "Society of Chemical Engineers, Japan (SCEJ) Award for Outstanding Asian Researchers and Engineers 2018".

Each year, the award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions to the field of chemical engineering in Asia. The award gives recognition to outstanding researchers and engineers in academia and industry, who are under the age of 45 and who possess exceptional vision, achievement and contribute to significant chemical engineering research and technological developments in the field of chemical engineering.

Dr Lee was nominated by The Institutions of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM) for the award early this year. He will be receiving his award at the Asia Pacific Confederation of Chemical Engineering Congress 2019 (APPChE 2019) AT Sapporo Convention Centre, Japan. The award ceremony will be held from 23 to 27 September 2019. Dr Lee will also be delivering an award lecture at the Congress.

Dr Lee, who is also actively involved in biopolymer, polymer nanocomposites,



Dr Lee at the research lab

antimicrobial packaging and green polymer researches, was awarded the Young Engineers Award 2012 from IEM and was granted three Malaysian Patents. He currently serves as the Chairman of Chemical Engineering Technical Division of IEM and a Council Member of IEM. He was also invited to a television talk show for the "8TV Global Watch" to share his views about plastic recycling.

Top downloaded paper in the last 90 days

aculty of Business and Finance academics, namely Assoc Prof Dr Lee Voon Hsien, Garry Tan Wei Han and Hew Jun Jie were recently awarded the "Most Downloaded" award by Telematics and Informatics (Elsevier, USA), for their research titled "The Interactive Mobile Social Media Advertising: An Imminent Approach to Advertise Tourism Products and Services?". The research, which was coauthored with UCSI University, Malaysia academic Prof Ooi Keng Boon and Xiamen University academic Dr Wong Lai Wan, was listed as one of the Most **Downloaded Telematics and Informatics** Articles based on the numbers of downloads in the last 90 days.

When asked about their motivation to conduct the research, they spoke about the change of tools used for advertising. "Tourism products and services, which were traditionally advertised by conventional tools such as television and newspaper, are now being advertised through mobile social media. Despite the significant benefits of using mobile social media to advertise, it is noticeable that many tourism organisations are sceptical if, particularly tourists, are ready to accept this new form of advertising.



From left: Hew, Dr Lee and Tan posing with their Commendation Letter from Editor-In-Chief of Telematics and Informatics Prof Tony H. Grubesic

Given such observations, we thought that it might be contributory to embark a study that addresses the acceptance of mobile social media advertising among consumers," said the researchers.

"Theoretically, this study contributes to the marketing and tourism literature especially on the adoption of mobile social media advertising as a new form of advertising strategy. Practically, this study provides guidance and important implications for managers in improving the use of mobile social media advertising in delivering tourism-related advertisements. Finally, in terms of social applicability, the findings enable job creations and serve as an opportunity to increase the gross domestic product of the host country," said the researchers.

team of four Computer Science students from the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT) shone for UTAR once again. The team secured second prize and third prize in the KPMG Cyber Security Challenge in the category of Malaysia Challenge and Cross Country Challenge respectively. The team also qualified as one the best teams to compete in the Finals where they competed against the best teams from Thailand for the Cross Country Challenge.

The KPMG Cyber Security Challenge 2018 was held on 28 November 2018 at Bangsar South.

The team, An Unexpected Journey, was comprised of Lim Yun Kai, Lai Wing Khang, Chow Jenn Pang and Chan Yee San. They scored 82.94% in the competition. They walked away with a cash prize of RM2,000. The team was mentored by FICT lecturers, namely Dr P. Vasaki, Dr Aun Yichiet and Dr Robithoh Annur.

Held for the fourth consecutive year, the KPMG Cyber Challenge was comprised of two separate competitions, namely Cyber Technology Challenge and Cyber Security Challenge. Both the Challenges focused on the ability of undergraduates in developing innovative and real-world business solutions. Under the Cyber Security Challenge, the participants were tested in reverse engineering, steganography, cryptography, programming, network analysis, infrastructure hacking, web application security and digital forensics. It also tested the participants' thinking abilities in business terms by providing them with real digital fraud scenarios.

FICT students make UTAR proud again



Proud winners and finalists (from left): Lim, Lai, Chan and Chow

16 In Search of Excellence

Students in Action

total of 112 teams, consisting of Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) students, participated in the qualifying round of "FAM Investment Game 2018". The game was organised by FAM on 16 and 19 November 2018 at Sungai Long Campus.

