Student learning visual arts at the Advertising Studio
Book on Ipoh's cave temples launched

A book was written by UTAR Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS) academics Dr Tan Ai Boay and Toh Teong Chuan on Ipoh’s cave temples and history. It was officially launched at Nam Thean Tong Temple, Ipoh on 7 January 2018.

The book, titled ‘Trails of the Nanyang Chinese: History and Legends of the Cave Temples in Ipoh of Malaysia’ (《南洋足迹：马来西亚霹雳州怡保洞庙史录与传说》) is the culmination of a maiden research project sponsored by the Perak Non-Islamic Affairs Committee. It was also the first academic publication to receive the support of the Perak State Government. It was published by the China Social Sciences Press.

The ceremony was graced by Perak’s Menteri Besar Dato’ Sri DiRaja Dr Zambry bin Abd Kadir and accompanied by Perak State Executive Council Member Dato’ Dr Mah Hang Soon. Also present were ICS Dean Assoc Prof Dr Chong Siou Wei, Nam Thean Tong Temple Committee Chairman Chai Kwa Hoong, Perak Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Dato’ Liew Siew Yee, Perak Chinese Assembly Hall President Dato’ Chai Wang Yoke as well as representatives from Ipoh’s many cave temples, state government bodies and local associations.

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In conjunction with the inaugural lecture series, Tun Tan Cheng Lock’s family donated RM3 million to TCLC in support of the centre’s further research as well as for the publication of two books related to Tun Tan Cheng Lock and Tun Tan Siew Sin. Datin Paduka Tan Siew Choo announced, “This donation, together with the sum from my grandfather and father will further Malaysians’ understanding of these two statesmen. The TCLC will research and publish biographies of my grandfather Tun Tan Cheng Lock and my father Tun Tan Siew Sin. A biography, particularly on Tun Tan Siew Sin is timely because little has been written about my father.”

The inaugural lecture series were Tun Tan Cheng Lock’s family members. UTAR Council Member Ir Academician Dato’ Hong Lee Pooi, TCLC Chairperson Assoc Prof Dr Chin Yee Mun, guests from the Centre for Malaysian Chinese Studies, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and the Association of Malaysian Economics Undergraduates.

ESF 2018

The Engineering and Science Fiesta 2018 (ESF 2018) was held from 29 to 30 January and 1 to 2 February 2018 at the Sungai Long Campus. Themed ‘The Era of Innovation’, the event aimed to promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education to the public.

UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato’ Dr Chuah Hean Teik said, “In the face of declining interests in STEM among school children, I am very happy to know that our students are playing a role to raise awareness on STEM education through such a meaningful event.”

“I hope through this Fiesta many will come to know about STEM. On behalf of my team, I would like to extend my gratitude to all the sponsors and role players that have made it possible for our dreams to become a reality,” said ESF 2018 Chairperson Lee Chee Fatt.

The fiesta featured an engineering, science and technology exhibition, workshops, carnival and a career fair which saw the participation of more than 50 companies. The event highlight was a series of drone demonstrations conducted by the ESF 2018’s production team.

The ESF 2018 was organised by UTAR Engineering Society, Institute of Mechanical Engineers, Institution of Civil Engineers, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Institute of Materials, Malaysia, American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers Student Chapters, as well as UTAR Robotics Society, Mathematics Society, Architecture Society and Actuarial Science Society.

Collaborations at Work

UTAR Tun Cheng Lock Centre for Social and Policy Studies (TCLC) hosted its first TCLC Lecture Series on 4 January 2018 at the Sungai Long Campus.

It was the inaugural lecture of the TCLC Lecture Series in honour of Tun Tan Cheng Lock, the founder of MCA, to commemorate his contributions to the nation. The TCLC Lecture Series aimed to provide an avenue for scholars, educators and researchers to meet and discuss diverse issues and challenges faced by the society as well as to share their perspectives in their respective fields of interest.

In conjunction with the inaugural lecture series, Tun Tan Cheng Lock’s family donated RM3 million to TCLC in support of the centre’s further research as well as for the publication of two books related to Tun Tan Cheng Lock and Tun Tan Siew Sin. Datin Paduka Tan Siew Choo announced, “This donation, together with the sum from my grandfather and father will further Malaysians’ understanding of these two statesmen. The TCLC will research and publish biographies of my grandfather Tun Tan Cheng Lock and my father Tun Tan Siew Sin. A biography, particularly on Tun Tan Siew Sin is timely because little has been written about my father.”

The inaugural lecture saw two speakers. The first speaker was Datin Paduka Tan who spoke about her father, Tun Tan Siew Sin. Datin Paduka Tan shared 10 facts about her father, through a lecture titled “Little Known Facts of Tun Tan Siew Sin”.

The second speaker was ASEAN Studies Initiative Director at the American University’s School of International Service Dr Heng Pek Choo. She presented a lecture on “Tun Tan Cheng Lock: Visionary Founder of the Malaysian Chinese Association and the Malaysian Nation State.” Dr Heng said, “While Tun Tan Cheng Lock will always be recognised for his historical role in founding the MCA, he also envisioned an integrated multiracial Malaysian political system with equal rights for all Malaysians.”

Present at the opening of the lecture series were Tun Tan Cheng Lock’s family members, UTAR Council Member Ir Academician Dato’ Hong Lee Pooi, TCLC Chairperson Assoc Prof Dr Chin Yee Mun, guests from the Centre for Malaysian Chinese Studies, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and the Association of Malaysian Economics Undergraduates.
**MoU with INO Nature**

Department Dr Tan Yen Nee and FSc lecturers Assoc Prof Dr Wong Hann Ling, Assoc Prof Dr Tee Chong Siang and Dr Loh Peck Chin. “UTAR has always supported collaborations with the industries. It is important that through these collaborations, UTAR can play its role to support the industry in mutually beneficial activities,” said Prof Lee. “INO Nature has been working together with us for the past two to three years. We are very grateful to them for being so supportive and that has enabled us to work together even more closely,” expressed Dr Wong. Under this MoU, both institutions will share expertise and joint development in the research field and have expressed particular interest on conducting a research to evaluate the effect of the biofertilizers in different crop plants.

