02 Collaborations at Work

10 Special Feature

12 In Search of Excellence

15 From Talks to Forums

17 Community at Heart

18 优大视野

20 Sudut Utarian

OTH Regensburg Masters students at Kampar Campus
MoU with GIEF

UTAR and Global Innovation and Entrepreneurship Foundation (GIEF) officially inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on 30 April 2018 at Sungai Long Campus.

Signing on behalf of UTAR was its President Ir Prof Academician Dato’ Dr Chung Hean Teik while GIEF was represented by its Chairman Dato’ Ghazi Sheik Ramli. Also present were GIEF Board of Director Bazlin Abdul Aziz, UTAR Vice President Ir Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Registrar Yim Lin Heng, Division of Community and International Networking Director Assoc Prof Dr Lei Soon Onn, Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LK CFS) Dean Prof Dr Thi Qoi Bok Min, LK CFS Student Development and Industrial Training Deputy Dean Dr Lim Jie Hock, Faculty of Creative Industries R&D and Postgraduate Programmes Deputy Dean Dr Loo Hong Chuang, LK CFS Centre for Sustainable Architecture Chairperson Dr Lim Poh Im and LK CFS Head of Architecture & Sustainable Design Department Tan Kok Hong.

The MoU aimed to establish a basis where both UTAR and GIEF can work together on research, activities and programmes to promote the use of bamboo as a sustainable building material in the construction industry.

Actuary Today 2018

Actuary Today 2018 was organised by the UTAR Actuarial Science Society from 7 to 10 June 2018 at Sungai Long Campus. It aimed to provide a practical experience of real work life to actuarial undergraduates and convey correct information, knowledge and understanding about actuarial science to the public.

The event contained three major components, namely Actuarial Exhibition, Actuarial Challenge and Actuarial Conference. The event also saw talks, seminars and workshops, aiming to enhance the participants’ knowledge of Actuarial Science as well as to increase the interactions between participants. UTAR was the second runner-up in the Actuarial Challenge and walked away with RM1,500 cash prize and certificates.

Guangxi-Malaysia Higher Education Collaboration Forum

An international forum witnessed the collaboration between the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia (MOHE) and Guangxi Education Department (GED) of Ministry of Education, China was held in Sungai Long Campus on 11 May 2018.

Present at the opening ceremony were Director General of Department of Higher Education Datuk Paduka Ir Dr Siti Hamisah Tapsir, MOHE Director of Excellence Planning Division Prof Dr Raha binti Haji Abdul Rahim, Inspector-General of GED Prof Tang Yaohua, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato’ Dr Chung Hean Teik, GED Director of Science, Technology and Information Huang Qing Yun, UTAR Vice Presidents Prof Dr Lee Sze Wei and Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat, academics and researchers from local and China universities and UTAR staff.

The forum aimed to bring esteemed researchers and academics from various fields to work together, learn from each other and spearhead further activities that would fulfill the needs of Malaysian and China universities, ultimately the society and community in both countries.

Vice President Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei and UTAR staff.

Visit by CAEIT and MDEC

Delegates from the China Academy of Electronics and Information Technology (CAEIT) and Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) called on UTAR Kampar Campus on 27 April 2018.

The delegates were welcomed by UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato’ Dr Chung Hean Teik. The CAEIT delegates were its Vice President Zhang Long, Deputy Director of Innovation Centre Lin Yang, Deputy Director of International Cooperation Department Wei Li, Deputy Director of Research and Commercialisation Han Tan, Xiao and Zhongzhi, Gathered Investment Consulting Ltd General Manager Hendy; while the MDEC delegates were its Chief Operating Officer (COO) Dato’ Ng Wan Peng, Vice President of Investment and Industry Development Hiew Wee Chong, Manager of Investment and Industry Development Renene Ho Suet Ling, and Special Officer from COO’s Office, Connorsmy Chye. Also present were UTAR Vice President Prof Dr Lee Sze Wei and UTAR senior officials.

The visit aimed to expand network and deepen collaborative ties between both parties as well as develop national-level strategic cooperation projects together. CAEIT also wishes to join hands with UTAR in exploring the areas of Smart City, Artificial Intelligence, Network Security and Public Safety Research Centre.

Visit by SHUTCM

Visitors from the Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (SHUTCM) visited Kampar Campus on 14 May 2018.

Welcoming the visitors were UTAR Vice President Prof Dr Chong Chee Keong and Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences’ Head of Chinese Medicine Department Dr Te Kian Keong. Among the visitors were Director of Shanghai Municipal Education Commission Personnel Department Li Wei, Vice President (VP) of SHUTCM Wang Yongjun, SHUTCM Vice Dean of International Education College Chen Yi and President of Ushine (overseas) Chinese Course Center Huang Hao.

The visit aimed to build rapport and promote mutual understanding between UTAR and SHUTCM. It also aimed to discuss opportunities for future collaboration between both institutions in the aspect of student and staff exchange programmes and future joint research collaborations on Traditional Chinese Medicine.

