Local and international students in campus
International Symposium on Green and Sustainable Technology (ISGST) 2014

The Centre for Environment and Green Technology (CEGT) under the Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology (FEGT) organised the International Symposium on Green and Sustainable Technology (ISGST) at Perak Campus from 30 September until 3 October 2014. ISGST 2014 aimed to be a platform for researchers, engineers and practitioners from Malaysia and abroad to present their latest research findings and applications of green and sustainable technology.

The symposium was attended by UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato' Dr Chubh Hean Tek, FEGT Dean Dr Yap Vooi Voon, CEGT Chairperson Engr Dr Lee Seng Chyan, chairperson of organising committee Prof Ir Dr Ong Kok Seng, UTAR staff, students and participants.

In his opening remarks, Prof Chubh thanked the organising committee, sponsors and participants for making the event a success and accorded his appreciation to Prof Dr Georg Scharfenberg who came all the way from Regensburg University of Applied Sciences, Germany, to attend the symposium. He expressed hope that ISGST 2014 would nurture new collaborations and innovations to better advance green causes.

The four-day symposium featured keynote lectures and presentations on the research areas of Carbon, Energy, Transport, Buildings, Waste Management and Nanotechnology.

Prof Scharfenberg delivered the first keynote address titled “Pillars of energy transition – Barriers to overcome.” He gave an overview of the need for energy transition, the catastrophic consequences of greenhouse gases on lives and the environment as well as the challenges to renewable energies.

Dr Ir K.S. Kannan delivered the second keynote lecture titled “United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) Industrial Energy Efficiency Project – A low carbon path to enhance industrial competitiveness.” The project aimed to promote energy efficiency improvements in the Malaysian manufacturing sector through the implementation of National Energy Management Standard and application of System Optimisation.

Dr Kannan who is the UNIDO project national manager and professor at Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, elaborated on the definitions and purposes of the Energy Management Standard (EnMS) and System Optimisation.

UTAR hosts BAFE 2014

The invited keynote speakers, Prof Paresh Narayan from Deakin University of Australia and Assoc Prof Dr Albert Teh Choong Ying from National University of Singapore, presented on the respective topics of ‘Does Financial News Predict Stock Returns?’ ‘New Evidence from Islamic and Non-Islamic Stocks’ and ‘Doing Business Doing Good.’

The cross-disciplinary themes of this conference reflect the impact of globalisation and I am positive that BAFE 2014 will be a useful platform for more integrative related studies.

The organisating chairman of BAFE 2014 and Dean of FBF, Prof Dr Choong Chee Keong thanked all parties for supporting the conference and added that the participants would benefit from the presentations.

Japanese students in English programmes and study tours

Between 6 August and 17 September 2014, a total of 60 Japanese students from Joso International University (JIU), Toyama University (TU) and Joso University (JU) came to the Perak Campus for a two-week English Immersion Programme (EIP) organised by UTAR Centre for Extension Education (CEE).

Another group comprising 11 students from Kwansei Gakuin University (KGU) also came for a ten-day study tour to know more about Malaysian communities.

The EIP involved the students in both classroom learning on language skills and outdoor activities that included cultural performances and tours to Cameron Highlands, Ipoh, Kuala Kangsar, Pangkor and Kuala Lumpur.

The tour activities conducted by CEE for the KGU students included home stays in Gopeng, field trips, and even a trip to Putrajaya. The field visits included the Jeram New Village in Kampar, TEKUN National Office in Ipoh, GIAMARA Training Centre in Kampung Gajah, interviews with MARA Science Junior College students, Farmer’s Organisation Training Centre in Kampung Gajah, and a trip to Kuala Kangsar. The tour furnished the students with a local delicacy and the Japanese students learning the techniques of preparing a local delicacy.

UTAR Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF), Centre for Accounting, Banking and Finance, Centre for Business and Management and Centre for Economic Studies, jointly organised the International Conference on Business, Accounting, Finance and Economics (BAFE) 2014 on 26 September 2014 at Perak Campus.