**Research agreement with Hume Cement**

“Research agreement was signed between UTAR and Hume Cement Sdn Bhd General Manager Choi Jihoon and UTAR President Prof Academician Dato’ Dr Chua Hean Teik. The signing was witnessed by Hume Cement industries Bhd Head of Human Resources Lee Swee Chee and UTAR Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Research Director Prof Dr Faizul bin Ab Rahman. Prof Lu said, “The research agreement aimed to facilitate R&D areas and develop new solutions to meet market requirements and remain relevant in the industry.”

**UTAR and INO Nature Sdn Bhd signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on 8 December 2017 at Kampar Campus.** Representing INO Nature was Managing Director Saw Gee Shyang and he was accompanied by Saw Ghee Chong, Louise Chew, James Ong and Susan Tan Shok Cheng from the Business Development Department. The delegates were welcomed by UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei representing UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato’ Dr Chua Hean Teik, Division of Community and International Networking Deputy Director Dr Chen I-Chi, Faculty of Science (FSc) Dean Assoc Prof Dr Lim Tuck Meng, Academic Development and Undergraduate Programmes Deputy Dean Assoc Prof Dr Gideon Khoo, R&D and Postgraduate Programmes Deputy Dean Dr Phoon Lee Ken, Student Development and Industrial Training Deputy Dean Dr Siti Nam Weng, Head of Biological Science Department Dr Nor Iman Ismail and Mohd Ismail, Head of BioMedical Science Department Dr Tan Gim Cheong, Head of Agricultural and Food Science.

**UTAR launches New Village projects**

UTAR launched the UTAR New Village E-Commerce Project and the UTAR New Village Community Project We Care, We Act, named “Reconnecting Nature: Introducing Kampung Bagan Sungai Janggut” on 23 November 2017 at UTAR Sungai Long Campus. Launching the new village projects was Minister in the Prime Minister’s Department-cum-UTAR Council Member Datuk Seri Dr Wei Ka Siong. Also present were UTAR Council Members Ir Academician Datuk Hong Leng Lee, Tan Sri Dato’ Sri Cher Chee Heung, Governing Council, International Science Technology and Innovation Centre for South-South Cooperation under the auspices of UNESCO Malaysian Honorary Chairman Academician Dato’ Ir Dr Lee Yee Cheong, Silverlake Symmetry and Technology Research Sdn Bhd Managing Director Chee Hin Kooi, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato’ Dr Chua Hean Teik, UTAR Vice Presidents Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei and Prof Dr Cheong Chee Khoong, sponsors, invited guests, new village heads, and UTAR students studying in various programmes, projects and activities.

**UTAR and Guangxi University of Chinese Medicine (GXUCM) launched the China-Malaysia Centre for Traditional Chinese Medicine (CMCTCM) on 12 December 2017 at UTAR Sungai Long Campus.** Present at the launch were Ministry of Higher Education Director General Datuk Paduka Ir Dr Siti Hamisah binti Tapsir, Counselor for Consular Affairs of the Embassy of People’s Republic of China in Malaysia Liu Dongyuan, Ministry of Health Division of Traditional and Complementary Medicine Director Dr Goh Cheng Soon, GXUCM President Prof Dr Tang Nong, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato’ Dr Chua Hean Teik, representatives and delegates from the Embassy of People’s Republic of China in Malaysia, Ministry of Higher Education, Ministry of Health, Tung Shin Hospital, Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) Bodies, GXUCM and UTAR.

Before the launch, Prof Chuh and Prof Tang renewed the memorandum of understanding (MoU) for collaboration between the two parties and signed the MoU for CMCTCM. The CMCTCM is an integrative platform that is combined with medicine, healthcare, education, scientific research and cultural exchange.

Prof Chuh remarked, “With the acceleration of the Belt and Road Initiative, China has strengthened its support for the revitalisation and development of TCM, especially beyond China. Therefore, the setting up of this CMCTCM is indeed one step closer for further collaborations between China and Malaysia.”

Prof Tang said, “GXUCM has a first-tier academic status, outstanding resources, and an exceptional faculty and medical team. More importantly, it has been in a close relationship with the ASEAN countries in international cooperation and exchange for a long time.” Datuk Paduka Siti Hamisah congratulated UTAR and GXUCM for the success of setting up CMCTCM and said, “The current establishment of the TCM should propel Malaysian Higher Learning Institutions to become global innovators in R&D.”

**China-Malaysia Centre for TCM**

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**UTAR and TusSpace Investment Management Co., Ltd. signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on 8 December 2017 at Kampar Campus.** Representing TusSpace Investment Management Co., Ltd. and UTAR exchanged an MoU. Tus Holdings Co., Ltd. Deputy Managing Director Jason Yu Haltao led the group consisting of representatives from “Belt & Road” Science and Technology Industries (一带一路科技行) visited Sungai Long Campus on 13 December 2017. In conjunction with the visit, Zhuhai TusSpace Investment Management Co., Ltd. and UTAR exchanged an MoU. 

**UTAR launches New Village projects**

From left: Dr Goh, Counselor Liu, Datuk Paduka Siti Hamisah, Prof Tang, Prof Chuh and GXUCM Department of International Cooperation and Exchange Director Prof Jieh Ang.
The UTAR New Village Collaborative Project saw another successful collaboration with the National University of Singapore (NUS). It was co-organised with the Department of Soft Skills Competency (DSSC). Held from 11 to 17 December 2017, the project ended with a closing ceremony on 19 December 2017 at the Kampar Campus.