Tun Tan Cheng Lock Exhibition

UTAR’s Tun Tan Cheng Lock Centre for Social and Policy Studies (TCLC) organised an exhibition titled ‘The Other Side of Tun Tan Cheng Lock’ to celebrate and commemorate his remarkable life. Held from 23 to 30 April 2018 at the Main Library of Kampar Campus, the exhibition was officially launched on 27 April 2018 by Tun Tan Cheng Lock’s granddaughter Datin Paduka Tan Siok Choo, accompanied by the Chairperson of TCLC for Social and Policy Studies, Assoc Prof Dr Chong Yee Min.

The exhibition was also attended by a total of 20 schoolchildren and three teachers, namely Ngaari Sook Wei, Ong Chun Hor and Tai Meng Ching from SKJ (C) Tun Tan Cheng Lock, Selangor. The exhibition aimed to provide students with a fresh perspective of Tun Tan’s personal life through a selection of photos and stories shared by his family.
UTAR Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Research (IPSR) successfully organised its ninth R&D Colloquium 2018 (1.0) at Kampar Campus on 21 April 2018.

The objective of the colloquium was to offer a platform to exchange research ideas, interests and project funding related to the cross-disciplinary topic areas. It also aimed to develop cross-disciplinary collaborations at a concrete level by finding synergies and common interests.

Some 120 local and foreign researchers joined and came together during the university’s biannual colloquium on research and development. A total of 34 presentations on various topics were delivered including medical tourism, social media, foodborne infection, infant mortality rates, stem cells, mental health, cyber bullying, artificial intelligence, social economic impact, eco-friendly smart house, e-commerce and fourth industrial revolution.

In his opening speech, UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei said, “I’m glad to be part of this colloquium for the past five years. It is indeed a great platform for all researchers to share their research methodologies and findings with other researchers and students. I believe this year’s themes will give participants a deeper understanding about the future global challenges and demands.”

One of the participants of the colloquium, Faculty of Arts and Social Science lecturers Teh Boon Teck enthused, “I would like to thank UTAR and IPSR for organising this event for staff and students to network with the academics and industry players. It is indeed a great platform for all to improve in the field of research and development.”

The closing ceremony and the certificate presentation for the “7th Annual Workshop on Quality and Identification Technologies in Traditional Chinese Medicines” was held in Macao on 13 April 2018. The workshop, held from 9 to 14 April 2018, was co-organised by the China Science and Technology Exchange Center and Macao Science and Technology Development Fund. It was hosted by the State Key Laboratory of Quality Research in Chinese Medicine (SKL-QRCM). It aimed to enhance practitioners’ understanding of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and improve its quality assurance and testing skills.

Three members from Malaysia who attended the workshop were Ministry of Health’s Traditional and Complementary Medicine Division Principal Assistant Director Dr Teo Chiah Shewn, Tai E Traditional Complementary Medical Director Prof Teh Boon Khiai and UTAR Centre for Research in Traditional Chinese Medicine Chairperson-cum-Department of Chinese Medicine Head Dr Te Kian Keong.

Speaking at the ceremony, Dr Teh said that the training workshop has provided an opportunity for the attendees to gain knowledge and skills from the SKL-QRCM experts and he is looking forward to establish a long-term cooperation with SKL-QRCM in cultivating talents specifically in the authentication and quality control of TCM products.

He also expressed his wish to establish a joint lab between China and Malaysia in order to enhance the cooperation in the field of TCM. He believes that Macao has high-level research base for Chinese Medicine and it could be a good reference to study herbal medicine in Malaysia. He pointed out that there is still a lot of room for collaborations between the two countries as Malaysia is rich in herbal resources and Macao has well-developed techniques.

The Student Development and Alumni Relations Group and the Chancellery Department collaborated with UTAR Alumni Association of Malaysia and Fusionex International to organise ‘Industrial Business Conference 2018: E-commerce and SMEs, a Definite Way Forward’ at Sungai Long Campus on 12 April 2018.

The conference aimed to highlight the prevalence of Electronic Commerce in today’s business supply chain through the impactful convergence of various cellular and broadband networks, and the continual digitisation of human activities.

Present at the event were UTAR Vice Presidents Prof Ir Ewe Hong Tat and Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong, HYT Cross Border Sdn Bhd Managing Director Dato’ Dr Danny Tan, Fusionex International AdvFusionex Director and Partnership & Alliances Stan Lee, SME Corporation Malaysia Deputy Chief Executive Officer (i) Rizal bin Nany, E-Commerce Association of Malaysia President Danny Ng, Ocean Starlight (Thailand) Director and Founder Eddie Tan, UTAR Alumni Association of Malaysia President Koh Fook Huat, Faculty of Accountancy and Management Deputy Dean of Academic Development and Undergraduate Programmes Dr Ken Kai Wah, participants, students and staff.

