

PEKAN REVIEW

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UMP LAUNCHED MYGIFT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD FOR ITS UNDERGRADUATES

THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF
UMP MAIN CAMPUS AND NAMING OF
**TUN ABDUL RAZAK
CHANCELLERY BY PM**

UMP IS FOCUSED ON ITS STRATEGY
**TO BE THE BEST
TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY**

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'GLORY BY DESIGN'

WILL TURN UMP INTO A LEADING TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY

Greetings to our PEKAN REVIEW faithful readers.

There are a lot of sweet memories for all of UMP community. Undoubtedly, we will be presented with more success stories and sweet memories but it does not mean that we can afford to be too casual or lax. We must be progressively resolute in our efforts, and walk tall with all the public universities, with impressive achievements, be it locally or abroad.

In February 2016, UMP made history when its main campus in Kuala Pahang was officially opened by Prime Minister of Malaysia YAB Dato' Sri Mohd. Najib Tun Abdul Razak. He also announced the renaming of UMP Main Administration Complex Building which is now known as Tun Abdul Razak Chancellery, a tribute to the contributions made by his late father, Tun Abdul Razak Hussein.

UMP is also now moving into the next phase of 'Glory by Design' that commences in 2016 and continues until 2020. With this virtue, UMP will be the best technology university that provides world-class education, research and service, one that functions in a creative and innovative engineering and technology eco-system that maximises the human potential for the benefit of society.

With the theme, 'Glory by Design', UMP Strategic Plan 2016-2020 focuses on five strategic leaps – Academic Excellence, Financial Sustainability, Research and Innovation Sustainability, Socioeconomic and Environment Sustainability and Excellence

Branding of UMP itself.

As we move forward, UMP creates another history and stands above the rest of public universities with the launching of *MyGift* initiative, the university's official endowment platform. It was officially launched by His Royal Highness Sultan of Pahang, Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah al-Musta'in Billah ibni Almarhum Sultan Abu Bakar Ri'ayatuddin al-Mu'adzam Shah.

And the most commendable thing about this is that we have revealed to be a capable lot as a sum of RM13million has been raised, amassed from the 10 endowment funds established, with the money to be utilised for the wellbeing of university students, academic excellence and community development.

Recently, a book which was written by Faculty of Industrial Management (FIM) lecturer Dr. Shahryar Sorooshian with the title 'Lean Manufacturing Tools' and published by UMP Publisher was picked as the best text book in industrial engineering by Azad Islamic University, Iran. This recognition is indeed something to be proud of because it was UMP's first success for 2016 that was attained at the international level by UMP Publisher.

A more gratifying achievement attained by UMP was when its journal publication 'International Journal of Automotive and Mechanical Engineering (IJAME)' successfully retained its position as Asia's number one journal since 2013, based on the renowned scientific data base 'Scopus Database' by Elsevier, and as the world's top ten per cent.

UMP's latest moment of pride was when the university was picked as a host representing all public universities to hold the prestigious national-level *Anugerah Tokoh Siswa* 2015. The event which was attended by Minister of Higher Education, Dato' Seri Idris Jusoh did not only give a boost to UMP's name but was also an effective driving force for undergraduates to polish up their talents and shine their potentials in the many constructive, positive and value-added fields, and be emulated by others.

UMP is also proud with the achievement of its international student from Iraq, Anas Mohamad Husain Kasim, who won third place in the Prime Minister Malay International Debate Competition 2016. Congratulations to Anas!

UMP continues to draw local and international attention when it signed memorandums of understanding with National University of Singapore, University of Houston, USA, Texas State University, USA, Texas A&M University, USA, Eco 24 Co. Ltd., Japan, Iwate University, Japan, Salehuddin Eyyubi University, Turkey and Sabah Foundation Technical College.

Lastly, it is hoped that with all the achievements attained, UMP community will continue to be driven and come up with more ideas, be determined and united to realise UMP Strategic Plan 2016-2020.

Saiful Bahari Ahmad Bakarim

INTERNATIONALISATION HELPS BUILD UMP'S REPUTATION

Our role is to groom holistic graduates who are pertinent to the needs of the community and to acculturate technology through a dynamic university ecosystem.

Salam 1Malaysia and 1UMP to all Pekan Review readers.

Striding into its establishment over a decade and focusing on technology development by providing world-class education and research and service, Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) is now more fearless in moving forward, by taking risks, being aggressive and focused with its wants. All the efforts taken by UMP community have increasingly bear fruits and this is attained by us being more and more dauntless, to be equally positioned with other prominent universities, be it locally or abroad.

UMP is just like any other public university that has its own strength, to be competitive in order to reinforce its internationalisation agenda as one of the agendas to boost its capacity and forte so it will be on par with the world's renowned universities.

As such, we need to highlight our expertise in the research field and share it at the international level as well as establish collaboration network with foreign university. This is in line with the efforts to build an international reputation.

In fact, its excellence and achievement is also necessary to draw the attention and convince foreign university on our quality that is on par with other universities in the world.

In striving and creating new successes for UMP, we should get out of the comfort zone. There will be the ups and downs in our journey towards

success, just like there are the high tides and low tides. We shall not be afraid to try new things. This has been proven when we successfully lead the pack with the launching of *MyGift* initiative, an official endowment contribution platform. A sum of RM13 million was raised at the time of the official launching of *MyGift* by Royal Highness Sultan of Pahang Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah al-Musta'in Billah ibni Almarhum Sultan Abu Bakar Ri'ayatuddin al-Mu'adzam Shah. Congratulations to all members of UMP community!

Therefore, we should not be afraid to go farther and to not look back again. The success which is achieved today does not come overnight. I am proud to say that UMP is now moving into the next phase, 'Glory by Design', which starts from this year and continues until 2020.

The UMP Strategic Plan 2016-2020 focuses on five strategic leaps - Academic Excellence, Financial Sustainability, Research and Innovation Sustainability, Socio-economic and Environmental Sustainability and Branding of Excellence by UMP itself.

The goals outlined in the five strategic leaps are not to be attained now but the results will be enjoyed as UMP grows in the many years ahead.

However, all these will not be possible without the help and support from the UMP community, who have generally performed competently and professionally. In addition to that, the university has an efficient academic

infrastructure that is based on societal needs.

Our role is to groom holistic graduates who are pertinent to the needs of the community and to acculturate technology through a dynamic university ecosystem.

In addition, I would also like to emphasise on the need for UMP to be unique, special or extraordinary, be it in the aspect of product or project itself. We should keep in our mind on the stance of not to be too easily imitated nor is it that easy for any attempt to replicate what we have or done. The product produced will be less than perfect with no replacement where the added value offered is irreplaceable with other product or service.

Development in higher education is now progressing in a setting that is becoming more global and thus, in a wider landscape, it provides new opportunity and challenge to all countries.

I am confident and believe that we are a capable lot. In fact, we have proved that we are able to progressively thrive to make UMP a leading university, one that transcends world-class standing, one that stands above the rest of top-notch universities.

Happy Reading!

Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim







UMP LAUNCHED MYGIFT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD FOR ITS UNDERGRADUATES

Eleven UMP undergraduates received the Student Scholarship Endowment worth RM400,000.00 an education incentive introduced this year and given to new, deserving undergraduates.

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) launched its MyGift initiative which was the university's official endowment contribution platform.

It was officially launched by his Royal Highness Sultan of Pahang Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah al-Musta'in Billah ibni Almarhum Sultan Abu Bakar Ri'ayatuddin al-Mu'adzam Shah at Mandarin Oriental Hotel, Kuala Lumpur on October 1, 2016.

Also present were Her Royal Highness Sultanah of Pahang Sultanah Hajah Kalsom and His Highness Tengku Mahkota of Pahang Tengku Abdullah al-Haj ibni Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah al-Musta'in Billah.

Eleven UMP undergraduates received the Student Scholarship Endowment worth RM400,000.00 an education incentive introduced this year and given to new, deserving undergraduates.

According to UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim, the MyGift initiative was a strategic response to the Ministry of Higher Education's call for public universities to explore more intensively on the prospects in endowment and wakaf for higher education and for this to be done with the cooperation of government agencies, corporate bodies and religious councils in states.

"In the digital era, the university decided to establish MyGift Portal as a platform to facilitate benefactors in making their choice of online contribution. There are 10 types of endowment and fund - Student Scholarship Endowment, Laboratory/Facilities Endowment, Chair Endowment, Endowment for Excellence, Community Fund, Ramadan Fund, Mosque Fund, Disaster Fund, *Wakaf* Fund and Infrastructure Fund.



“These endowments and funds are designed for specific uses for the benefit of the undergraduates, academic excellence and community development,” he said.

The MyGift initiative had recently been given a boost when Majlis Ugama Islam dan Adat Resam Melayu Pahang (MUIP) gave its commitment by building a hostel complex for the needy worth RM4.9 million in UMP.

MUIP’s involvement in supporting the initiative was a positive sign in the context of strategic wakaf financing for higher education.

A total of 21 benefactors comprising government agencies, corporate bodies and industries also presented their contributions to MyGift that totalled to RM13 million.

Also present at the ceremony were Minister of Higher Education Dato’ Seri Idris Jusoh, Menteri Besar of Pahang, Dato’ Sri Diraja Dr. Haji Adnan Haji Yaakob and Chairman of UMP Board of Directors, Dato’ Sri Mohd Hilmeiy Mohd. Taib.





THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF UMP MAIN CAMPUS AND NAMING OF TUN ABDUL RAZAK CHANCELLERY BY PM

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) main campus in Kuala Pahang here was officially opened by Prime Minister, Dato' Sri Mohd. Najib Tun Abdul Razak on February 21, 2016.