The objective of the programme was to explore the China-Malaysia and ASEAN connectivity of technical standards systems and mutual recognition of standards, methods and results. It also served to bolster the Belt and Road initiative and co-operation strategy for mutually beneficial cooperation. Present were Quality and Technology Supervision Bureau of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Deputy Director Liao Wenjun, Chief of Division of Legislative Affairs Huang Zh, Division of Standardisation Deputy Division Chief Meng Yong, Division of Science and Technology Deputy Division Chief Liao Wenjie, Division of Inspection Associate Consultant Li Zhenhua, Division of Supervision Associate Consultant Liang Yong, Product Quality and Inspection Institute of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Director Li Xuan, Standard Technique Institute of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Director Cai Xuping, Measurement and Testing Institute of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Director Cai Xuping, and Guangxi Quality Technology Engineering School Vice President Chen Zhenggang. The closing ceremony was launched on 15 December 2017 at the Sungai Long Campus. Present were UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, IMLD Director Prof Dr Chen Ming Yu, all delegates from Guangxi and UTAR staff.

Prof Ewe highlighted the importance of quality standard and expressed his hope for more cooperation between the two sides. He also congratulated the participants and hoped that they have benefited from the training. Liao expressed his gratitude to UTAR for the warm reception and the effort exerted to make the event a success. He said that the programme has deepened their understanding of Malaysia and exposed them to many things.

Delegates from China universities made a visit to Sungai Long Campus on 30 November 2017. They were led by Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange (CSCE) Deputy Director General Xu Pei Xiang. The objective of the visit was to enhance mutual understanding and trust, and to promote a comprehensive development of bilateral cooperation in education field through a dialogue and discussion between both parties. Welcoming the delegates were UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato’ Dr Chuan Hing Tai, Vice Presidents Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat and Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei, deans and deputy deans, heads and directors from different faculties and departments.

Prof Chuah said, “Chinese education in Malaysia, in my opinion, is greatly influenced by China. Our great forerunners never stopped wasting unyielding struggles to survive in this land, develop the Chinese culture and set up the Chinese schools that uphold the principle. No matter how needy one is, he must not waive education.”

Xu expressed his gratitude to UTAR for its effort in bringing the two sides together for a better mutual understanding. He believed the discussion will efficiently tackle issues of mutual concern and lay a good foundation for future cooperation.

In order to enhance the attendees’ understanding of higher education in Malaysia, Prof Ewe provided comprehensive information about the development of education in Malaysia as well as its internationalisation efforts. He also briefly introduced the university’s current development, international partnerships and collaborations to the attendees.

In addition, through the dialogue both sides conducted an in-depth exchange of views and jointly expressed their willingness to enhance cooperation in the future. The dialogue was attended by 26 universities from different provinces of China.

The Institute of Management and Leadership Development (IMLD) hosted the 14-day State Administration of Foreign Economy Inspection and Testing Technology from 3 December to 16 December 2017. The objective of the programme was to explore the China-Malaysia and ASEAN connectivity of technical standards systems and mutual recognition of standards, methods and results. It also served to bolster the Belt and Road initiative and co-operation strategy for mutually beneficial cooperation. Present were Quality and Technology Supervision Bureau of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Deputy Director Liao Wenjun, Chief of Division of Legislative Affairs Huang Zh, Division of Standardisation Deputy Division Chief Meng Yong, Division of Science and Technology Deputy Division Chief Liao Wenjie, Division of Inspection Associate Consultant Li Zhenhua, Division of Supervision Associate Consultant Liang Yong, Product Quality and Inspection Institute of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Director Li Xuan, Standard Technique Institute of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Director Cai Xuping, Measurement and Testing Institute of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region Director Cai Xuping, and Guangxi Quality Technology Engineering School Vice President Chen Zhenggang. The closing ceremony was launched on 15 December 2017 at the Sungai Long Campus. Present were UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, IMLD Director Prof Dr Chen Ming Yu, all delegates from Guangxi and UTAR staff.

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R&D Colloquium 2017 (2.0)

The 16th Series of the Agriculture Technology Seminar was jointly organised by UTAR Centre for Bio-Diversity Research, Faculty of Science and the Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Research at Kampar Campus on 25 November 2017. Themed ‘Livestock farming: Sustainability and productivity’ the seminar saw the presence of six experts with diverse experiences related to Malaysian livestock, namely Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute Animal Science Research Centre Director Dr Shannugavelu Sitthambaram, Semosa Sdn Bhd (Pentamakan) Director Hajj Mohd Nasir bin Hajj Samat, Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin Faculty of Bioresources and Food Industry’s Prof Dr Ramli bin Abdullah, Malaysian Association Food Animal Veterinarian President Dato’ Dr Vincent Ng in Hooi, Department of Veterinary Services Perak Veterinary Officer Dr Norsuhanna bin Mohd Mokhtar, and Myternak Trading Veterinary Supplies & Services Manager Dr Fakar Fazir Abd Wahab.

"The seminar is a good opportunity to edify the students and public with the knowledge of Malaysia’s livestock industry from the aspects of sustainability and productivity," said Organising Chairperson Dr Kwong Phek Jin. UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei said, “There will be a window when animal protein industry will face a big challenge. Therefore, R&D in using alternative raw ingredients available in our own country is important for long-term sustainability.”

The seminar also saw a demonstration session by Dr Fakar’s team on the mixture of agriculture by-product such as rice bran, PKC, corn and DIY feed premix.

The seminar is supported by Dindings Poultry Development Centre Sdn Bhd, HARUMi Restaurant and Gaia Science (M) Sdn Bhd.

Collaborations at Work

The Centre for Cancer Research (CCR) hosted the Cancer Research Conference 2017 on Holistic Treatment in Cancer from 29 to 30 November 2017 at the Sungai Long Campus. It was supported by the Malaysian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (MSMB). The conference was set to congregate scientists to investigate the fundamental issues in clinical applications and discuss the utility of state-of-the-art technologies and high-throughput experiments to understand cancer and how to best treat it. It also aimed to emphasise on the use of traditional and complementary approaches and treatments as well as to provide some directions on whether the current healthcare system would enhance the effectiveness of cancer treatment.