The second session saw speakers, namely Youth at MDEC Manager Special Projects Premja Balakrishnan, HYT Cross Border Sdn Bhd Advisor Dr Chye Boe Es, Eddie Tan, Stan Lee, Danny Ng and Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science Head of Master of Information Systems Programme Dr Winnie Wong Wee then discussing the opportunities and challenges SMEs face in the e-commerce platform. The forum was moderated by Faculty of Creative Industries lecturer Maxwell Sim Yik Seng.

The conference ended with a session on “Unleashing the Power of e-commerce among SMEs: The Role of University” by Dr Hen.

R&D Colloquium 2018

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Local Herbs Day II

Meng expressed his gratitude to the organising committee, speakers, sponsors and participants for their support.

Collaborations at Work
UTAR, Sayling Wen Cultural and Educational Foundation, iSee Taiwan Foundation, and Center for Creativity and Innovation Studies of National Chengchi University jointly organised a seminar on Educational Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Sungai Long Campus on 5 April 2018. The seminar aimed to share educational innovation experience as well as promote dialogue and exchanges among the teachers and students from different regions.

Present at the seminar were UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Vice President Prof Ir Dwe Ewe Hong Tat, GHThub Creative Director Prof Dr Selhua Wu, GHTHub Head of Global Network Prof Dr Lucia S. Lin, 2017 GHT Innovative Education Fellow-cum-Taiwan Plunkers on Education and Technology (TPET) Co-ordinator Xu Liang, GHT Innovative Education Fellow Chin Yi Hung, Sayling Wen Cultural and Educational Foundation Assoc Project Manager Alen Weng, and UTAR Institute of Chinese Studies Dean Assoc Prof Dr Chong Siou Wei.

Dr Chuah said, “The arrival of industrial revolution had a great influence on the educators. We must constantly innovate to grow, creatively think and guide our students in the timeliest manner, regardless of being a principal or a teacher.”

On the other hand, Prof Wu pointed out that “education” is the common language of the world. He said that education can only affect the future human civilization in the long run if it is continuously shared and exchanged.

The seminar was also attended by teachers and students from various schools and institutions such as University Chinese School Committees’ Association of Malaysia (Dong Zong), Malaysian Secondary School Chinese Language Teachers Association, New Era University College, Multimedia University, SJK (C) On Pong, Confucian Private Secondary School, and Sekolah Menengah Universal Hua Xia.

Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Malaysia and UTAR Centre for Sustainable Architecture (COSA) jointly organised Taiwan Fellowship Forum 2018 at Sungai Long Campus on 16 May 2018. The event provided a good opportunity for networking and sharing among current and past recipients, and potential applicants for Taiwan Fellowship.

Present at the forum were TECO Representative James Chang Chi-Ping, Deputy Representative Michael S. Y. Yin, UTAR Vice President Prof Ir Dr Ewe Hong Tat, Taiwan Scholarship Recipients’ Alumni Association President Anthony Loh Li Cheng and UTAR COSA Chairperson Dr Lim Poh Im.

James Chang said Taiwan has always maintained a very strong, close and longstanding collaborative relationship with Malaysia, particularly with the launching of New Southbound Policy in the year 2016.

Prof Ewe encouraged the students and the academics to take on collaborative research opportunities and expand the network as well as paratake in knowledge exchange for mutual benefit and updates on the latest research developments.

The speakers who presented their research at the forum were Universiti Malaya Research and Innovation Office Deputy Vice Chancellor-cum-Institute of China Studies senior lecturer Dr Ming Ting Soon, Monash University Department of Economics Assoc Prof Dr Poon Wai Ching, and Faculty of Science (FSc) Dean Assoc Prof Dr Lim Hock Eam.

Front row, from left: Liang, Prof Lee, Dr Au Yong and Foo with speakers and participants
The Malaysia Mental Literacy Movement (MMLM) held two workshops and an exhibition on 14 April 2018 at Sungai Long Campus. The workshops and exhibition aimed to promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) to the public, particularly to school-going children and their parents. It also aimed to engage students’ interest in STEM-related fields of studies while advocating its practical application and utility. The mini hands-on workshops encompassed a series of science experiments and design activities. The first workshop included two science experiments, namely the “Squishy Ice-cream” and “Mini Rocket”. The second workshop saw participants gaining more insights on the effects of PH and alcohol towards the liver. 

Thirty-eight secondary school students attended the UTAR Leadership Camp 2018 held at Kampar Campus from 14 to 15 April 2018. It was organised by the Division of Programme Promotion (DPP) with the assistance of 10 UTAR ambassadors. The camp aimed to uncover the participants’ leadership potential and to develop their skills in problem-solving, critical thinking, teamwork and communication. The camp was attended by students from SMJK Sam Tet, SMJK Perempuan Perak, SMJK Shing Chung, SMJK Choon Hua, SMK Dato’ Panglima Perang Kiri and SMJK Tsung Wah. Representing UTAR Vice President Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong at the opening ceremony was Head of Student Affairs Department (Kampar Campus) Chiang Jing Fong. Also present were AIS Antarabudaya Malaysia Perak Chapter Assistant Secretary Low Pei Fern, Head of DPP (Kampar Campus) Tan Choong Wah and Organising Chairperson Loh Jia Hui.