Organised for the second consecutive year with the theme, ‘Globalisation in the 21st Century: Trends, Challenges and Issues’, the one-day conference attracted the submission of a total of 60 papers. The participants were from countries as far as Taiwan and Australia and included UTAR lecturers, staff and postgraduate students.

Daniel Wu Wai How representing YB Dato’ Lee Chee Leong, Deputy Minister of Ministry of International Trade and Industry was the guest of honour at the opening ceremony.

In his welcome address, UTAR Vice President for Internationalisation and Academic Development Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat said, “The theme for today’s conference is certainly most timely and relevant. The event a success and accorded his appreciation to Prof Dr Georg Scharfenberg who came all the way from Regensburg University of Applied Sciences, Germany, to attend the symposium. He expressed hope that ISGST 2014 would nurture new collaborations and innovations to better advance green causes.”

The Best Paper Award winners with guest of honour Daniel Wu (seventh from left), Prof Ewe (sixth from right) and keynote speakers, BAFE 2014 organising committee and sponsors.

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The Japanese students in English programmes and study tours visited a local delicacy, learned the techniques of preparing a local delicacy, and engaged in cultural performances and tours to Cameron Highlands, Ipoh, Kuala Kangsar, Pangkor and Kuala Lumpur. The tour activities included home stays in Gopeng, field trips, and even a trip to Putrajaya. The field visits included the Jeram New Village in Kampar, TEKUN National Office in Ipoh, GIAMARA Training Centre in Kampung Gajah, interviews with MARA Science Junior College students, Farmer’s Organisation Training Centre in Kampung Gajah, and even a trip to Kuala Kangsar. The tour furnished the students with a local delicacy.

Collaboration at Work

Japanese students in English programmes and study tours
The inaugural UTAR Symposium on Science Education themed ‘Innovation and Effective Teaching Methods in Science Education’ was held at Perak Campus on 23 August 2014. The symposium was jointly organised by UTAR and Maglis Profesor Negara and supported by Kementerian Pendidikan Malaysia, Malaysia Tawar Science Foundation (MTSF), Sasbadi, MYC Magazine and GTI Media. It attracted 225 participants comprising secondary school teachers, lecturers from matriculation colleges, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSIT), State Education Department officials, staff and members of the public.

In his opening address, UTAR Vice President for R&D and Commercialisation Prof Ir Dr Lee Sze Wei said that educators and the industry can work as an integrated continuum to bridge the gap between Science education and the society. He also mentioned the importance of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and the UTAR mentorship programme.

The key speakers were Deputy Director of Bahagian Pembangunan Kurikulum, Ministry of Education (MOE) YBhg Datuk Dr Ng Soo Boon, Deputy Head of Kluster Pendidikan dan Pembangunan Modul Islam, Maglis Profesor Negara YBhg Prof Dato' Dr Abdul Rashid Mohamed and the representative of Asia-Pacifi c Programme of Educational Innovation for Development, UNESCO Bangkok Hartfried Schmid.

Dato' Dr Ng presented on issues related to the curriculum and Prof Dato' Dr Abdul Rashid spoke on creativity and communication skills in learning. Schmid shared insights on ICT channels to advance science education.

Other speakers were MTSF award winners Tan Mun Wai, Dr Shahrul Kene Ayup and Seow Yoke Hock, Maktab Rendah Sains Mara (MRSM) Guru Cemerlang Kimia Jit Jit bins Ali, UPSI academic member Dato' Balamuralithara Balakrishnan, Creative Wizard Sdn Bhd CEO Tooh Poh Yew, ITrain (M) Sdn Bhd CEO Bikesh Lakhmichand and UTAR Teaching Excellence Award recipient Paul Davidson.

More than 140 Mandarin teachers from 80 secondary schools around Malaysia attended a ‘Bengkel Pemanfaatan Pedagogy Bahasa Cina Sekolah Menengah’ at UTAR Perak Campus from 19 to 20 September 2014. Jointly organised by UTAR and the Taiwan Education Centre in Malaysia, the two-day educational workshop was also supported by the Perak State Education Department and UTAR Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS).