UTAR CCR and Conference Organising Chairperson Prof Dr Lim Yang Mooi said, “There is an urgent need for more researchers and professionals to further explore the prospective research areas and help us better understand the cancer.”

UTAR Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Dean and CCR Advisor Emeritus Prof Dr Cheong Soon Mooi said, "There is an urgent need for researchers to share their research findings and network with others for more collaborative opportunities."

from other disciplines as well as the industry players to seek better solutions.” The colloquium also saw a cross-disciplinary research proposal presentation presented by all the three-session chairs on their respective subthemes. As a progressive university, UTAR constantly holds conferences and colloquia as platforms for researchers to share their research findings and network with others for more collaborative opportunities.

Launched on 6 and 7 January 2018, the opening ceremony of its first forum, titled Belt and Road (B&R) Business Forum and Symposium, was held at Sungai Long Campus. It aimed to create new platforms for Malaysian and Chinese entrepreneurs to achieve consensus on business sharing. Invited to officiate the event was UTAR Council Member-cum-Institute of Strategic Analysis and Policy Research Chairperson Senator Dato’ Dr Hou Kok Ching, together with Embassy of the People’s Republic of China in Malaysia Representative Qiu Zi Li, MCA Belt and Road Centre (MBRACE) Executive Chairman Dato’ Sri Chuan Poh Khiang, MBRACE Deputy Executive Chairman-cum-INSIGHT Think Tank Sdn Bhd Founder Dato’ Joseph Lim Heng Ee, China-ASEAN Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMES) Trade Promotion Platform Executive Secretary Dato’ Dr Chuan Hean Tek and Vice President Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat. In his opening remarks, Dato’ Hou said, “Students are the soft power for future cooperation between the two countries.” He then expressed his support for the collaboration between MBRACE and UTAR.

"Many SMEs in Malaysia lack the understanding about the B&R initiative. They assume that it focuses only on mega infrastructure projects and enterprises which have less influence on them,” said Dato’ Chuan. Prof Chua said, “This symposium brought academic researchers, prominent industrialists, researchers and industry experts together for a mutual exchange of views and to discuss the B&R initiative.” The event also saw the launch of Belt and Road Entrepreneurs Auditorium Magazine, followed by the exchange of memorandum of understanding between UTAR and MBRACE. The forum featured five main themes: each theme saw knowledgeable speakers sharing their experience and vision for their respective industry.

The invited speakers and participants at the conference

The Belt and Road Entrepreneurs Auditorium series was officially launched on 6 and 7 January 2018. The opening ceremony of its first forum, titled Belt and Road (B&R) Business Forum and Symposium, was held at Sungai Long Campus. It aimed to create new platforms for Malaysian and Chinese entrepreneurs to achieve consensus on business sharing. Invited to officiate the event was UTAR Council Member-cum-Institute of Strategic Analysis and Policy Research Chairperson Senator Dato’ Dr Hou Kok Ching, together with Embassy of the People’s Republic of China in Malaysia Representative Qiu Zi Li, MCA Belt and Road Centre (MBRACE) Executive Chairman Dato’ Sri Chuan Poh Khiang, MBRACE Deputy Executive Chairman-cum-INSIGHT Think Tank Sdn Bhd Founder Dato’ Joseph Lim Heng Ee, China-ASEAN Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMES) Trade Promotion Platform Executive Secretary Dato’ Dr Chuan Hean Tek and Vice President Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat. In his opening remarks, Dato’ Hou said, “Students are the soft power for future cooperation between the two countries.” He then expressed his support for the collaboration between MBRACE and UTAR.

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Inaugural Symposium on Railway Infrastructure and Engineering

UTAR Centre for Railway Infrastructure and Engineering (CRIE) organised the inaugural Symposium on Railway Infrastructure and Engineering on 24 January 2018 at the Sungai Long Campus. Present at the symposium were UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato’ Dr Chuah Hean Telik, Serba Dinamik Group Berhad President Dato’ Dr M. A. Karim Abdullah, Prasarana Malaysia Berhad President and Group Chief Executive Officer Masnizam Hisham, UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei, UTAR Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science Dean Prof Ir Dr Goh Bok Min and symposium Chair-cum-CRIE Chairperson Prof Andy Chit Tan as well as speakers from local and foreign universities and the industry. The symposium saw more than 170 participants.

In conjunction with the symposium, a memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed among UTAR, Serba Dinamik Sdn Bhd and Luhang Rail Transportation Technology Co. Ltd. Changzhou, China to promote research, training, education and innovation in railway. The event also saw the launch of the new CRIE, with its initial founding members, Southwest Jiaotong University, Serba Dinamik Sdn Bhd and Doshin Rubber Sdn Bhd.

Prof Andy remarked, “The one-day symposium was set to congregate practitioners, owners, operators, researchers and academics to share and promote the research activities of the railway industry. It also aimed to support the new initiatives of expanding the rail network in Malaysia and China’s One Belt One Road initiative in the region.”

Prof Chuah said, “The spinoff of rail network expansion into education is expected to carry a great momentum. With its expansion and educational opportunities, it is timely for the University to establish a research centre to promote interdisciplinary research in various areas such as railway infrastructure, engineering and socio-economics, education, training and services.”

Themed ‘Benefits and Sustainability of Railway’, the symposium encompassed two keynote addresses, two sessions of invited presentations and a forum.

He said, “It is necessary for the Malaysian government, industry players and academics to work together to strengthen our capabilities and competitiveness in the rail technology and ecosystem.”

The second keynote speaker, Prasarana President Masnizam spoke on “Pursuing Operations Excellence”. She said, “In view of the many developments and projects that will be carried out in the future, we need more talents to join the workforce and contribute to the field.”