UMP, which was established 14 years ago, has managed to change the socio-economic landscape of the area which was used to be known as a fishing village.

The locals can now take pride of the place as it is now the site of a modern university campus accommodating to the needs of thousands of undergraduates and staff working at the site.

The development in the area has created economic spin-offs as the locals are able to earn extra income by venturing into food business, in house rentals and getting employments.

Even the research expertise at the university had contributed to the growth in Kuala Pahang.

In his speech that touched on UMP, Dato'Sri Mohd. Najib said emphasis was given on four things – development in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, development in



The development in the area has created economic spin-offs as the locals are able to earn extra income by venturing into food business, in house rentals and getting employments.



innovation culture among university staff, development in entrepreneurial and having *high level* of proficiency in professional communication skills in Malay and English.

Najib also said he wanted the country's technical universities, namely UMP, Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP), Universiti Teknikal Melaka (UTeM) and Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM) in Batu Pahat, Johor to remain as technical universities.

He added that the universities should not create new faculties other than technical education and that if the government could afford it, more technical universities would be built in the country, he said at the official opening of UMP main campus at the Main Administrative Complex here.

UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim said UMP did not only set a target of being a university with academic excellence but also one that played a significant role as an agent of transformation for the community's socio-economy, which had been made a priority by the university's management.

"The development of a Seafood Complex that is being carried out by East Coast Economic Region Development Council (ECERDC) and the Empower Mahkota ECER programme that utilises UMP's professional workforce to train selected group among the locals in entrepreneurship, skills and academic will definitely spur the locals' economic growth," he said.

He added that UMP and ECERDC were

focused on efforts to transform the physical aspect of the Kuala Pahang fishing village under the Seafood Complex project and another project, Seafood Product Processing Centre.

Dato' Sri Najib also announced the renaming of UMP Main Administration Complex building as Tun Abdul Razak Chancellery, as a tribute to the contribution and excellent services of the late Tun Abdul Razak Tun Hussein – a son of a noble family hailed from the Royal Town of Pekan.

The late Tun Abdul Razak was also known as '*Bapa Pembangunan Malaysia*' (Father of National Development) when holding the Prime Minister's post from 1970 until 1976.

By having his name immortalised to the building is a form of respect and recognition by UMP to the big role played by the late Tun Abdul Razak during his lifetime in transforming the landscape of education, economy, social and politics of Malaysia.

At the same event, UMP also signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Pahang State Forestry Department with the latter agreeing to contribute suitable tree saplings which was an effort taken under the university's green-the-campus initiative.

UMP was represented by Vice-Chancellor, Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir and the department by its Director, Dato' Haji Mohd. Paiz Kamaruzaman.

UMP also formed as strategic partnership with The New Straits Times (NSTP), which was represented by its Group Managing Editor,

Datuk Abdul Jalil Hamid.

The partnership involved sharing of expertise in publishing, media and communication in a move to enhance bilateral ties in rebranding activities and corporate, social and innovation (CSI) programme.

Najib also witnessed the presentation of Bumiputera Entrepreneur Development Fund aid by East Coast Economic Region (ECER) Chief Executive Officer, Datuk Seri Jebasingam Issac John to 12 entrepreneurs under ECER's Mahkota programme.

The special allocation from Bumiputera Agenda Unit (TERAJU) would help the participants to expand their business to become entrepreneurs of Small and Medium Industries (SMIs) and thus contribute to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The participants received the allocation in kinds such as equipment needed to run their business. Agencies involved in this programme were ECERDC, UMP Advanced Education (UAE) and TERAJU.

Also present at the event were Menteri Besar of Pahang, Dato' Sri Diraja Dr. Haji Adnan Haji Yaakob, Minister of Higher Education Dato' Seri Idris Jusoh, Chairman of UMP Board of Directors, Dato' Sri Mohd Hilmey Mohd Taib and Higher Education Director General, Dato' Professor Asma Ismail.

In conjunction with the event, UMP also launched a book, '*Permata di Hujung Muara*' (Gem at the End of the Estuary) and a legacy leadership exhibition on Tun Abdul Razak and Dato' Sri Najib, which also marked the latter's 40 years in politics.

UMP FETED 165 ASNAF FAMILY MEMBERS AND DISTRIBUTED RAYA GOODIES

The iftar programme was one of the initiatives taken by UMP to be closer to the community under its 'Program Jejak Asnaf Fakir Miskin', aimed at helping the needy to carry on with their lives especially during the fasting month of Ramadan.

A total of 165 people who were under the asnaf category and living in Kuantan and Pekan were feted in an iftar programme organised by Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP), together with UMP Women Association (Matahari) and UMP Advanced Education (UAE).

It was held at the McDonalds Restaurant in Indera Mahkota, Kuantan on June 19, 2016.

Also present were Her Royal Highness Tengku Puan of Pahang, Tunku Hajjah Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah Al-Marhum Al-Mutawakkil 'Alallah Sultan Iskandar and her sons, His Highnesses Tengku Amir Nasser Ibrahim Shah and Tengku Muhammad Iskandar Ri'ayatuddin Shah Ibni Tengku Abdullah Al-Haj.

She also gave away contributions such as food, daily essential items, solat attires and clothes to 30 families of poor background.

Other guests who were present included UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim and his wife, Datin Fazia Ali who is also Advisor to Matahari, Registrar, Abd Hamid Majid, UMP Advanced Education (UAE) Chief Executive Officer, Mohd. Rozi Hassan and Matahari President, Professor Datin Dr. Mimi Sakinah Abdul Munaim.

The iftar programme was one

of the initiatives taken by UMP to be closer to the community under its 'Program Jejak Asnaf Fakir Miskin', aimed at helping the needy to carry on with their lives especially during the fasting month of Ramadan.

The programme was under the purview of the Islamic and Human Development Centre (PIMPIN), with the cooperation of Matahari.

It was also organised in conjunction with this year's Ramadan Festival. More than 30 families in Kuantan and Pekan were identified.

In making the festival more lively, UMP had also organised breaking of fast with village folks, *Iftar Jamaie* in the campus and gotong-royong sessions where each department took turns to do the tasks.

Throughout Ramadan, UMP also held a programme called Asian Ramadan Journey 2016 involving its undergraduates whom got to experience fasting, sahur and iftar with orphans at the Nurul Dayah Charity Home in Aceh, Indonesia.

Other events carried out included 'Program Ziarah Prihatin Ramadan and 'Program Ziarah Prihatin Syawal' which was jointly organised with the university's alumni who gave their full support to all kinds of volunteerism activities and community services of which UMP was so synonymous with.







UMP IS FOCUSED ON ITS STRATEGY TO BE THE BEST TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) is now moving to the next level to fulfil its objective of becoming the leading technology university, the phase for Creating Glory which starts from 2016 until 2020.

When this is achieved, UMP will be the best technology university that provides world-class education, research and service, one that functions in a creative and innovative engineering and technology eco-system that maximises the human potential for the benefit of society.

It is a vision that surpasses the world-class position. The purpose is clearly to place UMP above the rest of the world-class universities.

UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim said there were five objectives aimed at achieving the vision, firstly

by producing relevant and holistic graduates through a dynamic university eco-system and graduates who met the needs of technology and entrepreneur savvy society.

“Secondly, is to build sustainable financial to ensure the university’s own sustainability. Thirdly, is to churn out research and innovation with technology as its core so as to ensure that there will always be talents in the two fields and focus in research activities.

“The remaining two objectives are to serve as a platform for a sustainable socio-economic, environment and community growth as well as to build a brand that makes UMP the society’s preferred choice,” he said in his keynote address at the Sports Complex, in UMP Gambang Campus on February 17, 2016.

Dato' Dr. Daing also said as a public university, it was vital for UMP to understand

the national reality and aspiration and at the same time, be innovative and creative to work in a global climate, scope and autonomy boundary that it had.

“As such, major national policies including the National Education Development Plan 2015-2025 (Higher Education), 11th Malaysian Plan and 2016 Budget are taken into account when putting together UMP’s own strategy, action and initiative, starting from 2016.

“Action and response to the gist of the 2016 New Year keynote address by Minister of Higher Education, Dato’ Seri Idris Jusoh titled, ‘Flexible Education’ on January 18 should also be given attention.

“There are six dimension of challenges mentioned by him which must be studied by all of us with the first-economic and financial,

When this is achieved, UMP will be the best technology university that provides world-class education, research and service, one that functions in a creative and innovative engineering and technology eco-system that maximises the human potential for the benefit of society.



second-technical education and vocational training (TVET), third-students, fourth-lecturers, fifth-cooperation between industry, academia, community and government and sixth - research," Dato' Dr. Daing said.

He added that in the context of economic and financial challenges, UMP had already set up an endowment platform called MyGift that would be the impetus for its *wakaf* financial system campaign and donation drive, an initiative that had been suggested by Dato' Seri Idris.

"It is the same with challenges in TVET with steps taken to develop potentials in the field of engineering technology and to support the national TVET eco-system, and to do so with quality and innovation.

"In the context of handling challenges involving students' welfare and before the recent polemic on university students starving, UMP has already started its own initiative to take care of underprivileged students.

"The Department of Student Affairs and Alumni (JHEPA) organises a *Kongsi Rezeki* (Sharing of Meal) programme that includes offerings of lunch sets as low as RM1 during the exam week, *iftar* and *jama'è* during Ramadan, food coupons, distribution of *zakat* and other forms of aids aimed at helping to ease their burdens.

"At the same time, there are opportunities for them to work part-time and get involve in entrepreneurial activities in UMP that can help generate additional income," he said.

Dato' Dr. Daing also highlighted several features that should be used as reference in their mission to create glory and that was by coming up with high value initiatives that brought about great impact to the stakeholders, namely the community.