Loh said, “The organising committee has specially designed some hands-on activities which we hope will inspire you and allow you to apply the things you have learnt from the workshop. The camp saw a series of activities including ice-breaking, kite flying, debate and group performance sessions. Motivational talks titled ‘Increase your memory by 300%’ and ‘How to be successful in your life?’ were delivered by memory experts Teo Kim Foo and Wee Yong Woon Chiew respectively. Japanese student Mavin Onzuka said, “Initially I thought I would have a difficult time communicating with the participants but my teammates were so friendly and considerate that I didn’t feel left out at all.” SMK Dato’ Panglima Perang Kiri’s Nur Aqil, Aya binti Husin said, “I would certainly encourage more people from different backgrounds to actively participate in such leadership camps.”

SMJK Tsung Wah’s Teebban Raj Suresh Kumar said, “It is really a useful camp for me as I did learn a lot especially through the ‘Increasing Memory by 300%’ talk.”

A fifteen-year-old student from Seremban, Hemawaty Marar said, “I have been practising to solve the Rubik’s cube for the past three months and I really want to take part in more competitions in the future.”

The competition was very challenging yet motivating.”

One of the event highlights this year was 3x3x3 Rubik’s Cube Competition, which was organised by MMLM, WBS Dynamic Workshop (WooBrainSystem) and Kids Station Marketing Sdn Bhd. This competition was held to challenge the participants’ visual thinking and solving skills.
As a mean to enhance learning experiences on campus, universities across the world have responded in various ways, most notably through enhanced internationalisation. Internationalisation helps to enhance learning, teaching and research in the campuses and contributes significantly to students’ experience. However, for internationalisation to be successful, everyone within higher education, including students and staff, has to make valuable contributions to the process of internationalisation. It requires both students and staff to work in collaboration as an academic community in order to make internationalisation a reality. Thus, internationalisation of higher education is a shared responsibility that is achieved through true synergism.

The Department of Soft Skills Competency hosted five students from National University of Singapore for the new village collaborative project at Kampar Campus from 11 to 19 December 2017. The new village collaborative project was conducted in two villages located in Penang. The students learned various aspects of the villages’ assets such as lifestyle, culture, economic development and cultural values.

Serra Milena Berenice from the Catholic University San Antonio, Spain underwent a short-term study programme in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences in Sungai Long Campus from 16 October 2017 to 14 January 2018. Besides providing an international exposure, the programme aimed to enrich the personal learning experience of Serra in Physiotherapy.

Northwestern Polytechnical University

Twenty-one UTAR students made a study tour to Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xi’an, China from 28 December 2017 to 12 January 2018. The two-week International Winter School Programme aimed to enrich the personal learning experience of students.

Kyushu Institute of Technology

Five staff and five students from UTAR participated in the “Sakura Exchange Program in Science”, held from 6 to 15 March 2018, at the Graduate School of Life Science and Systems Engineering, Kyushu Institute of Technology, Kitakyushu, Japan. The programme aimed to enhance the learning experiences of youths in Asia and Japan.

Jissen Women’s University

Eleven students from both Kampar and Sungai Long Campuses participated in a study tour titled ‘Experience Japan’ to Jissen Women’s University, Tokyo, Japan from 13 to 22 May 2018. The programme aimed to promote the study of Japanese language, culture and society from various aspects.

Soka University

The Centre for Extension Education hosted 20 students from Soka University, Japan for the inbound English Immersion Programme at Kampar Campus from 18 to 31 March 2018. The students underwent an English language interactive module to enhance the use of English language.

Shanghai Ocean University

Seventeen students from both Kampar and Sungai Long Campuses participated in a study tour to Shanghai Ocean University, Shanghai, China, from 13 May to 26 May 2018. The 14-day programme aimed to broaden Malaysian students’ understanding of China’s economy and society.

Twenty-one UTAR students made a study tour to Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xi’an, China from 28 December 2017 to 12 January 2018. The two-week International Winter School Programme aimed to enrich the personal learning experience of students.

Aoyama Gakuin University

A total of 30 students from Aoyama Gakuin University, Japan joined UTAR for one trimester from 10 January to 14 May 2018. The student exchange programme aimed to teach different languages, cultures and traditions of Malaysia to Japanese students.

Huayin Institute of Technology

The Centre for Extension Education hosted the English Immersion Programme for 28 students from Huayin Institute of Technology, China from 21 January to 3 February 2018 at Kampar Campus. The programme was filled with language learning classes and cultural exposure activities.