The guests at the opening ceremony were the Perak State Education Department Penolong Pengurah Bahasa Cina Lim Song Khan, Feng Chia University Vice President Dr Chiu Chuang-Chien, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office Deputy Assistant Director of the Education Division Canny Liao, ICS Dean Assoc Prof Dr Chong Siou Wei, Director of Division of Community and International Networking Assoc Prof Dr Tan Sin Leng as well as the Penolong Pengurah Bahasa Cina from Perlis, Kelantan, Pahang, Selangor and Malacca.

There were a total of four talks; namely, ‘Research on Chinese in Malaysia’ by ICS lecturer Lee Soo Chee.

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A team of three UTAR students emerged as champion in the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)-International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) at the national level. It was hosted by Universiti Teknologi Petronas in Seri Iskandar, Perak.

**Top in ACM-ICPC National Programming Contest**

The University shares the joy of its Electronic and Communications Engineering student Loh Hong Khai from the Faculty of Engineering and Science when he was successfully selected out of 50,000 applicants worldwide to become one of the six youth Explorers in the Bosch World Experience 2014. Loh was also the only representative from South East Asia. The other selected Explorers were from Germany, USA, Brazil, Netherlands and China.

The Bosch World Experience 2014 took Loh and the other five successful applicants on a technology galore journey to experience the marvels of Bosch pioneering technology in major cities with iconic structures and inventions such as the impressive Tower Bridge in London, the 100-year Panama Canal in Panama, the driverless car in San Francisco, the towering Shanghai World Financial Center and electric cars in testing sites at Singapore. They toured six countries across three continents from late July to early August 2014.

**Bosch World Experience 2014**

Loh was selected among 50,000 applicants, and his preparations for the selection interview included researching the Bosch corporate background and his own contributions to helping society.

For the last leg of the tour, the Explorers were flown to Berlin, Germany to know more about Bosch and its founder as well as the city of Berlin. The Bosch World Experience 2014 was funded by the Robert Bosch Foundation.

They should also hone their critical thinking and problem solving skills.” Their record-breaking feat is a huge improvement from last year’s sixth place by a UTAR team. Their victory was made sweeter by the fact that unlike most participating universities, UTAR sent only one team but still managed to ace the contest. They should also hone their critical thinking and problem solving skills.”

In the finals, team KitKat successfully cracked nine out of the ten problem statements which put them ahead of the other competitors. The team members expressed gratitude to Dr Ng for the strong support and encouragement. Dr Ng added that the team only had three months to practice and still managed to win due to good team work and in particular the shrewdness of Lim.

Dr Ng described Lim as a spot-on talent and in particular the shrewdness of Lim. “One must have the passion for programming and the willingness to learn.”

When asked about his advice for students who wish to join the contest, Lim said, “One must have the passion for programming and the willingness to learn.”
The Faculty of Engineering and Science (FES) organised a ceremony on 3 September 2014 to recognise the achievement of its Quantity Survey (QS) final year student Liew Yee Ching, who was awarded one of The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Book Prizes for the year 2013/2014. Liew received the award of a cash prize of RM400 and a certificate from RICS for his thesis entitled ‘Peak Deduction’ for the reduction of electricity cost. The winning UTAR team’s project; Energy Link: An Interactive Energy Management Platform enabled users to access real-time and historical data through a comprehensive power and energy information centre. Team leader Hau added that the project enabled the occupants within a building to use electricity wisely through the interactive energy management platform which incorporated ‘Peak Deduction’ for the reduction of electricity cost.

The winning team members also expressed their gratitude to their supervisor FES Senior Lecturer Chua Kein Huat for his guidance in making the project relatively more practical and comprehensive in comparison to the entries of the other 28 participating universities.

The Faculty of Engineering and Science (FES) organised a ceremony on 3 September 2014 to recognise the achievement of its Quantity Survey (QS) final year student Liew Yee Ching, who was awarded one of The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Book Prizes for Best Undergraduates for Year 2013/2014. Liew received the award of a cash prize of RM400 and a certificate from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Book Prizes for Best Undergraduates for Year 2013/2014. Liew received the award of a cash prize of RM400 and a certificate from the Faculty Board members.