"UMP should be unique, special or uncommon when making products or conducting projects, or even a business model, he added.

"The university needed to adopt an attitude of not to be too easily imitated so any attempt to copy what they had or done would only produce an imitation that was flawed because the added value which UMP had was simply exceptional," he said.

Dato ' Dr. Daing Nasir later announced three flagship projects which would take off within the university's Strategic Plan 2016-2020 with the first project to involve German technology education with each faculty having at least one programme patterned after the German education system or forging a collaboration with an institute in Germany.

"The second project was about social innovation involving high-impact community charity work and knowledge dissemination campaign with benefits to cover a wide scope of recipients," he added.

On the Community University Project, Dato ' Dr. Daing Nasir said it was a large-scale mission to communitising the university through education, technology, enterprise management method, performance

management (productivity, effectiveness, efficiency), talent pool replacement planning, risk management, performance-based rewards and others.

More than 5,000 people attended the event. Among the guests were Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International), Professor Dato' Dr. Rosli Mohd. Yunus, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), Professor Dr. Mashitah Mohd. Yusoff, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs & Alumni), Professor Dato' Dr. Yuserrie Zainuddin and Student Representative Council President, Madyasir Ahmad Basir.

A cake-cutting ceremony was also held in conjunction with UMP's 14th anniversary with the accompaniment of a choir group.



UMP'S STRATEGIC PLAN ON GLORY BY DESIGN

UMP's role is to produce holistic graduates who are relevant to the needs of the society, those who will acculturate technology and entrepreneurial, who come from a dynamic university ecosystem.



Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) will continue to reinforce its education, research and service to world class standard and by doing it in a more creative and innovative engineering and technology ecosystem, one that will benefit the people and country.

With its theme, 'Glory by Design' UMP's Strategic Plan 2016-2020 is set to focus on five strategic leaps - Academic Excellence, Financial Sustainability, Research and Innovation Sustainability, Socio-Economic and Environmental Sustainability and its own UMP Prime Branding.

UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim said, the university would ensure that its academic curriculum

would be more innovative and supported by competent and professional staff.

"This would make its academic infrastructure more efficient, a set of courses that would be oriented towards to the needs of the society.

"UMP's role is to produce holistic graduates who are relevant to the needs of the society, those who will acculturate technology and entrepreneurial, who come from a dynamic university ecosystem.

"The same goes to the development of research that should be based on technology so that talent is sustainable and beneficial to the local community and environment," he said during a meeting with heads of department





and administrators to discuss about the Strategic Plan 2016-2020 at Ancasa Royale Hotel in Pekan on February 2, 2016.

The meeting was organised by the Department of Corporate Affairs and Quality (JHKK).

Among the guests present were Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International), Professor Dato' Dr. Rosli Mohd. Yunus and Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Corporate Affairs & Quality), Professor Dato' Dr. Ishak Ismail.

Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir also said that in a bid to sustain the university's finances, continued efforts would be made to generate income by increasing investment and creating a setting that would support UMP's

sustainability.

The preparation of the strategic plan had gone through a series of processes—opinion poll, discussion, field study and a few workshops involving UMP staff at all levels and that these had been carried out since end of last year.

With the slogan, 'Communitising Technology' UMP Strategic Plan 2016-2020 and its theme of 'Glory by Design' is well on track to carry on with the ideals and makings of its previous plan which marked the start of the fourth stage of implementing the university's grand design which started since its formation in 2002.



UMP LAUNCHED MYGIFT PROGRAMME AS A CHANNEL FOR UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT CONTRIBUTION

There are ten types of endowment or fund established – Student Scholarship Endowment, Laboratory/Facilities Endowment, Chair Endowment, Endowment for Excellence, Community Fund, Ramadan Fund, Mosque Fund, Disaster Fund, Wakaf Fund and Infrastructure Fund.

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) launched MyGift Programme in a bid to raise fund from the public and private bodies to be utilised for education sponsorship, setting up infrastructure and facilities for undergraduates as well as to nurture the culture and spirit of giving to the needy.

There are ten types of endowment or fund established – Student Scholarship Endowment, Laboratory/Facilities Endowment, Chair Endowment, Endowment for Excellence, Community Fund, Ramadan Fund, Mosque Fund, Disaster Fund, *Wakaf* Fund and Infrastructure Fund.

UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato’ Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim said the programme was introduced as a medium for campus denizens and alumni as well as outsiders such as those from the industry and companies to join forces to contribute to the university’s endowment funds.

“For an example, the Chair Endowment is a fund or donation derived from any organisation or volunteer foundation meant for the establishment of a Chair of

Excellence in the university.

“A lot of activities can be carried out under this fund such as scholarly discourse, academic, research, publication and sharing of knowledge and capacity building,” said Professor Dato’ Dr. Daing Nasir during a gathering with members of the press in a *‘Jom Makan Durian’* fest held at UMP Pekan Campus recently.

He added that a university that had huge funds could conduct various activities around the world such as research works, hiring prominent professors and offering scholarships to outstanding students and grooming them to be successful.

The Student Scholarship endowment is to provide financial assistance to undergraduates who have financial difficulties while pursuing their studies.

The fund also provides financial support to outstanding students who excel in their studies and who wish to pursue their education at the next



higher level in UMP as well as for those who want to attend academic programme abroad that involves high costs.

On the Laboratory Fund, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir said the endowment was set up to raise funds from industries who were interested to sponsor laboratories or related activities at certain laboratories.

He said corporate bodies could choose to sponsor any listed laboratory and this could help boost research activities in UMP, adding, the sponsored laboratory would be named after the donors.

"It would be an acknowledgement to the role they played and contribution made, depending on the amount granted", he said.

"As for the Ramadan Fund, it is to be utilised for activities to be carried out during the fasting month such as sponsoring breaking of fast for needy undergraduates.

The Mosque Fund is where contributions in cash or kind can be used to hold various activities and finance the development of UMP Mosque and other mosques that require assistance. Donors have the option of making the donation directly into UMP Mosque fund or to do so via online.

Other funds are the Disaster Fund, an endowment to help victims of disasters such as flood, fire, disaster or whose property are

damaged due to calamities while *wakaf* is for individuals or corporations keen in donating equipment, amenities, vehicles and cash for the purpose of *wakaf*.

UMP also introduces Community Fund which aims at making the university more inclusive and accessible to the society. A variety of programmes have been specially designed to bridge the gap between the society and university community. The fund is also for supporting programmes that involve the university, community and industry.

The Infrastructure Fund is a facility to channel donations derived from interests earned from savings kept in Islamic institution and business or charitable bodies for the common use of Muslims. For example, the fund can be used to finance the construction or maintenance of bridges, roads and toilets.

UMP welcomes contributions from all parties including UMP staff, undergraduates, alumni and individuals as well as corporate bodies, be it locally or abroad, in a move to support the culture of making donation in the name of making knowledge a thriving and progressive undertaking.

More information can be obtained from UMP's website at <http://www.ump.edu.my>.



UMP FORMED PARTNERSHIPS WITH US UNIVERSITIES TO REINFORCE ITS ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMME

Story and pix by: EMMA MELATI BUHANUDDIN

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) formed collaborations with three universities in the United State (US) to further strengthen its technology engineering programme.

The universities are University of Houston (UH), Texas State University (TSU) and Texas A & M University (TAMU).

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between UMP and UH and

discussions were held with faculty members of the three universities that paved the way to several academia programmes such as exchange of staff and students as well as joint research activities.

The MoU between UMP and UH was signed on April 1, 2016 with Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim representing UMP while UH by its Deputy

Provost, Dr. Jaime Ortiz.

Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir said the collaboration with UH would involve an exchange programme of staff and students with joint research work in the offing.

"Rapport is good and we have agreed to share expertise by way of having a visiting professor," said Dato' Dr. Daing who also led the delegation.

They later held a discussion with UH faculty members comprising Interim Dean Dr. Eldin, Engineering Technology President, Dr. Shireen, Academic Affairs Assistant Dean, Dr. Malki while UMP representatives were Faculty of Engineering Technology (FTeK) Dean, Professor Dato' Dr. Zularisam Ab. Wahid and Engineering Technology Programme Director, Professor Dr. Vedaraman Sriraman.

They were also briefed on UH's bachelor's degree programme and visited the laboratory.

On UMP's collaboration with TSU, a similar arrangement was made for the two universities to share knowledge in technology engineering and in accreditation management of the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET).

Professor Dato' Dr. Zularisam said the discussion centred on the criteria of staff appointment, programme evaluation, students and variations between engineering technology programme and engineering programme.

They also visited TSU laboratories to gain some insights on their teaching and learning condition.

TSU faculty members were Technology Engineering Programme Head, Professor Dr. Andy Batey and Associate Professor Dr. Farhad Ameri.

At TAMU, UMP learned a lot more on how to improve the teaching and learning techniques in engineering technology, focusing on the practical aspect and students' skills when doing a project.

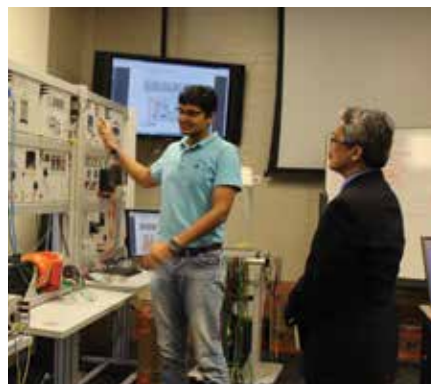
TAMU faculty members involved in the discussion with UMP were Technology Engineering Department Head, Professor Dr. Reza Langari, Dr. Jay Porter, Dr. Micheal Johnson, Dr. Barry Lawrence, Dr. Joe Morgan and Dr. Wei Zhan.