The first session of invited presentation saw Luhang Rail Transportation Technology Co. Ltd Deputy General Manager Luo Wencheng speaking on “Health Monitoring and Early Warning of High-speed Rail Based on Vibration and Temperature”. The subsequent speaker was Mass Rapid Transit Corporation Sdn Bhd GIS Manager Aswadi Yusof who spoke on “Building Information Modelling and Geographic Information System in Mega Construction Project – A Sharing from Klang Valley Mass Rapid Transiti Sungai Buloh-Serdang-Putrajaya Line Project”. It was chaired by Assoc Prof Dr Raziqar Ramli from Universiti Malaya.

The second session saw a lecture titled “Novel Techniques in Guided Wave for Performing Quality Inspection on Building Pipes and Train Rails” by the Director of The Smart Engineering Asset Management Laboratory and Croucher Optical Nondestructive Testing Laboratory, Prof Peter Tze Wei Tai. It was followed by Doshin Rubber Engineering Products (M) Sdn Bhd Dr Patrick Tiong who presented on “Rubber as an Excellent Engineering Material for Vibration and Seismic Control in Civil Engineering Structures”. Also speaking at the symposium was Universiti Teknologi Malaysia Institute of Noise and Vibration HiCoE Director Prof Mohd Salman Leong. He presented on “Noise and Vibration Environmental Impact in Malaysian Railway Schemes – Issues and Mitigation from Past and Current Lines”. It was chaired by Aswadi Yusof.

The inaugural symposium saw more than 170 participants.
CityHack Hackathon 2017

UTAR researchers won a gold and two bronze medals at the International Conference and Exposition on Inventions by Institutions of Higher Learning (PECIPTA). It was held from 7 to 10 October 2017 at Stadium Tertutup, Gong Badak, Kuala Terengganu.

Prof Dr-Chong Kok Keong and his team were awarded a gold medal for their invention named “Dense Array Ultra-High Concentrator Photovoltaic System”. Dr Ng Choon Aun and his team won a bronze medal for their invention named “Waste Vegetable Oil Based Environmental Friendly Roofing Ties”.

Another bronze medal winner was Assoc Prof Dr M. Yamuna and her team. They invented the “EGOPOYLLLL” for a research on environment and renewable energy.

Themed “Nurturing Entrepreneurs through Education, Industry, Technology and Social Innovation”, PECIPTA 2017 aimed to create prototypes and to commercialise their products.

Wushu Intervarsity Championship

A team of 19 athletes from the UTAR Wushu team won one gold, four silver and nine bronze medals at the Wushu Intervarsity Championship. It was held from 25 to 26 November 2017 at Universiti Sains Malaysia, Health Campus in Kubang Kerian, Kota Bharu, Kelantan.

The championship aimed to congregate all Wushu practitioners from the tertiary education institutions and promote interaction among the Wushu enthusiasts through competitions.

It was also a platform for all the Wushu athletes from different higher education institutions in Malaysia to meet and learn more about Wushu. The championship saw the participation of more than 120 Wushu athletes from various universities in the country, with the attendance of approximately 400 spectators and supporters.

Public Speaking Competition

The Centre for Foundation Studies (CFS) organised a public speaking competition on 24 November 2017 at Sungai Long Campus.

The competition aimed to provide the students with practical experience in public speaking, test their speaking ability and encourage the constructive use of English. It also served to improve the English proficiency level of the students.

CFS student Khousalya Nalliah won the first place, followed by Tan Hui Yin and Lim You Xin in the second and third place respectively. The awards were presented by Faculty of Creative Industries’ Department of Modern Languages Head Yesogvasty Alahakone.

PECIPTA 2017

NTT researchers won a gold and two bronze medals at the International Conference and Exposition on Inventions by Institutions of Higher Learning (PECIPTA). It was held from 7 to 10 October 2017 at Stadium Tertutup, Gong Badak, Kuala Terengganu.

Prof Dr-Chong Kok Keong and his team were awarded a gold medal for their invention named “Dense Array Ultra-High Concentrator Photovoltaic System”. Dr Ng Choon Aun and his team won a bronze medal for their invention named “Waste Vegetable Oil Based Environmental Friendly Roofing Ties”.

Another bronze medal winner was Assoc Prof Dr M. Yamuna and her team. They invented the “EGOPOYLLLL” for a research on environment and renewable energy.

Themed “Nurturing Entrepreneurs through Education, Industry, Technology and Social Innovation”, PECIPTA 2017 aimed to create prototypes and to commercialise their products.

IET Malaysia Best On Campus Award

UTAR Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) On Campus was the awarded champion for the IET Malaysia Best On Campus Award 2016-2017 at IET Young Professionals Section (YPS) Annual Dinner. It was held in Sungai Long Campus on 25 November 2017. UTAR IET On Campus aimed to connect the student with the industry, both local and overseas.

Present at the event were IET Malaysia Local Network Main Committee Ir Amir Fard Abdul Majid and Ir Jimmy Famy Deng Fong, IET Asia Pacific CEO Thaman Dr John Tan Teng Hwang, Singapore IET PSB Academy On Campus Advisor Dr Lau Vui Kien, President Nilar Shyun Mya, UTAR IET On Campus Advisor Prof Ir Dr Lim Yun Seng, UTAR IET On Campus committee members, and other IET student chapters.

Asia Young Designer Award

Japan Paint Malaysia Group and IJM Land Berhad recently revealed the winners of the Asia Young Designer Award (AYDA) 2017. The announcement was made in conjunction with the 10th anniversary of AYDA.

Theme “You for Tomorrow: Future Living”

The competition aimed to challenge the foresight and the technical ability of young professionals to create a design concept which is relevant, meaningful and meets the needs of tomorrow’s dwellers and societies.