The RICS Book Prizes are awarded based on excellence in education achieved by undergraduates registered as RICS student members and studying full time or part time in RICS accredited courses in Malaysia for the penultimate year. UTAR Head of Surveying Department Dr Chia Fah Choy commended Liew on winning the award. He further added that the award helped to promote the programme internationally as RICS is a recognised world-wide professional body.

Liew is the current treasurer and auditor of the Built Environment Society and the chairperson for site visits and recruitment drive for the Society. She thanked Dr Chia and her lecturers for the guidance and acknowledged the support of her fellow students. Another recipient of the award is Heng Yong Ming from the Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology.

Three UTAR students from the Department of Civil Engineering under the Faculty of Engineering and Science (FES) were awarded silver in the Novel Research and Innovation Competition (NRIC) 2014, held at Universiti Sains Malaysia, Pulau Pinang from 19 to 22 August 2014. NRIC 2014 aimed to instil the importance of research and development among students and to give them an opportunity to put their talents and creativity into action.

The students in the silver-medallist team were Sim Chia Oon, Eng Wei Sheng and Chung Sze Leong and they received a medal and certificate each. Their team adviser, Ir Dr Low Kao Sai also received a certificate of acknowledgement on his supervisory role in guiding the team towards clinching the silver award.

The winning project titled Amphibious Bamboo Lightweight Concrete was invented as floating platform. The winning trio also set-up a booth to display the components of the system such as bamboo, lightweight concrete, and any light and durable discarded wastes as well as demonstrate the controls of the system's overall density.

NTAR Bachelor of Science (Hons) Chemistry graduate Wong Siaik Soon received the Synthomer Best Chemistry Graduate Award 2014 at Perak Campus on 27 August 2014. Present at the ceremony were UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dat’ Dr Chuaah Hean Teik, Faculty of Science Dean Assoc Prof Dr Lim Tuck Meng, Synthomer Asia Human Resource Director Dat’ Norashikin binti Ismail, Synthomer Hiring and Staffing Manager Puan Hajan Hanim Ridzuan as well as UTAR staff and students.

In his opening remarks, Prof Chuaah welcomed Dat’ Norashikin to the Perak Campus and added that UTAR will strive to nurture more competent and dedicated graduates to meet the industry’s demand.

In her address, Dat’ Norashikin extended her heartfelt gratitude to UTAR for organising the award ceremony. She added that Synthomer’s corporate social responsibility is to support the education sector in Malaysia and to nurture more competent graduates to join the workforce. She also congratulated Wong on his achievement and later presented a cheque of RM3000 and a plaque to Wong as part of the 2014 award which is in its fifth consecutive year. Synthomer with its headquarters in Harlow, UK is one of the world’s major suppliers of lattices and specialty emulsion polymers supporting many market segments including coatings, construction, textiles, paper and synthetic latex gloves.

Synthomer Best Chemistry Graduate Award 2014

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Another recipient of the award is Heng Yong Ming from the Faculty of Engineering and Green Technology.
UTAR has a strong research culture with focus on research, development and commercialisation (RDC). There has been continuous guidance and support to stimulate RDC projects on issues that are relevant in our country.

One of the key issues is green technology with focus on efficiency in the storage and usage of energy. Green Technology is critical to the future of our society as it is fundamental to the conservation of energy and natural resources.

One such research project is the fuzzy-controlled energy storage system which was developed by UTAR researcher Ir Dr Lim Yun Seng from the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering of the Faculty of Engineering and Science (FES) at the Kuala Lumpur campus. The fuzzy-controlled energy storage system is able to solve the technical issue of voltage unbalance which reduces the effectiveness of renewable energies in Malaysia.

The problem of voltage unbalance came about due to the installation and distribution of the single-phase renewable energy sources which are rather arbitrary and not monitored by any utility companies. The source of this issue could be explained by the various programmes including tax exemptions, feed-in tariff, incentives and subsidies to encourage the utilisation of renewable energies installations. The cumulative installed photovoltaic (PV) capacity from year 2012 to 2013 has been increased by 65 MW due to the launch of feed-in tariff.