UMP also noted that active involvement of the industry helped to improve the general understanding about engineering technology and it was more widely accepted in the US as an extension of the professional field that could help develop a country.

Engineering technology is an application of principles of engineering and modern technology that is used to help solve technical problems in today's engineering.

Engineering technology programme in Malaysia is relatively new and the curriculum is designed to meet needs in the engineering field.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between UMP and UH and discussions were held with faculty members of the three universities that paved the way to several academia programmes such as exchange of staff and students as well as joint research activities.



It will involve the process of transferring of technology when we get down to developing these environment - friendly coating products and we will get to share the latest technology in tackling problems pertaining to asbestos.

UMP SIGNED AN MOU WITH JAPANESE COMPANY TO DEVELOP COATING PRODUCTS



Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) would be collaborating with Japanese company, Eco 24 Co. Ltd, which developed environment-friendly coating products for various industrial uses.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed here recently with UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim representing the university while the company, by its President, Shunichi Hama.

Also present was JETRO Kuala Lumpur Managing Director, Akira Kajita.

According to Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir, UMP would be working together and sharing expertise with the company, that

had received many recognitions in Japan, in developing coating products that were suitable to the climate in Malaysia.

"The coating would function as a protective layering for the surface of an object and would prevent erosion and deterioration.

"It could also be used in automotive industry and building structures, he said, adding, about 80 percent of Eco 24's sales were in tackling asbestos-related problems in buildings.

"It will involve the process of transferring of technology when we get down to developing these environment-friendly coating products and we will get to share the latest technology in tackling problems pertaining to asbestos.



“We can also help to identify school buildings, government premises, houses or other buildings that have asbestos-related problems by having social community projects together with Eco 24,” he said during the MoU signing held in Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre on October 6, 2016.

He added that the products would be able to deal with long-term health risks often associated with asbestos.

He also said UMP would be involved in providing consultancy in obtaining *halal* status for the coating products.

He noted that the strategic collaboration gave the opportunity for the university to offer technical services such as technical

analysis and report on the product usage as the products could be used to protect tiles and domes of mosques from damage due to sun exposure and Malaysia’s hot and humid tropical weather.

Eco 24 Co. Ltd also donated a research grant of one million yen or RM39,000 for the development of high-value applications for coating products such as solar panel and those in the oil and petroleum industrial activities.

Another sum of 33 million yen or RM1.3 million in kinds was given for UMP to carry out Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects, targeting those relating to asbestos problems in Pahang.

Such project would help to create

awareness of the risks involved in using asbestos in buildings.

Dato’ Dr. Daing Nasir also said the collaboration would help to fulfill the objective set out in UMP’s Strategic Plan 2016-2020 which was to acculturate technology by sharing acquired expertise that could be benefitted by the community especially in Pahang.

Also present at the event were Pahang’s State Secretary Chief Assistant, Zamri Hassan, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation) Professor Dr. Mashitah Mohd Yusoff, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International), Professor Dato’ Dr. Rosli Mohd. Yunus and Registrar, Abd Hamid Majid.



UMP AND KYTS SIGNED AN AGREEMENT FOR A COLLABORATION IN GERMAN'S ENGINEERING PROGRAMME

The engineering programme is a programme resulted from a partnership between UMP and Karlsruhe University of Applied Science (HsKA), Germany.

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) and Sabah Foundation Technical College (KTYS) signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on academic collaboration for foundations programme involving three engineering courses on August 11, 2016 at Putrajaya.

The courses are bachelor's degree in business engineering, mechatronic engineering and automotive engineering.

The business engineering degree programme is available at Faculty of Industrial Management (FIM) while mechatronic and automotive engineering degree programmes are offered at Faculty of Manufacturing Engineering (FKP).

The engineering programme is a programme resulted from a partnership between UMP and Karlsruhe University of Applied Science (HsKA), Germany.

UMP was represented by Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir and Faculty of Industrial Management Dean, Dr. Mohd. Ridzuan Darun while KTYS by its Chief Executive Officer, Datin Tarsiah T.Z. Zaman and Administration and Human Resource Senior Manager, Waky Taim.

KYTS was formerly known as Sabah Foundation College.

Also present were KTYS Board of Directors' Chairman, Datuk Kamal D.E. Quadra, UMP Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International), Professor Dato' Dr. Rosli Mohd. Yunus, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), Professor Dr. Mashitah Mohd. Yusoff and Registrar, Abd Hamid



Majid.

Datin Tarsiah said they valued the commitment of UMP, adding, Sabah Foundation would consider providing scholarships to outstanding undergraduates who met the qualifications.

“Those who met the criteria would be offered to undergo the programme.

“This will also involve two other franchise programmes with UMP – the Bachelor’s Degree in Industrial Technology Management (with Honours) and Bachelor’s Degree in Project Management (with Honours).

“Apart from offering free English language preparatory programme to new undergraduates, KTYS would also provide scholarships and study loan facilities,” she added.

Datin Tarsiah also said currently, KTYS was in the midst of upgrading its status to Sabah Foundation Technical

University College by 2018.

“As such, the collaboration programme with UMP was in line with the exercise undergoing now which was part of the efforts to meet the college’s objective in producing competent and competitive graduates,” she added.

Dato’ Dr. Daing Nasir welcomed the partnership forged with KTYS and looked forward to having collaborations in other fields that would have mutual benefits for both parties.

KTYS was set up in 1990 and wholly owned by KKYS Sdn. Bhd, a company set up under Sabah Foundation.

The college is committed to continue improving its academic excellence and quality, especially in technical areas in a move to cater to the needs of the nation.

At the same event, KTYS also signed an agreement with DRB-HICOM University of Automotive Malaysia (DHU) and RENG College.



UMP AND IWATE UNIVERSITY FURTHER BOOST COOPERATION IN ENGINEERING FIELD

“In a broader context, the signing of this MoU will give added value to the implementation of UMP Strategic Plan 2016-2020, particularly in our focus on strengthening strategic collaboration, locally and globally,” said Professor Dr. Mashitah.

By: ZURYATY ZOL

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) and Japan’s Iwate University (IU) had stepped up their strategic cooperation in strengthening the engineering field by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that extended the partnership to another five years.

Both universities enjoyed good and successful collaborations for the past five years and had benefitted from the many activities carried out – joint research works, visits to factories, teaching and learning programmes and exchange of cultural programme involving students and lecturers.

It had paved the way for two IU faculty members to conduct a workshop for manufacturing engineering students at the Faculty of Manufacturing Engineering (FKP)

in UMP.

The MoU was signed by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), Professor Dr. Mashitah Mohd Yusoff for UMP and IU, by its Faculty of Engineering Dean, Professor Dr Kenichi Funazaki.

Also present at the event were FKP Academic Deputy Dean, Associate Professor Dr. Ahmad Razlan Yusoff, Institute Mould and Die representative, Professor Dr. Koichi Hirose, IU Deputy President, Professor Dr. Satoshi Ogawa and Assistant Professor Dr. Uchidate Michimasi.

Professor Dr. Mashitah said through this partnership, they could explore more possibilities for collaboration in the areas of engineering and in particular, in the field of



Mould and Die that had potentials waiting to be exploited by both universities.

In fact, he gave a talk on 'Constructing Polymer' during his visit here while Dr. Razlan delivered his talk on 'Monitoring Deep Drilling Process' when he went to the university was in Japan.

"In a broader context, the signing of this MoU will give added value to the implementation of UMP Strategic Plan 2016-2020, particularly in our focus on strengthening strategic collaboration, locally and globally," said Professor Dr. Mashitah at the MoU signing event which was held on February 4, 2016.

She said the MoU defined the general

aspects of cooperation in academic, research, exchange of students and staff as well as research development but she hoped that it would open up for more joint research works.

"It would not, however, limit the collaboration perimeter between UMP-IU and in fact, it had potentials to be further extended especially in the aspects of disaster management because IU had a specific research centre on the matter.

"Apart from that, both universities had a lot to offer in terms of expertise and benefits which could be combined to produce high added-value initiatives that would be advantageous not only to UMP and IU communities but also to the country," she said.



UMP SIGNED MOU WITH SELAHUDDIN EYYUBI UNIVERSITY (SEU)

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) continued to attract world attention as marked by the latest signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Selahuddin Eyyubi University (SEU) from Turkey on February 4, 2016.

SEU is one of the leading private universities in Diyarbakir, Turkey. It was established in 2007 and has three faculties and four institutes. The faculties included Faculty of Engineering and Architectural and Faculty of Economy and Science and Health Science Management.

UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim said the MoU would involve the cooperation of the two universities in various areas that would further strengthen their bilateral ties.

He added that it would also focus on exchange programmes that involved the undergraduates, trainings, researches and staff.

"Among the collaborations that have been identified are to jointly hold a seminar, develop a case study and conduct a practical training programme for undergraduates and staff members," he said.

The MoU was signed by UMP, represented by Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim and Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Industrial & Community Network), Professor Dr. Zulkefli Yaakob while SEU by its Rector, Professor Dr. Ekrem Gogam and its secretary Yilmaz Sari.

Also present were Acting Registrar, Abd Rahman Haji Shafie, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering Dean, Associate Professor Dr. Rizalman Mamat, Faculty of Engineering Technology Dean, Professor Dr. Zularisam Ab. Wahid, Centre for Modern Languages & Human Sciences Dean, Associate Professor Dr. Muhammad Nubli Abdul Wahab and International Office Director, Associate Professor, Dr. Ainol Haryati Ibrahim.