These are some of the initiatives taken by the University to enhance students’ experience and interest in global issues, to enhance learning, teaching and research, to educate students on the current practices and technologies practised around the world as well as to promote international learning. UTAR firmly believes that international learning and knowledge propels one towards acceptance and understanding of an array of different cultural and community perspectives.
From left: Chew, Ng, Dr Leong, Khor and Dr Sim

Silver winners from left: Shao Qi, Kor Yin, Ong and Soo

Three teams from UTAR Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) won silver at the National Innovation and Invention Competition through Exhibition 2018 (CompEx’18). The competition was held at the Politeknik Sultan Abdul Halim Mu’adzam Shah, Jitra in Kedah from 20 to 22 March 2018.

The first winning team comprised of FEGT lecturer Dr Toh Pey Yi, Petrochemical Engineering student Ong Chong Leong and Master of Science student Tan Kor Yin. The members in the second team were FEGT lecturer Dr Sin Jin Chung and Petrochemical Engineering student Tan Shao Qii. Another duo from the faculty was Dr Lam Sze Mun and Environmental Engineering student Soo Jian Wen. They took home silver awards in agriculture, environment and renewable energy category.

Champion in BCEX 18

Three Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) Environmental Engineering students from the Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology, namely Khor Jia Min, Ng Jit Jang and Chew Choon Tong were crowned Champion in the “Environmental/Wastewater Tech-Faculty” category at the 5th International Biotechnology Competition and Exhibition 2018 (BCEX 18). The event was jointly organised by Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), Bioprocess Engineering Student Society UTM and Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia from 13 to 14 April 2018 at Dewan Sultan Iskandar, UTM.

BCEX 18 aimed to develop and hone participants’ creativity and innovation as well as cultivate a culture of competition and sustainable innovation among the participants. Apart from cultivating an attentive and inquisitive mind, participants also gained exposure to entrepreneurship and learnt effective team-working.

Dr Chee (left) and Chan

Best FYP Competition

The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM) recently revealed the winners of the "Tan Sri. Yusoff Best Final Year Project" competition. The prize-giving ceremony was held on 21 April 2018 at the Malakoff Auditorium in conjunction with the 59th Annual General Meeting of the institution.

The competition was jointly organised by IEM and the Institution of Engineering and Technology. Initiated by the IEM Education Fund, it aimed to encourage engineering undergraduates to produce better quality Final Year Project (FYP). Former UTAR Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) Electronic Engineering student Zach Chan Sze Zher won the special prize for electronic discipline in the competition with a certificate and a cash prize worth RM300. His supervisor was Dr Chee Pei Song from the Faculty of Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

Front row, from left: Dr Hen, Siew, Tech, Dr Sia and Yap with the participants and judges

Poster and 5MP Competition

The Faculty of Accountancy and Management (FAM) organised "The Poster and Five Minutes Presentation Competition" (5MP) on 20 April 2018 at Sungai Long Campus.

The champion for the Poster Competition was Eugenna Yap Rou Jun and Wong Kai Lin. Teoh Zhi Ming and Siew Jun Yaw won the first runner-up, followed by Ding Ying Tser and Lim Fei Ming as the second runner-up. The champion of 5MP Competition was Teoh and Siew. Goh Sinn Yee and Tan Jing Yi won the first runner-up, followed by Yap and Wong as the second runner-up. The overall champion was Teoh and Siew. All the finalists were also awarded a certificate of participation.

The competitions served as a platform for the final year undergraduate students to showcase their research output to the students and academics.

FYP Poster Competition

UTAR researchers and lecturers from the Faculty of Business and Finance, namely Garry Tan Wei Han, Hiew Jun Jie and Dr Lee Voon Hsen were awarded the Most Downloaded Cert for their research titled “Cloud Computing in Manufacturing: The Next Industrial Revolution in Malaysia.” The award was presented by Elsevier (USA)’s Expert Systems with Applications (ESWA) journal. The ESWA journal is currently indexed with Clarivate Analytics’ Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE). It holds an impact factor of 3.928 as per JCR 2016. The research was co-written by Prof Ooi Keng Boon from UCSI University and Hew Teck Soon from the University of Malaya. It aims to address the contemporary “Industry 4.0” in Malaysia.

From left: Nea, Dr Lee and Tan

Most Downloaded Cert

UTAR researcher-lecturer from UTAR Faculty of Business and Finance Dr Krishna Moorthy Manicka Nadar was named as the Best Reviewer for the International Journal of Modelling in Operations Management (IJOM) published by Inderscience Publishers, an academic publisher based in Geneva, Switzerland. He was awarded with the "Best Reviewer Award" on 16 March 2018. Before this, he has received the "Most Active Reviewer Award" from the International Journal of Network and Mobile Technologies in the year 2012. Dr Krishna also serves as a reviewer for various international journals from renowned publishers such as Emerald and Taylor and Francis (United Kingdom). His profile is also available in "Publons".

Honorary Citizen Award

UTAR alumni Lawrence Kang Kee Chuan was honoured as a Hejian Honorary Citizen (河间市荣誉市民) by the Municipal Government of Hejian (河间市人民政府), Hebei, China in early January this year. This honorary citizen award is bestowed by a country on a foreign individual deemed especially admirable and worthy of the distinction.