Each team consisted of three members. The challenge aimed to develop an investment-savvy younger generation who are well-versed in stock market investing as an alternative way to generate returns. It also aimed to educate undergraduate students the prudent process of investment decision making and inculcate greater awareness about finance and investment studies. Among 112 teams, only top three teams made it into the final round which was organised on 19

Invited to the final round Investment Game were Public Bank Berhad Financial Executive Adeline Foon Keh Shin, Banking Services Manager Penny Hu Yoke Ling,

Enhancing knowledge via investment game



left) with winners, committee members and participants

Bancassurance Executive Leon Muhammad Faiz bin Muhammad, Bancassurance Executive Wong Kar Wai, Senior Sales and Marketing Executive Jason Low Chun Siang, Senior Sales and Marketing Executive Aveline Lian Xin Thong, CIMB Berhad Group Human Resource Director Yuan Leng, UTAR FAM Deputy Dean for Student Development and Industrial Training David Ng Ching Yat, Deputy Dean for Academic Development and Undergraduate Programmes Dr Hen Kai Wah, Head of Accountancy Department Shamini Kandasamy, Organising Chairperson Department of Accountancy Dr Aik Nai Chiek, committee members and students.

The champion of the Investment game, Loo Xin Yiing, Tan Zhi Yun and Teo Xuan Shou walked away with RM1,200 in the form of Private Retirement Scheme (PRS) plus powerbanks, while the first and second runner-ups walked away with RM1,000 and RM800 respectively in the form of PRS and powerbanks as well.



尤琳荔主讲"遇见更快乐的自己"

大学幸福周的其中一项重点活动是由 2016年马来西亚十大杰出青年之一的尤琳 荔女士所主讲的"遇见更快乐的自己" 心灵讲座。讲座于1月22日进行,并吸引 了逾150人的踊跃出席。

主讲人尤琳荔来自吉打, 自小罹患先 天性肌肉萎缩症。热心从事生命教育的她 目前担任非盈利组织宣广及职工组主任, 积极筹划及参与生命教育分享、义工培训 营等。她曾著有《三尺高的旅行》, 讲述 了她的旅游经验与人生经历的互相融合, 并且记录了让她生活至今8件重要的事。 这本书是她用三根手指一字一句敲打键盘 来完成, 所记录的不是旅行风光, 而是跨 越种种身理与心理障碍的坚持与毅力,借 此希望以生命影响生命,一起寻找更好的

通过故事分享,她坚强的斗志让与会 者为之动容,同时钦佩之心油然而生。 各式各样的治疗方式和民间偏方几乎占据 了我的童年,而因为自己和别人不一样, 所以常会感到害怕,缺乏安全感,更不懂 得面对和处理内在的情绪,想法也相当负 面。后来, 离开家独自一人到槟城伊甸残 障服务中心寄宿以继续中学学业。那段时 间几乎日日以泪洗脸,许多轻而易举的事 如举杯喝水、上厕所、洗澡更衣、夜晚翻 身等都做不到, 无助得连自己都开始唾弃

筹委会主席温凯文于首目的开幕仪式上致词时表示, "感谢及欢迎大家前来 一同参与幸福周的活动,并且期待出席者都能从我们精心筹备的展览中受惠。 活动导师兼学生事务部辅导谘商处辅导员吴恺彦表示,"这是我们辅导谘商

学生事务部辅导谘商处同侪协助计划 (Peer Helping Unit) 所举办。

及能力,同时鼓励学生善用拉曼大学所提供的咨询与辅导服务

处的年度活动,而今年我们把活动定名为'幸福周',因为我们发现许多学生似 乎并不快乐。因此,我们大家齐聚一堂,一同集思广益,构思出有助于学生在日 常生活中探索与寻找快乐泉源的展览活动。

拉曼大学幸福周

"做自己的毕加索: 绘出自己的幸福"

大学幸福周于2019年1月28日至31日期间在金宝校区文遗堂举行。这项 "做自己的毕加索: 绘出自己的幸福"为题的展览由拉曼大学(金宝校

为期四天的活动旨在提高学生对自我实现的认识、培养学生更好的应对技能

展览涵盖了一系列内容丰富的活动,当中包括各类有趣的迷你游戏、迷你电 影院、给自己的一封信、WHO-5幸福感指数量表、大五类人格测试等。



提及"接受不完美的自己"时,她 表示, "直到有一天当我愿意正视自 己,接纳不完美的自己,包括自己的残 障,我才有能力去爱自己。因为爱自 己,让自己领悟到自己值得拥有更好的 人生,为此更加倍奋力去创造未来。既 然改变不了风景,但我们可以改变看风 景的心情。

她也分享了自己的偶像是澳洲残障 生命斗士——力克•胡哲和周杰伦,作 为自己的学习典范,他们的精神和毅力 一直都是在她低落时想起和作为自我 勉励的对象。"力克的演说能力和舞台 魅力远远遮掩了肢体上的不足。他的存 在, 仿佛是向世界宣布——生命就是美 好的奇迹。"更重要的是,她认为须以 行动来学习和提升自己,因为世界上没 有原地踏步,踏出第一步最重要。

为了支撑侧弯的身体, 她必须全 天候穿着由几支铁片穿插的布料支 架——"铁衣",同时承受肌肤被磨损 和刺伤的疼痛, "在我若无其事地谈笑 风生时,没有人知道我正处于疼痛中。 不是每一次的痛都能呐喊, 允许悲伤与 痛共处, 因为允许悲伤, 才能让痛有出 口。越早学会拥抱悲伤,之后的路就能 够走得越坦然自得。