SEU is one of the leading private universities in Diyarbakir, Turkey. It was established in 2007 and has three faculties and four institutes. The faculties included Faculty of Engineering and Architectural and Faculty of Economy and Science and Health Science Management.







MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS CEO SHARED EXPERIENCE ON SIX SIGMA IN THE CEO@FACULTY PROGRAMME

This programme allows university students to interact with leading figures of the industry to enhance knowledge and information gathering and make them see things from the practical perspective, through their direct assessment of the invaluable experience of the invited CEOs.

By: NOR FADZILLAH ZULKUPLI

It was an enlightening experience for Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) lecturers and students who turned up to listen to a talk by Managing Director of Motorola Solutions Malaysia, Penang Operations Dr. Hari Narayanan on March 9, 2016.

They had the opportunity to learn through the sharing of knowledge, experiences and best practices from the CEO who managed a company involved in the development of future communication technology.

Also present were UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), Professor Dr. Mashitah Mohd Yusoff and Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Industry Partnership & Community Relations),

Professor Dr. Zulkefli Yaakob.

Dr. Hari Narayanan's talk titled, 'Driving Six Sigma Quality in Industry', was organised under the CEO@Faculty Programme which was held in conjunction with UMP Open Day at the Centre for Modern Languages & Human Sciences (CCM LHS), UMP Pekan Campus.

He said Six Sigma was a very structured process that focused on making and producing flawless products or services.

"The purpose of Six Sigma is to cater to our customers' needs by way of providing products/services that meet their needs through a more efficient and seamless means.

"Six Sigma approach is used to solve problem, critical issue, provide productivity solution and increase performance in the



industry.

“Quality has always been my priority so product produced will not, at any time, disappoint my client,” he said.

Dr. Hari Narayanan has 23 years of experience working with Motorola and has held several key posts throughout his years of working with the company.

Dato’ Dr. Daing Nasir also said the public lecture was introduced by the Ministry of Higher Education with the intention of combining the knowledge and experience of both the industry and academics.

“This programme allows university students to interact with leading figures of the industry to enhance knowledge and information gathering and make them see

things from the practical perspective, through their direct assessment of the invaluable experience of the invited CEOs.

“The initiative is seen as an enabler to the strategic leap for academic excellence and to groom holistic graduates that are relevant to the needs of industry.

“The theory they learn in the classroom or laboratory as well as lectures from lecturers alone is not enough as compared to lessons learned from the experience of someone working in a real industry situation,” he said.

Nursyahira Mat Hussain, 20, a first-year undergraduate at Faculty of Electrical & Electronics Engineering (FKEE) said the public lecture provided a lot of useful information that helped her to understand the real situation

and practical aspect of an actual working life as compared to those learned in the laboratory.

Wan Ummu Najla Wan Saffiee, 20, an undergraduate at Faculty of Chemical & Natural Resources Engineering (FKKSA) said the talk, which was presented in an interactive way, was very interesting and by making Motorola as an example made it better and easier for undergraduates to understand.

The lecture presented by Dr. Hari Narayanan was seen as an impetus for undergraduates to make their contributions to the development of local talents especially in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics and this would lead to the development of new technology in telecommunication and manufacturing.



TWO NEW CEO PERSONALITIES JOINED UMP'S CEO@FACULTY PROGRAMME

The CEO@Faculty Programme allows the undergraduates to interact with industry players in a move to help improve knowledge and information gathering. It gives the opportunity for the university community to gain some insights from the invited CEO.

Two Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) have joined Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP)'s CEO@Faculty Programme following their appointment by Ministry of Higher Education recently.

They were Ministry of Transport Secretary General, Dato' Seri Haji Saripuddin Haji Kasim who was appointed under the civil servant cluster while Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) CEO, Datuk Seri Ir. Azman Mohd representing the government-linked company (GLC).

Minister of Higher Education, Dato' Seri Idris Jusoh presented the letters of appointment at Hilton Hotel in Kuala Lumpur

on March 15, 2016.

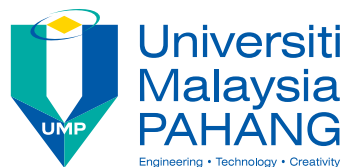
Also present were UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International), Professor Dato' Dr. Rosli Mohd. Yunus and Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Industry Partnership & Community Relations), Professor Dr. Zulkefli Yaacob.

Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir said the number of CEOs joining the programme in UMP had now increased to three, adding, a lot of lessons could be learned from their experience and expertise which would benefit the university students in bringing the national higher education system to greater heights.

"Managing Director of Motorola Solutions Sdn. Bhd., Dr. Hari Nayaranan, had already joined UMP, giving talks and sharing expertise with lecturers and undergraduates that totalled to 25 hours of lectures.

"The CEO@Faculty Programme allows the undergraduates to interact with industry players in a move to help improve knowledge and information gathering. It gives the opportunity for the university community to gain some insights from the invited CEO.

"The public lecture, which is mooted by Ministry of Higher Education, also aims at combining the experience and knowledge of the industry and academia," he said.



UMP AND NUS

– A GATEWAY PROGRAM

NUS is the 13th top University in the world and ChBE is the 5th of the Top Chemical Engineering Education Program in the world rank.

By: DR. FATMAWATI ADAM

A total of 24 students and two lecturers from Faculty of Chemical & Natural Resources Engineering (FKKSA) Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) participated in an academic mobility program to the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering (ChBE), National University of Singapore (NUS) on April 17, 2016.

The program were initiated under student mobility coordinator in FKKSA and co-organized by Chemical Engineering Society (CHEST), FKKSA.

Mobility Program Coordinator, Dr. Fatmawati Adam said, the mobility program is a GATEWAY to enable an international relationship between UMP and NUS.

"NUS is the 13th top University in the

world and ChBE is the 5th of the Top Chemical Engineering Education Program in the world rank.

"During the program, both of UMP and NUS students presented their final year projects outputs as part of knowledge sharing on the research technology developed in both institutions," she said.

They have discussed the research findings and highlights in the remarkable field such as advanced research materials, renewable energy and green processing.

UMP's students also would benchmark themselves to develop, build and increase their confident, innovation and creativity through the final year project presentation.

The students also had the opportunity

to visit the teaching laboratories and facilities such as Chemical Engineering Reaction, Unit Operation, Process Control Dynamic and Fluid Mechanics lead by Professor G. P. Rangaiah and the NUS staffs.

The Program's Director, Siti Amirah Abdul Ghani enjoyed the academic trip to NUS and appreciated the benefits gained which is helpful to develop the student maturity.

The program were supported by the Students Affairs & Alumni Department, UMP.



The journal also made the top 12 per cent in the category of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering.

UMP JOURNAL TOPS AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERING RANKING AGAIN

A journal published by Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) Press has been recognized as the best in Asia three years in a row, registering the highest indices for production and publication of scientific articles in the fields of automotive and mechanical engineering.

International Journal of Automotive and Mechanical Engineering (IJAME) topped the category of Automotive Engineering and climbed to third place in the Mechanical Engineering category of SCOPUS Journal Ranking (SCIMAGO) in terms of source normalized impact per paper (Snip).

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation) of UMP, Professor Dr. Mashitah Mohd. Yusoff said, the Journal also ranked sixth in the category of Automotive Engineering and 8th for Mechanical

Engineering Category of SCIMAGO globally.

"Another UMP journal, the Journal of Mechanical Engineering and Sciences (JMES) has been listed by SCOPUS for the first time in the top 10 percent of the Energy Engineering and Fuel Technology category.

"The journal also made the top 12 per cent in the category of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering.

Both of the journals ranked highest in the category of Engineering and Technology in MyCITE (Malaysian Citation Index) and are Q1 journals," she said.

The performance of both of the journals thus established UMP as the champion of high quality engineering research publications particularly in the areas of automotive and mechanical engineering.

UMP PUBLISHER'S BOOK 'LEAN MANUFACTURING TOOLS' WON BEST TEXT BOOK IN IRAN

We are very proud of the win as it is UMP Publisher's first achievement of the year attained at the international level.

By: SHALFARINA SHAHRIMAN

A book published by UMP Publisher titled, 'Lean Manufacturing Tools' was picked as the best text book in industrial engineering by Islamic Azad University, Iran, in a publication award event organised by the university on January 20, 2016.

The book written by Faculty of Industrial Management (FIM) lecturer, Dr. Shahryar Sorooshian was also recommended for use to industrial engineering management as the content was good and suitable as reference for the industries and post-graduate students.

UMP Publisher Director, Associate Professor Dr. Mohd Ghani Awang said they strongly encouraged partnership with foreign universities in a move to promote UMP publication products to the international community.

"We are very proud of the win as it is UMP Publisher's first achievement of the year attained at the international level.

"As such, I hope that there will be more opportunities such as this in the future as it is proof of the capability of our lecturers in producing good and quality books," he said.

For the win, Dr. Shahryar received cash and a certificate of appreciation from the university.





CERRM SHARED ITS EXPERTISE ON BAUXITE MINING

The workshop was a platform which aimed at providing better knowledge and understanding on bauxite mining activities to participants comprising lecturers, undergraduates, representatives from state agencies as well as those from companies operating mineral mining activities.

By: AHMAD AMIRUL FAIZ AHMAD TAJUDIN

A workshop aimed at enhancing awareness on issues relating to bauxite mining was organised by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), with the cooperation of Ministry of Transport, Kuantan Port Authority (KPA) and Marine Department.

The National Awareness Workshop on the Implementation of International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes (IMSBC) Code (With Special Focus On Cargoes That May Liquefy, Bauxite) was held at Zenith Hotel in Kuantan on April 27, 2016.