A Bachelor of Commerce (Hons)-Accounting graduate, Kang first started his career with Deloitte Malaysia as an auditor and subsequently climbed the career ladder which brought him overseas including Singapore, Indonesia, Vietnam and China. Currently, he is the Supervisory Board Chairman of He Bei Ming Shang De Glassware Company Limited (河北明尚德玻璃科技股份有限公司).

Kang (left) with his certificate and trophy

He dedicated his success to his alma mater UTAR. His profile is also available in "Publons".

In Search of Excellence

The Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) Final Year Project (FYP) Committee together with IEM Student Chapter organised an FYP poster competition on 11 April 2018 at Sungai Long Campus. In conjunction with the competition, the event also saw the presentation of sponsored awards by Brunsfield and Starken AAC.

The event aimed at encouraging students to pursue research excellence and to cultivate creativity, besides allowing them to meet people from the industry. It also aimed to promote engineering education in Malaysia and attract more civil engineering students to pursue a career in the relevant field.
All smiles by the UTAR contingent.

Jenn Pang and Lai Wing Khang. They walked away with a medal.

FICT Computer Science (CS) students, namely Lim Yun Kai, Chow

in building new software program. It also enables students to test

ICT of IIUM, the ACM ICPC Malaysia al-Khawarizmi is a national

held at the

Contest 2018.

Champion in

ACM ICPC

From left: Dr Ng, Lai, Lim and Chow

Lumpur from 11 to 12 May 2018. Organised by the Kulliyyah of

ICT of IIUM, the ACM ICPC Malaysia al-Khawarizmi is a national

contest was held at the international Islamic University

University Malaysia (IIUM) in Kuala Lumpur from 11 to 12 May 2018. Organised by the Kulliyyah of

for framing purposes to include professional, teamwork and innovation in building new software program. It also enables students to test

Winners from the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT) emerged as the champion in

problem solving, the ability to perform under pressure.

The competition aimed to foster the future engineers with

The 25 strategies were identified to ensure UTAR’s education system is

implemented under UTAR’s 10-Year Strategic Plan (2013-2022).

Participants on the eight focused areas as well as the 25 strategies that are

management skill, creativity and innovation.

foster the future engineers with

management, skill, creativity and innovation.

UTAR won the first-runner up and took home RM1,000.

UTAR 10-Year Strategic Plan

Aimed to brief and update the UTAR

academics and staff on the progress

of UTAR’s 10-Year Strategic Plan


successfully organised a talk titled "Progressive UTAR: The Strategic Plan"

at both UTAR Kampar and Sungai Long Campuses on 14 and 15 May 2018

respectively.

Delivered by the Chairman of the Strategic Monitoring and Risk

Management Committee Prof Dr Faizal Abd Rahman, the talk enlightened the

participants on the eight focused areas as well as the 25 strategies that are

implemented under UTAR’s 10-Year Strategic Plan (2013-2022).

Among the eight focused areas were Governance, Academic Programmes, Research and Development, Collaborations and Internationalisation, Staff Development, Student Development, Facilities and Services, and Community. The 25 strategies were identified to ensure UTAR’s education system is relevant in today’s competitive tertiary education industry.

From left: Teo and Tan smiling at the announcement of Excellence

The Structural Earthquake Stability (SES) 2018

Competition was held at Sungai Long Campus on

31 March 2018. It was an inter-university competition

organised by the UTAR Student

Chapters of The Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM) and

the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), together with Lee Kong

Chian Faculty of Engineering and

Science’s Department of Civil Engineering. It was sponsored by

Sunway Construction Group Berhad.

The competition aimed to provide the students with

the ability to design buildings

that could survive the natural

disaster by providing them with

the practical experience of earthquake engineering through a small-scale structural model. It also aimed to enhance their engineering knowledge, management skill, creativity and innovation.

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Talk on ECE and BRI

The Institute of Management and Leadership Development (IMLD) and

the Belt and Road Strategic Research Center (BRSRC) organised a talk on

East Central Europe.

He also shared insights on the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the importance of understanding the geopolitical situation of the region. He also discussed how the BRI can influence the historical position of the region.

The talk was part of GenYouth's Connected Campus tour 2018 to nurture young entrepreneurs by providing platforms for the youths to meet the experts from the industries. It included two talks by Dr Csaba Horvath and Chong's talk.

Talk on Autism

The Department of Consultancy and Commercialisation together with GenYouth

organised an entrepreneurial talk series at the Sungai Long Campus on 2 April 2018. The talk saw some 120 UTAR staff and students in the audience.

TeaLive Business Development Head Bryan Wong delivered a talk on "The 'Y' Effect", and

sponsored by Sakura Kristal Group of Companies Director Alex Chong on "The Y Effect", and TeaLive Business Development Head Bryan Wong on "Franchise or start-up?"