Former UTAR Bachelor of Science (Hons) Architecture student Ng Wai How took home the Gold Award for the Architecture category in the competition, with a cash prize worth RM3,000 and six-month paid internship from IJM Land. Meanwhile, UTAR Architecture student Tan Ying Kuan took home the Silver Award for the Architecture category, with a cash prize of RM3,000 and six-month paid internship from IJM Land.

NECO 2017

A team of UTAR students participated in the National Eco-Construction Competition 2017 (NECO) on 29 November 2017. They won the first runner-up with RM7,000 cash prize.

The competition aimed to develop innovative thinking skills among youth and foster sustainable construction. It was designed to encourage undergraduate and postgraduate students who were majoring in Architecture, Civil, Mechanical and Electrical from local universities or colleges to present their design projects by applying innovative sustainable construction approach while balancing the element of sustainability in greening the construction field.

The team was comprised of seven students from Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science, namely Architecture students Tan Ying Kuan, Chew Cher Kien, Yong Song Zhe, and Ang Kwang Ken, Mechanical Engineering student Ong Jing Yuan, Electrical and Electronic Engineering student Phang Kam Ping as well as Quantity Surveying student Yap Jea Hui.
From left: Hew, Dr Leong, Dr Lee and Tan with their certificates

Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science Prof Dr Chong Kock Keong was awarded the 2017 Science and Technology Award at the 24th Malaysia Toray Science Foundation (MTSF) prize presentation ceremony. It was held at InterContinental Kuala Lumpur on 7 December 2017.

The event aimed to promote science and technology in Malaysia by supporting deserving Malaysian scientists and researchers. Present at the event were MTSF Chairman Academician Prof Emeritus Tan Sri Dr Omar Abdul Rahman, Toray Industries Japan Executive Vice President Kazushis Hashimoto, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Malaysia His Excellency Dr Makio Miyagawa, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation Datuk Seni Panglima Wilfred Madus Tangau, MTSF Examination Committee Chairman Academician Prof Emeritus Tan Sri Dr Syed Jabaludin Syed and MTSF Selection Committee Chairman Academician Tan Sri Emeritus Prof Dr Augustine Ong Soon Hock.

Silver and bronze in NRIC

UTAR’s five Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) Petrochemical Engineering final year students made a big splash at the Novel Research & Innovation Competition (NRIC) 2017, winning a silver and a bronze medal. It was held at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) from 15 to 17 August 2017.

Themed ‘Revolution through the Decade’s Novelties’, NRIC 2017 aimed to instil the importance of research and development among students and provide a platform to put their talents and creativity in action. The competition was organised by the Student’s Representative Council of USM supported by the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia.

The students in the silver-medallist team were I.S Rayinder Singh and Eng Soon Kiat. The bronze-medallists were R. Nagarathanam, Yu Gen Qian and Ariff bin Abdul Latif. The teams were led by Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology lecturer Dr M. Mathialagan and Head of Petrochemical Engineering Department Assoc Prof Dr M. Yama, Tan with his certificate.

Gold in NUBR 2017

Team 4.3°N from UTAR Kampar Campus swept gold following an outstanding 16-4 win against the group Lycans from Universiti Teknologi MARA Shah Alam. The Nottingham Ultimate Battle Royale (NUBR) 2017 was held at the University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus on 2 December 2017. It was organised by The Ultimate Frisbee Club of University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus.

NUBR 2017 aimed to provide a stage for university teams to compete against each other and to expose them towards other teams within the Ultimate community in Malaysia. The NUBR saw 10 different universities across Malaysia competing against each other. The winning team 4.3°N received their individual gold medals. The award for Most Valuable Player Male and Female were presented to Biochemistry student Lim Tze Chin and Food Science student Dorcas Yong Siew Hui respectively in recognition of their outstanding performance.

Double wins at IMPACT

UTAR Faculty of Business and Finance academics Hew Jun Jie, Dr Leong Lai Ying, Garry Tan Wei Han and Dr Lee Voon Hsien successfully published their research paper in a high-impact Elsevier journal, namely Tourism Management recently.

Co-written with Prof Ooi Keng Boon from UCSi University, the paper titled “Mobile social tourism shopping: A dual-stage analysis of a multi-mediation model” received a certificate of publication recognition from the Tourism Management. The research investigates the mobile social tourism shopping among Malaysian domestic tourists who have visited George Town, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site located in Penang.

Tourism Management is a ranked A* journal by the Australian Business Deans Council Journal Rankings List September 2016 (ABDC 2016). In the list, A* ranked journals are the “best or leading journal in its field.”

UTAR won two gold and two silver medals at the 2017 Kojohan Sukan Malas Sukan IPSY Malaysia (MASISWA) Zon Utara. It was held from 17 to 19 November 2017 at the Kolej Poly-Tech Mara Johor. Organised by MASISWA, the annual tournament aimed to encourage students from local private universities to participate in sports activities and to inculcate the spirit of togetherness. Six domestic private learning institutions participated in the championship.

The UTAR medalists were Advertising student Fong Mi Lyn, Business Administration student R. Yamuna Rani, Marketing student Susanna Ooi Hui En, Foundation student Hung Hsien Hui, Finance student Lee Kai Ni, Foundation student Tham Wai Lok, Foundation student Wan Chiau Xin, Banking and Finance student Wong Kar Horh, and Construction Management student Alexander Yip Jern How.

In Search of Excellence

Recognition for research paper

From left: Hew, Dr Leong, Dr Lee and Tan with their certificates

 Dominoes in NRIC

UTAR’s Public Relations (PR) students clinched two awards at the Immersion Project, Appreciation, and Tribute (IMPACT) 2017 award ceremony at USM on 14 December 2017. First year student Teh Chia Wei emerged as the winner of IMPACT 2017’s Short Video Competition while the 2016/2017 edition of PR Student’s Representative Council of USM won the Communication Campaign category.

IMPACT aimed to provide a platform for students of communication and media studies from all over the ASEAN network to network, share knowledge and collaborate with one another.