The workshop was a platform which aimed at providing better knowledge and understanding on bauxite mining activities to participants comprising lecturers, undergraduates, representatives from state agencies as well as those from companies operating mineral mining activities.

The workshop was officially opened by Kuantan Port Authority (KPA) Managing Director, Dato' Khairul Anuar Abdul Rahman. Also present were Dr. Kanagalingam from the Ministry of Transport, Alfredo Parroquin-Ohlson from IMO and Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP)'s Centre of Earth Resources Research and Management (CERRM) Director, Dr. Muzamir Hasan.

When presenting his talk, Dr. Muzamir said in his study titled "Geotechnical and Morphological Properties of Kuantan Bauxite: In-situ and Stockpile Samples from Bukit Goh and Gebengm," he highlighted matters relating to the geotechnical engineering characteristics of the bauxite sample in Kuantan.

"This sharing of input is important to the authorities as well as to the bauxite mining operators as it involved putting in place safe and more efficient work procedures. It gave a better picture to the participants how 'liquefaction' can occur inside a cargo ship that carries minerals such as bauxite," he said.

He added that the matter was highlighted after several cases of bauxite-laden cargo ships were reported to have sunken when the 'liquefaction' occurred in the vessels.

"Findings from the study would help create one standard operating procedure (SOP) for a sustainable bauxite mining in Malaysia," said Dr. Muzamir, who was appointed by IMO to represent Malaysia in an international committee that reviewed the amending process of IMSBC Code's next edition.

It would look into the safe work procedures as well as drafting a more effective procedure in the IMSBC Code when transporting minerals such as bauxite by cargo ships.

Other experts who shared their views were Dave Anderson from Australian Maritime Safety Authority, Dr. Ken Grant from Minton, Treharne and Davies Pte Ltd, David Bolomini from International Group of P & I, Lee Stenhouse from Roxburgh Environmental Ltd and David Tongue from International Association of Dry Cargo Shipowners (INTERCARGO).

The participants also took time off to visit the Faculty of Civil Engineering & Earth Resources Centralised Laboratory and Soil Mechanics And Geotechnics Laboratory.

They got to see the method and techniques used to analyse bauxite sample.

Kuantan Port Authority Operational and Regulatory Senior Manager, Dato' Asmawi Nordin said he was pleased with the findings from the research conducted by UMP and its commitment in providing the right information to the participants.

He added that KPA was willing to work together with UMP especially in matters relating to research and development that would bring about better and efficient work standards in handling bauxite.

Alfredo Parroquin-Ohlson from IMO said the workshop gave a clear picture on understanding the geotechnical engineering characteristics of bauxite from Kuantan which was different from other countries.

It gave useful information when it came to amending the next edition of IMSBC Code.

UMP RESEARCH EXPLOITED WASTE SLUDGE TO MAKE 'S-BRICK'

The research carried out involved using the egg shells which were added to the waste sludge mixture to make bricks, he added.



A team of Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) researchers had successfully produced bricks that were made of waste sludge and egg shells named S-Brick.

The team's lead researcher Dr. Doh Shu Ing, who is also a lecturer at the Faculty of Civil Engineering & Earth Resources (FKASA), said the research work to make the brick was carried out together with two university students, Muhammad Aizat Azed and Lwee Kui Choo.

Muhammad Aizat and Lwee are Civil Engineering (Construction Material) undergraduates.

"The idea came after seeing dumps of grimy waste sludge which I thought could be something that could be converted into useful materials to make bricks.

"A friend of mine who is involved in a cake business, at one time, had complained of having had to throw almost one tonne of egg shells daily to a point of having had to pay for

disposing them.

"Since then, I have tried adding egg shells in the mixture to make bricks," he said.

The research carried out involved using the egg shells which were added to the waste sludge mixture to make bricks, he added.

Dr. Doh, who is also Deputy Dean of FKASA's Research and Innovation, said the waste which was sourced from Indah Water Konsortium Sdn. Bhd. could be used as the substitute for cement as the nature of the waste composition was similar to cement.

The egg shells were used as additional material in the mixture to reinforce the brick because of the calcium carbonate matter in the shell. The composition would be further enhanced if the product were heated in the right temperature in a furnace or microwave oven.

The project started in October last year and completed in March this year with the cost estimated at 21 sen each which made S-Brick

cheaper as compared to the normal bricks.

The product is not only environment-friendly but also stronger than the commercial bricks available now.

"I hope that S-Brick can be marketed and used extensively in the country's construction industry. It can help reduce cement production as the process releases a lot of carbon dioxide.

"By using the waste sludge as substitute to cement, it can help reduce pollution," Dr. Doh said.

To date, they had received cooperation from Indah Water Konsortium Sdn. Bhd. and Egg Tech Production Sdn. Bhd., which had helped in providing the materials to make S-Brick.

The product had also received several awards – the Special Award of UMP Holding Invention Award at CITREX 2016, a gold medal at ITEX 2015, a bronze medal at Seoul International Invention Fair and a first place at MUCET 2015.

UMP'S INNOVATIVE WAYS TO HELP STROKE-STRICKEN PATIENTS



A team of Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) researchers had come up with a technology-related research that produced a rehabilitation device designed for stroke-stricken patients undergoing physiotherapy.

Faculty of Mechanical Engineering (FKM) lecturer, Zulkifli Ahmad said the research, assisted by Idris Mat Sahat and Saiful Anwar Che Ghani of the same faculty, came about after meetings with International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) rehabilitation specialists who related their experience working with such patients.

“The research made is about rehabilitation aids for patients who suffered physical complications and paralysed due to stroke and problems will normally arise during the physiotherapy session.

“The device made will ascertain the patient’s condition and whether the patient has made full recovery or not. It is done by observing the body balance,” he said.

He added that the study was completed in March last

year and that they had received cooperation from IIUM’s Department of Allied Health in Kuantan, courtesy of its rehabilitation unit head Narimah Daud.

He said the current practise to check on the progress of a patient was observed by the trained naked eye of the physiotherapy only.

“As such, my team started to work on a device that will detect the patient’s body balance.

“It involves fitting a pressure sensor that is placed under the insole. It will detect the weight mounted on it. The weight reading is taken with the patient in the standing position,” he added.

Zulkifli said a physiotherapist would instruct a patient to do a ‘sit to stand’ test, adding, the patient would first sit before standing up.

He added that before the patient stood up, both feet should be positioned exactly on the insole device and once they were up on their feet, the device would detect the pressure

The research made is about rehabilitation aids for patients who suffered physical complications and paralysed due to stroke and problems will normally arise during the physiotherapy session.

which would be the reading for the patient.

If the patient suffered a stroke on the left side, the reading of the weight would be higher on the right side, Zulkifli said, adding, the data would be displayed on the screen of a smartphone with Android-equipped apps that was developed by the team.

As such, the patient would have to do further exercise and treatment to get a balanced weight on both feet in order to make the rehabilitation process a successful one, he added.

Zulkifli also said he planned to add a voice function to the application with the voice giving instructions to the patient on the need to add weight to which side of the body.

He added that the device would act as a physiotherapist to the patient.

Zulkifli also said the device could be installed with SD card to store all the activities' details so patients would be able to do their own physical therapy at their own homes without the hassle of having to go to clinics.

They would only need to bring the SD card to the clinic for the next course of action and as a result, the device would help to reduce the work of physiotherapists.

Zulkifli said the device was suitable for patients suffering complications from stroke and had difficulties in balancing their bodies.

The set is priced at RM750 including the Android Apps.

The product won a gold medal at the Creation, Innovation, Technology and Research Exposition (Citrex '15) and a silver medal at the International Invention, Innovation and Technology Exhibition (ITEX '15).

Zulkifli said he hoped that the device could be used nationwide especially in hospitals, clinics and health clinics as it was much cheaper as compared to the imported ones which cost thousands of ringgit.

He also hoped that the device would help stroke patients to recover faster.





FSTI RESEARCHERS DEVELOPED MOBILE AND ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM

The system has several treatment stages - reducing Total Suspended Solids (TSS), especially high heavy metal content. The system also stabilises the water to the right pH level to make it fit for drink and other daily uses.

By: DR. WAN MOHD FAIZAL WAN ISHAK AND DR WAN MOHD HAFIZUDDIN WAN YUSSOF

Flood disaster that occurred each year caused a lot of problems to public amenity system – clean water supply system was compromised, electrical grid failed to function and infrastructure was damaged. All these led to water pollution in the affected, populated areas.

Contaminated water sources are likely to trigger diseases such as diarrhoea.

Statistics revealed in 2005 by the World Health Organisation showed that diarrhoea was the main reason that led to the death of 90% of children aged below five in developing countries as they had low body resistance.

Faculty of Industrial Sciences & Technology (FSTI) Lecturer, Dr. Wan Mohd Faizal Wan Ishak said residents in Kuantan were badly affected when clean water supply

was disrupted due to floods two years ago.

“It was an example of how bad the situation could be,” he added.

“As such, various types of water treatment systems have been designed to make it fit for use during emergency and disaster. However, by using imported products in each of the system, it is seen as contributing to added costs which make the current system a limited choice.

“This led us to design a mobile and environment-friendly water treatment system. The focus is to reduce production cost but making certain of the filter effectiveness so it can be used during an emergency such as during the flood or drought season,” he said.

He added that the system could treat water from various sources such as rainwater

or floodwater and could supply clean water in a short time, making it operable during crises.

“The system has several treatment stages - reducing Total Suspended Solids (TSS), especially high heavy metal content. The system also stabilises the water to the right pH level to make it fit for drink and other daily uses.

“In order to ensure that the system is effective, an environment-friendly filter has been designed so the quality of water is guaranteed.

“The water filter is made from palm oil factory waste that is processed and activated for filtering or treating almost all kinds of water. It can produce clean water that meets the minimum standard for drinking water,” he said.