Chong's talk highlighted the strengths and weaknesses of the youths in Gen-Y. Wong's talk, on the other hand, emphasised on the difference between a franchise business and a start-up business.

Participants in the audience included academic staff, students, and Dr Delwin Cheah as the talk host. The talks saw some 120 UTAR staff and students in the audience.

Talk on Autism

The Faculty of Arts and Social Science (FAS) organised a talk titled "Our Journey through Autism & Asperger" on 6 April 2018 at the Kampar Campus.

Present at the talk were FAS Dean Dr Alia Azalea, Bachelor of Social Science (Hons) Guidance and Counselling Programme Head Pheh Kai Shuen, staff, students and the star of the talk, Delwin Cheah. Wieng Loong, accompanied by his father Lawrence Cheah Guan Keong, mother Erina Law Mei Sun and sister Delwina Cheah.

The aim of the talk was to enable participants to catch a glimpse into the life of a young savant artist, Wieng Loong. He was a diagnosed with High Functioning Autism at the age of five. Simultaneously, the talk also aimed to provide Bachelor of Social Science (Hons) Psychology students with a better understanding of autism and Asperger from the parents' experience.
Talk on Publication

The Centre for Modern Languages and Literature in collaboration with the Department of Modern Languages and Literature under the Faculty of Creative Industries invited Prof Dr Zuraidah Mohd Don from University of Malaysia (UM) for a talk at Sungai Long Campus on 4 April 2018. Prof Zuraidah is the Advisor to the Council of Language Deans at UM. She also chairs two bodies set by the Ministry of Education, namely the English Language Standards and Quality Council to oversee the teaching and learning of English Language in Malaysia. Titled “Writing for ISI and Scopus-indexed Journals in the Humanities and Social Sciences”, her talk set to create awareness among the demands of international journal publication and how they can make an effective contribution. The talk also offered the audience on how to publish in high-impact journals and other research outlets.

Career Talk

The Department of Alumni Relations and Placement and Chancellery, in collaboration with the Public Service Chinese Community and Persatuan Belia Xiang Lian Malaysia, organised a career talk on public service at Sungai Long Campus on 3 April 2018. Present at the event were UTAR Vice President Prof Dr Chong Chee Keng, Prime Minister’s Department New Village Division Wee Li Ling, Ministry of Finance Lim Siong Huat, Public Service Department Lee Cheng Kiek, Public Services Commission of Malaysia Chia Zi Sheng, Persatuan Belia Xiang Lian Malaysia Wong Siew Kuan, Tan Rong Xian, Yap Sook Fook and students. The series of talks aimed to raise the students’ awareness about careers in the public sector, benefits of being public servants and career prospects in public service.

From Talks to Forums

The International Conference on Smart Grid and Clean Energy (ICSGCE) 2018 was held at Sungai Long Campus from 29 to 31 May 2018. The local organising committee consists of UTAR Centre for Power Systems and Electricity Chairperson Prof Lim Yun Seng, Dr Chua Kein Huat and Dr Wong Siew Kuan. The sponsors of the conference were UTAR, IEEE, and University of Electronic Science and Technology of China. The conference aimed to create a platform for researchers and engineers to exchange their latest findings and knowledge regarding the Smart Grid and Clean Energy Technologies. It also provided a good opportunity for the participants to meet up with several well-known researchers for potential collaboration in research projects. There were participants from Switzerland, France, Germany, Norway, China, Taiwan, India, Bangladesh, Malaysia and Indonesia. The two-day conference consisted of six themes that came along with multiple sessions of oral and poster paper presentations. The topics covered in the conference were smart grid strategy, planning and standards, various renewable energy technologies and also power system economics.

ICSGCE 2018

Media and Creative Studies final year students organised an event called “Grow in the Dark” as their final year project on 2 April 2018 at Sungai Long Campus. Present at the opening ceremony were National Council for the Blind (NCBM) Executive Director Moses Choo Siew Cheng, UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Datuk’ Dr Chuan Hean Tek, Faculty of Creative Industries (FCI) Dean Dr David Tneh Cheng Eng, FCI Academic Development and Undergraduate Programmes Deputy Dean Thiravan Periyaya, Head of Media Department Anthony Gandofto Miranti Jr, staff and students. Grow in the Dark was supported by NCBM. Unlike other visually impaired awareness campaigns, Grow in the Dark took an unconventional approach by showcasing the strength and achievements of the visually impaired community rather than exploiting sympathy. Joining to make the event more substantial were platinum sponsor KOOCAN, silver sponsors Spectruck, Acson and JustPlantMY, and private donor Amos Tan.

Sponsorship for Engineering Programme

Fifteen engineers were given the opportunity to pursue Master of Engineering (MEng) in Electronic Systems with a full scholarship in UTAR. UTAR is the first university in Klang Valley and the second in Malaysia to conduct this master degree programme. The programme is the brainchild of USAINS Holding Sdn Bhd and American Malaysian Chamber of Commerce, in collaboration with UTAR and it is supported by Human Resource Development Fund. Despite being a fully funded programme, candidates are not bound to any bonds upon achieving their master degree. The 18-month programme aims to expand the talent pool of postgraduates for electrical and electronic industry, allowing companies to take up more high-end responsibilities involving design and development as well as research and development.