Representing WOW Kampar to receive the award were Jason Yeoh, Teh, Qamar, Benjamin and Lok. The students in the silver-medallist team were I.S Rayinder Singh and Eng Soon Kiat. The bronze-medallists were R. Nagarathanam, Yu Gen Qian and Ariff bin Abdul Latif. The teams were led by Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology lecturer Dr M. Mathialagan and Head of Petrochemical Engineering Department Assoc Prof Dr M. Yama, Tan with his certificate.

Double wins at IMPACT

Faculty of Business and Finance lecturer Garry Tan Wei Han was recently awarded the “2017 Publons Peer Review Award”. Tan was listed among the world’s top 1% reviewers in the field of “Multidisciplinary”. He was awarded for his contribution to scholarly peer review and the number of pre-publication reviews that was completed. Tan’s reviews and efforts were deemed vital for defending the quality of science and research.

Currently, Tan has reviewed a total of 100 pre-publications, with most of the reviewed published under the “International Journal of Modelling in Operations Management” followed by “Emerald Emerging Markets Case Studies” and “Industrial Management and Data Systems” Journals.

He also serves as a reviewer for various international journals indexed in Thomson Reuters (ISI) from renowned publishers such as Emerald, Sage (United Kingdom), Elsevier (Netherlands), Taylor and Francis (United Kingdom), IEEE (USA) and Inderscience (Switzerland).

MTSF Award

From left: Hew, Dr Leong, Dr Lee and Tan with their certificates

UTAR medallists and MASISWA officials at the prize giving ceremony

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Four medals in MASISWA

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2017 Publons Peer Review Award
PR Campaign 2017/2018 Volunteerism VI

The goal was to bring positive impacts to the society that has led to the successful fundraising activities conducted by the Public Relations (PR) students of the PR Campaign 2017/2018 Volunteerism VI. Following the footsteps of their seniors from the previous campaigns, five groups with their respective sub-themes conducted a series of thematic activities from October to November 2017. It aimed to raise the awareness of the society, contribute to the community and raise funds to sustain their group activities and the upcoming events.

Group One, with their CSR theme ‘Health Services’ organised a ‘Res Med’s Futsal Tournament’ on 25 November 2017 at Sports@Grand Kampar Complex, where they witnessed the Malaysian professional footballer from Malaysia U-23 national team Tharabalan Nadarajah in action.

Themed ‘Heritage Tourism’, Group Four’s “The Good Old Days” Old Street Market was organised on 20 November 2017 at Kampar Campus. Meanwhile, Group Five, with their theme ‘Social Welfare’ organised a “Men’s SV3 Basketball Tournament” on 11 November 2017 at the Kampar Campus Sports Complex.

Collectively, the main fundraising committee also organised an ‘Halloween’ party, themed ‘Ghostly Halloween’ on 19 November 2017 at the Kampar Campus. The soft launch of PR Campaign 2017/2018 Volunteerism VI officially kicked off on 16 November 2017 at Kampar Campus.

Group Two with their theme ‘Digital Economy’ organised the UTAR Triathlon Challenge 2017 on 26 November 2017 at the Kampar Campus Sports Complex. Present to officiate the event was Daniel Wai How representing Deputy Minister of Finance Senator Dato’ Lee Chee Leong.

Group Three with their theme ‘Health Services’ organised a ‘Res Med’s Futsal Tournament’ on 25 November 2017 at Sports@Grand Kampar Complex, where they witnessed the Malaysian professional footballer from Malaysia U-23 national team Tharabalan Nadarajah in action.

The exhibition’s Project Leader Chan Wei Chian said, "I am proud that this exhibition demonstrates the breadth and depth of creative ideas which include branding, advertising, website design, animation to book publishing." The exhibition’s Project Leader Chan Wei Chian said, "I am proud that this exhibition demonstrates the breadth and depth of creative ideas which include branding, advertising, website design, animation to book publishing."

Head of Multimedia Design and Animation Department Yuen May Chan said, "I am proud that this exhibition demonstrates the breadth and depth of their imagination and a wide range of creative ideas which include branding, advertising, website design, animation to book publishing."

The exhibition’s Project Leader Chan Wei Chian said, "I am proud that this exhibition demonstrates the breadth and depth of creative ideas which include branding, advertising, website design, animation to book publishing."

The students and academic staff teaching the Graphic Design and Multimedia programme also expressed their appreciation to UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato’ Dr Chua Hian Teik for launching the exhibition.

The final year Graphic Design and Multimedia students showcased their creative work at the Art of Nocturne Exhibition held from 4 to 6 December 2017 at Sungai Long Campus. The exhibition saw final year projects of 29 students from the Faculty of Creative Industries (FCI).

"All of you have turned your commitment into actions and we have made significant progress in terms of clearing trails at the UCF, also the frontage of MNS for a topiary in order to create a plot for growing vegetables. UCF is truly honoured to have UTAR students, staff and public as volunteers for this project," said MNS Special Interest Group (SIG)-Flora Group Coordinator Foo Wai Leng.

The Department of Student Affairs of Sungai Long Campus organised Gotong-Royong-Urban Gardening and Trail Clearing at Urban Community Forest (UCF), Malaysian Nature Society (MNS), Kuala Lumpur on 25 November 2017. A total of 27 students and staff volunteered in the gotong-royong activity.

The aim of the gotong-royong project was to contribute to the society through research and development as well as education on forest conservation to improve the wellbeing of the society. There, the volunteers were introduced to MNS and UCF background, strategic plans and the database of tree and plant species found in Malaysia.