However, most of the PV systems installations are driven by customers and non-centrally planned which have resulted in large amount of grid-connected PV systems. This has, therefore created the critical problem of voltage unbalance issue in addition to others such as unnecessary neutral current circulation and reverse power flow.

Ir Dr Lim Yun Seng’s research project on distributed energy storage is an effective approach and solution to mitigate any voltage issues in the distribution network without curtailing any excess power generated by renewable energy systems. Fuzzy logic control is developed and implemented into the distributed energy storage systems for controlling individual phase voltage.

The structure of the energy storage system (see Diagram A) consists of three units of bi-directional inverters integrated with 4 battery banks connected in parallel while each bank consists of four valve-regulated lead acid (VRLA) batteries connected in series to have a capacity of 115 Ah at 48 V. The total battery capacity for each SI5048 is 460 Ah. This distributed energy storage is able to solve any technical issues caused by the highly intermittent PV power output.

The performance of the fuzzy controlled energy storage system is verified by setting up the three single-phase energy storage systems on a designed low-voltage distribution network with two single-phase photovoltaic systems. A series of case studies under various conditions of generation and demand has been designed to verify the performance and effectiveness of the proposed control algorithm. The experimental results have shown the voltage unbalance factor can be reduced effectively while the voltage magnitudes were maintained at its statutory limit.

This research project is funded by several funding schemes such as Ministry of Science, Technology & Innovation (MOSTI), Brain Gain Programme, AAIBE (Akuan Amanah Industri Bekalan Elektrik) from the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water and CREST Fund. This research project enabled the researcher to publish 18 international journals, file 2 patents and win several international and national awards.

The distributed energy storage system will be used on the distribution network of Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) based on the contractual agreement between UTAR and AAIBE.

In addition, the university is commercialising the energy storage system by signing a Memorandum of Agreement (MDA) with ERS Energy Sdn Bhd which is a certified sustainable energy and water provider.
Champion in GreenTech Forum

Renowned historian speaks at UTAR

Entrepreneurial Talk by Jason Lo
Sungai Long SRC promotes energy conservation

The Sungai Long Campus Student Representative Council (SRC) recently organised a two-day event on Energy Saving awareness at the Sungai Long Campus. The event which consisted of talks in the first day and games in the second day, supported UTAR's initiative on energy saving and aimed to raise awareness on energy conservation among the students of the campus.

The Secretary General of the Water and Energy Consumer Association of Malaysia (WECAM) Foon Weng Lian and the Deputy Secretary General of the Federation of Malaysian Consumers Association (FOMCA) Jesslyn Pek Yen Lee gave talks pertaining to the topic ‘Switch! Energy Talk.’

Later that afternoon, Pek who is also a Research and Policy Executive at Forum Air Malaysia, spoke on the significance of water conservation and tips on water saving.

The highlight in the second day of the event was the competition with game stations. It commenced with the registration of the participants who were also given goody bags. The first game was Snake and Ladder before the participating teams proceeded to construct torch lights which were used in subsequent game stations. These game stations were The Maze, Shadow Charades, Flashback, Carry Your Own Weight, Wall of Words, Handy Feet, and Don’t get Puzzled. A prize was awarded to the team who completed all the games correctly and with the fastest time.

The organising chairman, Melvin Choo Yeh Ming and his committee later expressed their appreciation to all supporters of the event.

Ja-Jambo Charity Night for a noble cause

The Department of Student Affairs (DSA) and UTAR Banking and Finance Society jointly organised the Ja-Jambo Charity Night at Department of Banking and Finance, Perak Campus on 8 August 2014.

The primary aim of the charity event was to raise funds for victims in the South Sudan conflict through World Vision which is an international relief organisation dedicated to the eradication of poverty worldwide.

The event was also a platform to showcase students’ talents in music and dance and to promote interaction among staff and students in the UTAR community.

The night started with the arrival of guests comprising UTAR Vice President for Student Development and Alumni Relations Assoc Prof Dr Teh Chee Seng, DSA officer Chai Lai San, World Vision Malaysia representatives Nixin Tuan and Yyun Khoo and organising chairperson Goh Siew Hui. The other attendees were the UTAR staff, lecturers and students.