她表示, "负面的情绪来到我们的 生命是想提醒我们一些东西, 提醒我们

▲ 尤琳荔主讲了"遇见更快乐的自己"

三好理念是"不伤害自己、不伤害别人、 不伤害这世界",感恩生命中所有的贵人 及无私奉献的家人, "因为感恩, 所以温

暖;因为温暖,所以有勇气走下去。

讲座后,大会也安排了签书会让出席 者与主讲人有更近距离的接触与交流。

Accounting student pens three new books



From left: Head of Library Kampar Campus Hew Yoke Far, FBF Dean Dr Au Yong Hui Nee, Lee and FBF Department of Commerce and Accounting Head Dr Zam Zuriyati binti Mohamad displaying the latest books

ollowing the completion of three novels in 2016, Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF) Accounting student Lee Ching Kai kept his creative juices flowing and released three more books

Lee's books titled "Horror Land: The Board Game of Death", "Battle of the Universe" and "Era of New Solstice" are a reflection of his creativity and versatility as a fecund writer. Citing best-selling fiction novelists such as J.K. Rowling, J.R.R. Tolkien, Stephen King and kindred who have turned their masterpieces into major motion pictures as his inspiration, Lee is certainly determined to follow their

While Lee seems to be the maverick among his fellow university mates, his life as a university student is just like any other UTARians' with the exception that he needs to juggle his commitment as a university student and passion as a writer. In doing so, Lee shared that the discipline in completing his academic-related assignments within a stipulated time and consistency in expressing his creativity through various channels are keys to striking a balance.

Lee's books can be purchased worldwide from Amazon.com and other e-websites in hardcover, softcover, or Kindle versions. The former three books are available at both the UTAR Main Library and Mary KUOK Pick Hoo Library.

Besides being a prolific writer of his age, Lee has also won several inter-faculty public speaking competitions. He has also obtained an amount of awards and recognitions in Toastmasters International such as the Triple Crown Award and the Advanced Communicator Gold Award from the United States. He also won several Club, Area, and Division Level public speaking contests. On top of those, Lee had also dabbled in martial arts as reflected by his achievements as the District, State, and National champion in various Taekwondo Tournaments.

Sudut UTARian

Selaras dengan usaha UTAR untuk memperluaskan program jangkauan masyarakat, Jabatan Kemahiran Insaniah Kompetensi (DSSC) UTAR Kampus Kampar telah menganjurkan sebuah siri khidmat masyarakat Orang Asli untuk memberi pendedahan yang baik kepada pelajar-pelajar UTAR mengenai komuniti Orang Asli di Malaysia.

Program tersebut melibatkan seramai 95 orang pelajar UTAR dari Fakulti Industri Kreatif dan Fakulti Perubatan dan Sains Kesihatan. Program tersebut berjaya diadakan di tiga buah sekolah rendah iaitu SK (A) Bukit Kemandol di Jenjarom, SK Sungai Melut (A) dan SK Bukit Tampoi (A) di Dengkil pada 20, 27 Oktober dan 3 November 2018. Pelajarpelajar UTAR bersama-sama dengan tenaga pengajar dan beberapa kakitangan DSSC telah berjaya menjalankan aktiviti gotong-royong di tiga kawasan sekolah-sekolah tersebut. Sekolah itu juga dihiasi dengan beberapa lukisan mural yang terbaru dan bermakna.

Siri khidmat masyarakat Orang Asli diteruskan lagi dengan dua lagi sesi gotongroyong berlangsung di Kampung Orang Asli Tanjung Sepat di Selangor dan Kampung Bukit Payung di Alor Gajah. Sesi gotong-royong yang pertama diadakan pada 3 November 2018 untuk membersihkan Pantai Cunang yang merupakan sebahagian daripada kampung

Program meningkatkan kualiti hidup masyarakat Orang Asli



Orang Asli. Sementara itu, sesi gotong-royong kedua menyaksikan seramai 29 orang pelajar UTAR bergabung tenaga untuk membersihkan kemudahan awam seperti balai raya dan balai rawatan bertempat di Alor Gajah.

Selain aktiviti gotong-royong dan lukisan mural, siri khidmat masyarakat tersebut juga menawarkan kuliah kepada murid-murid sekolah mengenai pengetahuan dan kepentingan Sains, Teknologi, Kejuruteraan dan Matematik (STEM).

Diadakan pada 24 November 2018 di Kampung Sungai Rasau Hilir, Puchong, sembilan pelajar UTAR berkongsi keseronokan mengajar STEM kepada 20 kanak-kanak Orang Asli berusia enam hingga 13 tahun. Mereka menjalankan beberapa eksperimen sains yang mudah namun menarik. Selepas sesi eksperimen tamat, para pengajar UTAR turut memberi penjelasan yang terperinci mengenai eksperimen kepada semua peserta.

Siri khidmat masyarakat Orang Asli ini merupakan satu inisiatif kedua DSSC berikutan kejayaan "Projek Seni Kraf" pada Julai 2018.





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