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The volunteers and MNS members
由拉曼大学中华研究中心、资讯与通讯科技学院及理学院联办的中国玉器座谈会,邀
请了玉器专家崔伟光于2018年2月9日前来拉曼大学金宝校区主讲“中国玉器9000年”,获得
了校内外爱好玉器的师生们的踊跃参与。

崔伟光师曾负笈英国,并拥有电子工程学位及工商管理硕士学位。他对中国玉器鉴赏与收
藏的兴趣起源于1994年的一次伦敦之旅。后来他师从香港著名玉器鉴赏家C.J. Fung,如今两
人更在加拿大蒙特利尔一同经营一家主打中国玉器的古董店。C.J. Fung是中国玉器鉴赏权威
杨伯达与周南泉的学生。

首先,主讲人通过中国年表为出席者讲解了各时代的玉器文化,其中包括新石器时代在
中国各部的兴隆洼文化、红山文化、仰韶文化、大汶口文化、龙山文化、崧泽文化、良渚文
化、石家河文化等。他表示,玉文化是中华文化中非常重要的一环,玉器起先用于宗教仪
式、权势与地位的象征,尔后方才普及开来。

他以图片方式讲解了中国新石器时代及各朝代著名的玉器,如:红山文化的玉龙、玉猪
龙、兴隆洼文化的珏、大汶口文化的玉珠链、良渚文化的玉珠、玉纹多节琮、龙山文化的玉
牙壁;春秋战国至明清两代的玉器。他举例表示强大的汉、唐时期的玉器显示了其威武之势
力,而重儒文化但军事比较弱的宋朝时期的玉器显示了其优美但不强势之势。每个朝代的玉
器都有其独特之处,可从雕刻工、体积、大小来区别。此外,他也略谈陶器、金银器与其盛
行时期。

讲人也在讲座会上展示了一些玉器收藏品,让出席者大开眼界。通过他的具体解析,出席
者得以实体学习,对玉器有更具体和深入的了解。

交流环节中,主讲人和出席者交流甚欢,一同探究了真玉与假玉的分辨方法、购买时的注意事项、白玉与翡翠、软玉与硬玉的分别等与玉相关的课题。他并呼吁玉器爱好者可考虑从事玉器这
项中国宝贵文化的研究和收藏工作。

席间嘉宾包括中华研究中心主任黄文斌副教授、中华研究院副院长林良娥博士、各院讲师与学生。

Bertemakan ‘Yuan Xu’ yang bermaksud ‘Meneruskan Ikatan’, pameran tersebut bermatlamat untuk memelihara serta mengekalkan tradisi dan budaya warisan bangsa Cina terutamanya dari segi aspek-aspek yang berkaitan dengan Wushu. Sejak penubuhan Kelab Wushu UTAR pada tahun 2007, pelbagai aktiviti dan program yang memberi manfaat kepada pelajar-pelajar UTAR serta masyarakat setempat telah diadakan oleh ahli jawatankuasa kelab. Dibutuhkan melalui hasil kerjasama dua orang bekas pelajar UTAR, yang juga merupakan presiden yang pertama buat Kelab Wushu UTAR, kelab tersebut telah berjaya memperoleh pelbagai pencapaian dan berjaya menganjurkan beberapa peristiwa atau acara mega yang menarik serta berfaedah.

Mendorong kepada pencapaian tersebut, pameran Wushu ini juga memberi manfaat yang bermakna kepada para pengunjung. Pameran Wushu tersebut mempersembahkan pelbagai barangan dan alat yang berkaitan dengan Wushu dan budaya Cina. Antara alat yang dipamerkan di pameran tersebut ialah alat tarian singa dan naga, gendang 24 Cina dan persembahannya, sedikit maklumat mengenai seni mempertahankan diri Cina - Tai Chi dan Hong Quan, serta seni permainan Kickboxing Cina - Sanda. Pameran dan persembahan yang diadakan sepanjang pameran Wushu tersebut memberikan pencerahan yang bagus kepada pelajar-pelajar UTAR dan masyarakat setempat Kampar yang terdiri daripada berbilang bangsa. Ia juga merupakan sebuah platform bagi kelab Wushu untuk menarik perhatian serta memupuk kesedaran dalam kalangan generasi muda untuk memahami Wushu dan ciri-ciri kebudayaan dan tradisi bangsa Cina yang lain.

Selain mencapai matlamat utama untuk menyemai kesedaran mengenai budaya dan tradisi Cina, pameran tersebut juga memberi peluang kepada para pengunjung untuk melihat sepintas lalu kesemua peristiwa penting dan aktiviti yang telah dijalurkan oleh kelab Wushu UTAR dalam tempoh sepanjang tahun ini. Ahli jawatankuasa pameran juga mempamerkan peristiwa-peristiwa penting tersebut dengan mendirikan sebuah terowong buatan unik yang mengandungi maklumat mengenai peristiwa-peristiwa penting tersebut.

Pengerusi Penganjur pameran dan pelajar Biokimia UTAR Ngoo Jia Min berkata, “Kami berasa sangat berbangga dan gembira melihat pameran ini berjaya dilangsungkan. Kerjasama dan sifat kefahaman yang baik antara ahli-ahli jawatankuasa merupakan satu faktor utama yang membolehkan kami melangsungkan pameran ini dengan baik. Saya berharap aktiviti-aktiviti seperti ini dapat diteruskan oleh ahli jawatankuasa yang baru untuk mengadakan serta mengekalkan tradisi dan budaya Cina di Malaysia.”

Di samping itu, jawatankuasa penganjur juga berjaya mengadakan aktiviti-aktiviti sampingan seperti ceramah Wushu oleh Jurulatih Pasukan Wushu Malaysia Lim Yew Fai dan sebuah bengkel mengenai Tai Chi yang diadakan oleh Jurulatih Leong Yee Chiu dari Pulau Pinang.

Kelab Wushu UTAR diadakan pada 1 Oktober 2007 oleh Eric Chew dan Robin Ng, yang juga merupakan penasihat Kelab Wushu UTAR. Pada tahun 2008, pensyarah dari Fakulti Sains UTAR Dr Lee How Chinh memegang jawatan sebagai penasihat Kelab Wushu UTAR dan mengajar ahli-ahli kelab seni mempertahankan diri Cina Sanda dan Hong Quan.