In his speech, Dr Teh congratulated the organising committee and added that the charity night was for the students to enjoy and to network with other students.

Goh in her welcome speech praised the students for promoting the charity night tickets to raise funds and wished the audience an enjoyable time.

The Ja-Jambo Charity Night was a musical extravaganza with captivating performances by UTAR students and invited local artists that included Mandopop duo Thomas Kok and Jack Tan, Alvin Chong and guest performer Emmanuel Yoong Zhuang.

The opening dance act, by the students to the tunes of ‘Ja-Jambo’ and Mumbo No: 5’ set the entertaining pace for the night. The dazzling student performances included the band Virgin Boys, aspiring beat boxer Ng Pei Gan and the dance group, Humble Feet.

The night ended fittingly with an open dance floor and an autograph signing session with a local performer.
Fostering togetherness at Alumni Homecoming

German students on Exchange Programme

The Petsaling Jaya Campus Dance Group

Players tussling for the ball

The Petaling Jaya Campus Dance Group

Team, and UTAR Sungai Long Campus Dance Club.

The German exchange students comprising (from left) Tim, Steffan, Julian, Pascal, Lennart and Henrik at UTAR Perak Campus

Sports Carnival

The closing of the UTAR Sports Carnival 2014 was marked by a grand finale which was held on 6 July 2014. A total of 300 participants comprising UTAR alumni, staff and students who came from the three Klang Valley campuses in Petsaling Jaya (PJ), Sungai Long and Kuala Lumpur (KL) competed in the sports event held at Tunku Abdul Rahman University College (TARUC), Kuala Lumpur.

Organised by UTAR Department of Student Affairs Sports and Recreation Unit, the grand finale saw friendly sports competitions and helped in the search for potential players to strengthen UTAR sports team in preparation for upcoming competitions.

Nine categories of sports and games were competed at the carnival, namely, futal, soccer, bowling, badminton, table tennis, volleyball, basketball (male and female categories), netball, and tug-of-war. The bowling and soccer competitions were held prior to the grand finals. The grand finale carnival saw five teams competing against one another in all categories to determine the overall champion. Among the five teams were three student teams representing the three respective campuses, an alumni team, and another team of UTAR staff. The student team from the UTAR KL campus clinched the overall winning title with a score of five gold medals and a total of 36 points. The student teams from PJ and Sungai Long campuses won the second and third place respectively.

UTAR Vice President (Student Development and Alumni Relations) Dr Teh Chee Seng presented the medals to the winners.

Students in Action


The organising chairperson who is also the DARP Head Lim Swea Jen thanked everyone for supporting the event. He added that the homecoming event aimed to foster a more tightly knitted UTAR community and to update the alumni on the university’s progress.

Present at the event was UTAR President Ir Prof Academician Dato’ Dr Chuah Hean Teik, Vice Presidents Prof Dr Ewe Hong Tat (Internationalisation and Academic Development) and Dr Teh Chee Seng (Student Development and Alumni Relations). Other attendees included the alumni, students, staff, and sponsors.

Prof Chuah, in his address emphasised the importance of having a strong alumni network and added that UTAR valued the bond with its past graduates for they are the role models for their juniors, setting the standards for other graduates to follow.

There was camaraderie and togetherness as alumni, staff, students and others mingled and shared conversations over the buffet dinner. The alumni homecoming was a fun-filled night with video presentations, performances by Jin Se, Bell Yu Tian, comedian Andrew Netto and even a sushi-eating competition. There were lucky draws, performances by the Black Muffins Acapella and Placement (DARP) organised the Alumni Homecoming Night 2014 at Platinum Club 21, The Icon in Kuala Lumpur on 2 August 2014. The organising chairperson who is also the DARP Head Lim Swea Jen thanked everyone for supporting the event. He added that the homecoming event aimed to foster a more tightly knitted UTAR community and to update the alumni on the university’s progress.