Grow in the Dark

A donation of RM2,000 were raised by Grow in the Dark committee for NCBM.

STEM Mentorship Programme

Under the subject MPU34032 Community Project, the Department of Soft Skills Competency of Sungai Long Campus collaborated with the Kuala Lumpur Engineering Science Fair to organise the STEM Mentorship Programme at SMK Tinggi Klang on 10 February, 24 February, 3 March and 31 March 2018. Present were Headmistress of SMK Tinggi Klang Raja Rozita Raja Hanafi, Counselor of SMK Tinggi Klang Bathtma Devi Supiah, DSSC Assistant Lecturer Nuzunanat Amira binti Azizan, UTAR students and students of SMK Tinggi Klang. The STEM Mentorship Programme aimed to promote interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics among secondary school students and enhance the awareness of the public on its practical application. Other than enriching the secondary school students’ mind, the experience and knowledge that the students gained from this programme provided them with leadership, teamwork, creativity and innovative skills.

The talk saw some researchers, academic staff and postgraduates in attendance.

Front row, from left: Lee, Cheah, Prof Choong, Wee and Lim.

The talk on how to publish in high-impact journals and other research outlets.
中 国梅州市归国华侨联合会(梅州市侨联)参访团于2018年6月5日莅临拉曼大学金宝校区，并由拉曼大学发展委员会顾问丹斯里丘思东和副校长(学生进展与校友联系)锺志强教授接待。

拜访团成员包括梅州市归国华侨联合会副主席张映虹、秘书长兼办公室主任蔡宇文、梅江区归国华侨联合会主席曾小丽、蕉岭县归国华侨联合会主席林晓红、兴宁市归国华侨联合会主席刘凌和大浦县归国华侨联合会主席范春芳。

锺志强为来宾简介了拉曼大学的历史与发展概况，以及对外合作等基本情况，“本校欢迎更多的梅州学生前来就读，同时学习大马的风土人情与多元文化。拉曼大学与中国大专院校的合作密切，其中包括学生交流计划，如短期性的游学团，以及长期性的本科或硕博课程等。”

张映虹表示在造访金宝和怡保时倍感亲切，同时简介了梅州的历史与文化、近年来的发展，以及梅州市侨联的简介及任务范围等。他代表参访团感谢丹斯里丘思东的穿针引线，梅州市侨联目前已帮助协调了第二批的梅州学生前来拉曼大学就读。他不忘叮咛在座来自梅州的学生，“珍惜并感恩到马来西亚求学的机会，好好学习并严守纪律，期待学生们学有所成后回报家乡和社会。”

中华研究院(学术发展与本科课程)副院长黄文斌副教授和工商与金融学院院长欧阳慧妮博士个别为来宾们简介了两院的课程与研究。黄文斌表示，拉曼大学心理学系于2018年4月11日在金宝校区举办了以“惜•望”(HELP 2018)为主题的慈善公演，吸引了逾500位校内外人士的踊跃出席。

“惜•望”意指“承载珍惜，飞向希望”，活动宗旨主要提醒年轻人在生活要学会珍惜、学习尊重老人、孝顺父母，并时刻谨记助人是快乐之本的精神。此外，筹委会也将把当天所筹得的款项为有需要的人购买轮椅和沐浴椅。

心理学系“惜•望”慈善公演

传递正能量

刘宏谈新华人资本主义与东盟经济一体化

中国梅州市归国华侨联合会参访团、优大的中国梅州留学生与来宾们合影。

梅州市侨联访金宝优大

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Kebudayaan dan tradisi adalah penting bagi pembangunan keluarga dan masyarakat. Di samping itu, ia juga merupakan tanggungjawab bersama setiap insan untuk memelihara dan memulihara alam sekitar. Tambahan pula, ia merupakan suatu peranan penting untuk mengekalkan persekitaran kita untuk generasi akan datang. Saya harap persembahan malam ini akan mendorong orang ramai untuk berfikir secara lebih sungguh-sungguh mengenai kepentingan budaya dan alam sekitar.


Fan menambah, "Saya juga berbangga untuk mengatakan bahawa, selain daripada objektif utama persembahan kami untuk mempromosikan kebudayaan Cina dan memupuk kesedaran terhadap isu-isu alam sekitar, persembahan ini juga berfikir secara lebih sungguh-sungguh mengenai kepentingan alam sekitar kepada masyarakat setempat. Ia merupakan suatu usaha yang sangat baik dan harus dibanggakan serta dikekalkan pada masa hadapan. Oleh itu, dengan rasa bangga saya mengucapkan tahniah kepada Kelab Wushu dan jawatankuasa pengurusan kerana telah melancarkan persembahan ini dengan jayanya."