UMP RESEARCH TEAM DESIGNED A GRADING MACHINE FOR AGARWOOD

The initiative began in 2006, with the cooperation of agarwood operators in Gua Musang and the Orang Asli in Kedaik, Rompin.

A group of researchers from Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) has devised an agarwood grading machine called Agarwood Detector System.

Lead researcher and UMP's Centre of Excellence for Bio Aromatic Research Director, Associate Professor Dr. Saiful Nizam Tajuddin said the detector system was the result of a research work carried out with Dr. Muhammad Najib Sharfi from Faculty of Electrical & Electronics Engineering.

Dr. Saiful Nizam Tajuddin, 39, said the study was to classify and determine the quality of wood or agarwood oil based on Case-based Reasoning (CBR) that was developed together with chemical sensor arrays.

The initiative began in 2006, with the cooperation of agarwood operators in Gua Musang and the Orang Asli in Kedaik, Rompin.

In due course, they designed the system which was a Smart Classification Tool to determine wood quality using the odour profiling technology.

"Through this technology, odour sample will be taken from wood or oil that has been identified by an expert and by means of olfactory gas chromatography.

Then, a few samples of the same quality will be taken over a fixed and consistent period of time.

"Once the unique smell of every wood sample is taken, odour profiling of each wood is kept in chemical sensor arrays or E-nose," he said.

He added that it would be stored as a case and each odour quality had different cases.

After the odour sample and profiling was done, the E-nose would be used to detect unidentified samples and the odour of the same properties of the kept profile would be retrieved as the scent of the same wood.

Similarly, if an odour profile that needed to be detected had a far more similar percentage, the sample would also be ascertained based on the case contained in the E-nose.

Dr. Saiful Nizam said manipulation in the grading of oil/wood quality in the market moved him to come up with the idea by combining knowledge in chemistry and sensors.

"Sensors available in the market have been using different Artificial Intelligence techniques.

"These tools are expensive and we have managed to come up with a locally-produced

device that is more accurate in its analysis and much cheaper in the market with the assistance of UMP undergraduates," he added.

Dr. Muhammad Sharfi Najib said to classify and determine the quality of wood or agarwood oil based of a collection of various cases were identified by experts and that, each odour profile from different samples were classified as a different case.

He added that various different cases from different odour samples that had been identified by experts would be kept in a case library and with each testing that used E-nose, CBR was able to distinguish the different wood scent quality.

All of the processes would be loaded in the E-nose microcontroller that had been designed accordingly, he said.

"Currently, operators are forced to use the conventional method that is based on physical properties such as density, colour and physical form," he said.

Dr. Saiful Nizam also said the final objective of the project was to detect agarwood resin in the Karas trees.

At the moment, Karas trees would have to be carved or cut down to obtain new resin and

as such, it would be risky for agarwood operators if the trees harvested did not produce resin, he added.

For future plans, he hoped that the detector system could be further improved so that the size would be smaller, use lesser power and portable, and easier to be taken to even remote places.

He also said the research work received cooperation from agencies and departments and obtained research grant funds from Ministry of Higher Education (FRGS) and Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI).

On the cost estimation, Dr Saiful Nizam said he had yet to fix the price but had already filed a patent for the innovative product.

He hoped this grading standard that verified the quality of oil or agarwood could be the yardstick that was based on scientific studies and as such, manipulation on purity and price could be better controlled.

The product has also received many international awards and recognitions including gold medals at the Invention and New Product Exposition (INPEX) 2015 and International Innovation Exhibition ITEK 2014.

ANAS WON 3RD PLACE IN PRIME MINISTER CUP'S INTERNATIONAL MALAY DEBATE 2016

The master's student of civil engineering, who competed in the international student studying in Malaysia category, took home RM8,000 in cash, a trophy, a set of Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (DBP) dictionary and a certificate of participation.



Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) international student Anas Mohamad Husain Kassim, who is from Iraq, won third place in the Prime Minister Cup's International Malay Debate 2016 (PABM) that was held in Putrajaya International Convention Centre (PICC), Putrajaya on March 26, 2016.

The master's student of civil engineering, who competed in the international student studying in Malaysia category, took home RM8,000 in cash, a trophy, a set of Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (DBP) dictionary and a certificate of participation.

Anas, 26, said he was grateful of the win and that it was his second time competing in the debate.

"I took part in the debate last year. This year, however, I did not expect to go all the way to the finals.

"I thank UMP for giving the opportunity and not forgetting the encouragement given by Centre

for Modern Languages & Human Sciences (CMLHS) Lecturer, Siti Muslihah Isnain and friends whose support helped me win the third place," he added.

Anas said in the finals, he chose the topic, '*Keamanan Dunia*' (World Peace) because his own country had never been peaceful since 2004.

He also said he really liked Malaysia because peace prevailed and people of diverse races and background lived in unity.

Anas added that he ended his debate by expressing his hope that peace and normalcy would return to Iraq with the children being able to play freely, its people living together and leaders able to shake hands with each other.

He said when making his points during the debate, he tried to use words that were simple and easy to pronounce.

"For words that were difficult to pronounce, I would say it repeatedly until it sounded right, especially words with the *ng* combination such as *menejar*," he said.

Anas said preparation for the debate started in early March and that he had to divide his time between studying and training.

The son of Professor Muhamad Husain Kassim Albazirgan and Balsam Adnan said the prize money of RM8,000 would be kept for future use.

The multi-lingual Anas, who can speak in Malay, English, Arabic and French, planned to further his studies up to the doctorate level and become a language expert.

The winner of PABM 2016 international student studying in Malaysia category was Abdalla Hassan Gharib from Tanzania. Abdalla, who represented Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), took home RM20,000 in cash, a trophy, a set of DBP dictionary and a certificate of participation.

The runner-up was Cambodian Nasear Slayman, representing Islamic International University Malaysia (IIUM). He won RM12,000 in cash, a trophy, a set of DBP dictionary and a certificate of participation.

Other categories of the debate competition were *Alam Melayu* (Malay World) and International.

The event was officially opened by Prime Minister, Yang Amat Berhormat Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Haji Abdul Razak.

Also present was wife to Prime Minister, Yang Amat Berbahagia Datin Sri Rosmah Mansor, Minister of Higher Education, Dato' Seri Idris Jusoh, Deputy Minister of Higher Education, Datuk Mary Yap Kain Ching and UMP Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs & Alumni), Professor Dato' Dr. Yuserrie Zainuddin.



UniSZA's successful programmes, 'Cross Boundary of UniSZA-Acheh' (UniSZA Merentas Sempadan Acheh) and 'First Malaysian Students Global Policy Symposium 2015', warranted him the award.



UniSZA'S MUHAMMAD ANAS RECEIVED HIGHEST STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD

Muhammad Anas Misbahudin of Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin (UniSZA) was announced as the recipient of Higher Education Ministry's highest student leadership award at 'Anugerah Tokoh Siswa' held in Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) Gambang campus on April 23, 2016.

UniSZA's successful programmes, 'Cross Boundary of UniSZA-Acheh' (*UniSZA Merentas Sempadan Acheh*) and 'First Malaysian Students Global Policy Symposium 2015', warranted him the award.

The computer science undergraduate took home the grand prize - a Honda Wave 110 cc motorcycle, RM5,000 in cash, a trophy and a certificate of appreciation from Minister of Higher Education Dato 'Seri Idris Jusoh.

Also present at the event were the ministry's Deputy Minister Datuk Mary Yap Kain Ching, Secretary General, Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Zaini Ujang, Higher Education Director General, Professor Dato' Dr. Asma Ismail, UMP Chairman Board of

Directors, Dato' Seri Mohd Hilmey Mohd Taib and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim.

Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir said the implementation of a prestigious event such as the 'Anugerah Tokoh Siswa' was part of the efforts taken to motivate undergraduates to refine their talents and present their constructive, positive and value-added potentials in various fields and be exemplary to their peers.

"In UMP itself, when it comes to implementing initiatives, projects and activities in various fields by the students, the Department of Student Affairs and Alumni (JHEPA) and Student Representative Council are given specific space and parameter as outlined in the UMP Strategic Plan 2016-2020.

"This is in line with the aspirations of UMP to be a leading technology university by the year 2020," he said.

He added that strategic focus was given to the empowerment of student through activities that were based



on creativity and innovation with socio-economic benefits, in line with UMP's tagline 'Communitising Technology' which underlined the implementation of UMP Strategic Plan 2016-2020.

"Thus, the use of the university's talent and ability in knowledge, skills and expertise in various engineering, science and technology research can be optimised by organising projects that will add value to the local and global community, in line with UMP's social commitment as a community university.

"In this context, the experience gained through the students' works is also part of the learning process as hoped by Ministry of Higher Education through the implementation of iCGPA," he said.

Winners of other categories were Zurianah Siti Ismail for Outstanding Volunteer, an undergraduate in management studies from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). She was a volunteer in a programme organised by Student Volunteer Foundation (YSS) - ASEAN Green Summer Volunteerism in Vietnam in 2015 and another YSS-ASEAN mission to Laos in 2015. She was also announced the Best Volunteer Award (Open) category.

Nineteen awards were up for grabs and these included the category of best leadership award for residential college - Muhammad Hafiz Abdul Rahman (USM), best leadership award for club/association - Shazreena Ishak (Universiti Teknologi MARA), best leadership award for innovation programme - Mohd. Fikri Mohd. Jumaat (Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia - UKM), best leadership award for entrepreneur programme - Iqlima Balqis Adham (Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia - USIM), best leadership award for uniform body - Royzaib Sugian

Bambang Sugian (UMP), best leadership award for cultural programme - Mai Izyani Haji Abd. Rani (UKM), best leadership award for public speaking - Abdul Muiz Mustafa (International Islamic University Malaysia), and most promising leader - Muhammad Idrus Faez (UniKL-MIAT).