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拉大团队拜访怡保客家公会

拉大团队在2014年8月28日及29日到访怡保多个客家社区进行交流与考察。在中华研究院副院长黄文斌副教授带领下，随行的访问学者还包括台湾交通大学客家文化学院副院长潘美玲副教授及厦门华侨大学华侨华人研究院锺大荣博士。

考察团一行人在首天拜访了已有114年历史的霹雳嘉应会馆，并获得该会馆副主席拿督丘才干等人的接待。丘副主席在开幕致词上为本校的考察团简述了公会的历史，并展示了许多相关的历史文物。

黄副院长致辞时表示，怡保是一个拥有许多客家人的地方，而且也具有影响力。他认为，怡保作为客家锡矿家聚集的重要据点，绝对有条件让海外客家文化研究者进行研究工作。他建议借助台湾的经验，以发展怡保的客家文化，将其打造成锡矿文化经济、美食和习俗文化为主的旅游据点。

随后，从台湾远道而来的潘副院长也为主持者主讲了以《国家政策与台湾客家族群产业》为题的讲座，并分享了台湾的客家族群所从事的其中两大行业，即北部客家人所从事的樟脑业和南部客家人所从事的烟草业。虽然在台湾盛行一时的这两大行业已步入黄昏，不过这已成为一代客家人的群体记忆。时代的变迁见证了产业的转变，可是却抹不去历史的记忆。当台湾客家人不再采樟脑和种植烟草后，便有一部分人士把它打造成文化旅游生态，以另一个面貌呈现给世界。

此项为期两天的考察团也到访了怡保明德小学、闲真别墅、霹雳华人矿务公会、怡保坝罗古庙及霹雳客家公会，与这些团体的理事及代表会面及进行交流。
Berbekalkan semangat kesukanan yang tinggi, seramai 800 peserta mengambil bahagian dalam Larian Jarak Jauh 12km UTAR Kampus Perak yang diadakan pada 24 Ogos 2014. Dianjurkan oleh Jabatan Hal-Ehwal Pelajar (DSA), pelepasan dilakukan oleh Ahli Majlis UTAR Encik Hew Fen Yee seawal jam 7.00 pagi bertempat di Kompleks Sukan UTAR.

Pengerusi penganjur, Encik Theva Das Sankaran dari Unit Sukan dan Rekreasi DSA berkata, “Larian sejauh 12km ini merupakan acara tahunan UTAR yang diadakan sejak 2011. Tujuan utama acara ini diadakan adalah untuk memupuk gaya hidup sihat dalam kalangan warga universiti dan masyarakat setempat.”

Larian ini terbuka kepada semua warga UTAR dan juga orang awam. Ia dibahagikan kepada empat kategori iaitu kategori Lelaki UTAR, Wanita UTAR, Terbuka Lelaki dan Terbuka Wanita. Program tersebut menyaksikan penglibatan peserta-peserta dari Taiping, Petaling Jaya dan Sungai Long yang membanjiri kompleks sukan seawal jam 5.30 pagi untuk sesi pendaftaran serta pembahagian cenderahati program.

Turut hadir serta mengambil bahagian dalam acara ini termasuklah Naib Presiden UTAR (Pembangunan Pelajar dan Perhubungan Alumni) Prof Madya Dr Teh Chee Seng, Ketua DSA Kampus Perak Chiang Jeng Fong, penaja-penaja, staf dan para pelajar.

Di bawah kategori Lelaki UTAR, pelajar program Perbankan dan Kewangan Goh Chun Seng, pelajar program Pengajian Asasi Sastera Collymore Tang Yong Fung, dan staf UTAR Tan Guang Pin masing-masing telah merangkul tempat pertama, kedua dan ketiga. Di bawah kategori Wanita UTAR pula, pelajar program Pengajian Asasi Sastera Heah Wan Qing, pelajar program Kewangan Wong Kah Wei dan pelajar program Pengurusan Perniagaan Teong Lee Sing masing-masing memenangi tempat pertama, kedua dan ketiga.


Pemenang tempat pertama, kedua dan ketiga dalam setiap kategori masing-masing membawa pulang RM300, RM200 dan RM100 setiap seorang di samping trofi, pingat dan sijil penyertaan.

Peserta larian

Taklimat oleh pengerusi penganjur sebelum acara dimulakan

A. Previna di garisan penamat

Theva Das (kiri) menyampaikan cenderahati kepada Hew