Another category was for volunteerism and the winners were Nurain Zakiah Md. Hafizi of USIM for best volunteer in community welfare, Nur Fatin Nabila Abd. Rahman of UniSZA for best volunteer in youth development, Nurul Ain Syahirah Rosli of USM for best volunteer in environment, Muhammad Fathi Marzuki of UM for best volunteer in leadership programme, UM Volunteer Secretariat for best volunteer team and Nur Syafiah Athirah Ahmad Shafique of UiTM for most promising volunteer.

UMP's winner, Royzaib Sugian Bambang Sugian, said he was proud of his achievement.

Royzaib, an undergraduate in Bachelor of Applied Science (Hons) Material Technology, had previously served as the Commanding Officer (CO) of UMP ROTU (Reserve Officer Training Unit) Navy Uniformed Unit and was the officer for the Guard of Honour during the university's convocation ceremony in 2015.

He was named the Best Cadet Officer for ROTU Navy in 2015 and presented with the Sword of Honour by Sultan of Selangor, who is Commodore-in-Chief of the Royal Malaysian Navy (RMN).

Royzaib is also actively involved in volunteer works such as in natural disaster (floods) as well as in cultural activities. He was the Most Promising Actor in Short Theatre Festival in Negeri Sembilan recently.



UNDERGRADUATES URGED TO LIVE A FULFILING LIFE IN CAMPUS

A total of 2,471 undergraduates including 574 diploma students took their oaths, making their pledge to strive for excellence and glory before the Vice-Chancellor and University Senate members.

University students were reminded to live a meaningful and fruitful life in campus in their pursuit of personal excellence, academic distinction and of them having clear aspirations.

This was because a university was a place of self-intellectualism where they could become persons who would be able to contribute to their religion, race and nation.

With the setting of the higher education and job market getting increasingly challenging, and with the global economy being highly competitive, they should look into mental and physical alertness in determining their standard of performance to become competent and competitive university students.

This was the message driven home

by UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim in his speech to new intakes of 2016/2017 session during the induction week (MINDS) held at the university's Sports Complex here recently.

A total of 2,471 undergraduates including 574 diploma students took their oaths, making their pledge to strive for excellence and glory before the Vice-Chancellor and University Senate members.

They were led by undergraduate Zairil Ashriq Mohd Zailani of Mechanical Engineering Faculty.

Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim said with such demanding environment, the reality of the job market was seen as becoming more aggressive and it was best for them to explore the state of having good mental and

physical alertness.

“This was essential to determine the performance excellence level on growing into a holistic undergraduate in the university.

“Their participation in volunteer works is very significant, in the context that such acts will nurture compassion in them,” he said.

He also reminded the undergraduates about PTPTN loan study and their responsibility to pay back as soon as they were employed because PTPTN was a public fund, adding, failing to make repayments would cause problems to others.

On another matter, Professor Dato’ Dr. Daing Nasir said the new intakes would have the opportunity to apply for UMP scholarship which was introduced for the first this year and those who met the criteria, basic requirements and courses set by the university were eligible to apply and receive assistance in tuition fees this semester.

The scholarship was available under the university’s MyGift programme which also

offered another form of incentive scheme worth RM1,000 to be given to 10 new undergraduates who faced financial difficulties.

This was part of the efforts taken under the MyGift programme established by UMP that aimed of making the university a community establishment.

The programme sought donation from the public and corporate bodies where they could channel endowment with contributions utilised for academic sponsorship as well as to provide better facilities and amenities to undergraduates.

This would also help to foster the culture of giving and helping those in need.

Also present at the event were Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs & Alumni), Professor Dato’ Dr. Yuserrie Zainuddin, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), Professor Dr. Mashitah Yusoff, Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Corporate Affairs & Quality), Professor Dato’ Dr. Ishak Ismail and Registrar, Abd Hamid Majid.



INNOVATION IS THE FOCUS IN UMP'S BUSINESS ENGINEERING COURSE



Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) was one of the project partners involved in organising the International Business Engineering Conference (IBEC 2016) on September 26, 2016 recently.

It reflected the recognition and trust the university continued to get of its academic programmes from a network of various international partners.

UMP offers dual degree engineering programme established with universities from Germany as well as masters' degree programmes of international standard.

The university has the support of German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and works together with four other partners in organising IBEC 2016. They are Reutlingen University(Germany), Institut Teknologi Bandung (Indonesia), Ho Chi

Minh International University (Vietnam) and WIHA Werkzeuge GmbH (Germany).

IBEC is held on September 26 dan 27 at J.W Marriot Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

The conference aims to provide an international platform where participants and speakers can share and exchange the latest development about business engineering in the fields of business, technology, logistics and

supply networking.

The conference attracted more than 100 participants comprising academicians, major industry players and university students who came to share ideas and explore opportunities in the field, and eventually, help increase interests in business engineering and growth of the nation's economy.

Among the guests present at the official opening were UMP Vice-Chancellor Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim, Reutlingen University President, Professor Dr. Hendrik Brummell and Bosch Malaysia Managing Director, Simon Song, who is also one of the speakers in the conference.

Also present were Faculty of Industrial Management Dean, Dr. Mohd Ridzuan Darun, PT Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indonesia Director, Ir. I Made Dana M. Tangas and Ho Chi Minh International University Rector, Associate Professor Ho Thanh Phong.

Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim said good relationship had been forged following the establishment of the business engineering dual degree programme with Reutlingen University about a year ago.

"Under this programme, undergraduates are taught and trained to become competent technocrats in the business and technical aspects, abilities that will meet demands of the industries," he said.

He added that the dual degree programme was the first of such programme in South East Asia, offered by Faculty of Industrial Management (FIM) and Reutlingen Business School (ESB).

He also hoped that the conference would help to further enhance academic ties among the participants as well as create awareness on the existence and importance of business engineering and the premier dual degree programme offered.



UMP offers dual degree engineering programme established with universities from Germany as well as masters' degree programmes of international standard.



INDUSTRY'S RECOGNITION TO UMP JAPANESE LANGUAGE TEACHER



With this appointment, it gives the opportunity for language teachers in UMP to commercialise their research products and publications at the international level through this strategic partnership with local industries

By: MUHAMMAD AZLI SHUKRI

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) Japanese language teacher, Mohd Iszuani Mohd Hassan, was appointed as a member of the International Language Education Panel of Thinkers and Expert Reference by ISMA Holidays Sdn. Bhd.

The appointment letter was presented by ISMA Managing Director, Marsila Yunus at the company's office in Larkin, Johor on Februari 19, 2016.

ISMA is a tourism company under the Iskandar Malaysia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI).

ISMA Chairman and Iskandar Malaysia MCCI President, Md Salikon Sarpi said it had been the company's policy to appoint experts in related fields from university in a move to increase productivity and foster strategic ties.

Mohd Iszuani, who teaches at the Centre for Modern Languages & Human Sciences (CMLHS) said, among the benefits to be gained from this partnership was the opportunity for the commercialisation of research product, education, publication and consultancy at the international level through ISMA's network of company.

"With this appointment, it gives the opportunity for language teachers in UMP to commercialise their research products and publications at the international level through this strategic partnership with local industries," said Mohd Iszuani.

Last year, his product which was called Inazuma Software was promoted in Brunei through ISMA networking.

The software was designed to help people to master the Japanese language.

THE SUCCESSFUL OF UMP READING CIRCLE PROGRAM

This year, a total of 593 students have joined the event which aims to strengthen the command of the English language as well as to encourage the discovery of the wonders of reading among UMP students.



By: NURSYAHEEDAH MUHAMMAD ISA

Reading Circle Program (RCP) for Gambang Campus was successfully held at Astaka Hall, Universiti Malaysia Pahang on April, 27 2016.

The event was officiated by the Deputy Dean of Research and Innovation, Dr. Hafizoah Kassim. RCP is an annual collaborative event organised by the Centre of Modern Languages & Human Sciences (CMLHS) and the UMP Library.

This year, a total of 593 students have joined the event which aims to strengthen the command of the English language as well as to encourage the discovery of the wonders of reading among UMP students.

Other notable VIPs present were Deputy Chief Librarian, Dzull Zabbarod Ahmad and Head of Modern Languages Department, Dr. Noor Raha Mohd Radzuan.

RCP adopts an interactive instruction methodology as it relies on discussion and sharing among participants which is the core of the program.

Students were asked to read a book assigned to them prior to the event. On the day of the program, they were divided into small groups.

A facilitator was assigned to each group and together they reviewed and discussed all the important elements such as the theme, moral values and the characters involved.

At the end of the program, students with outstanding participation in the discussion were awarded the top reviewer award. This encouragement of an open discussion hopefully creates a community in which all members participate and learn with and from each other.

This process of interacting, discussing and sharing ideas assist in improving students' reading and listening skills, understanding, esteem and emotional intelligence.

Adolescents entering the adult world in the 21st century will need to read, write and possess advanced levels of literacy, more than at any other time in human history in order

to perform their tasks and cope with the flood of information around them.

Dr. Hafizoah Kassim in her speech stated that a desire to read should be ignited in students as they are future leaders.

"Leaders must possess creative thinking which can be nurtured through reading.

"Through this program, participants gain benefits such as increased self-knowledge and awareness, reading and academic motivation, and critical thinking.

"This program also acts as a channel to encourage UMP students to read different ranges of reading materials.

"Our UMP Library is one of the best libraries that offers vast books, journals, articles, magazines and other readings that should be made useful by everyone here," she said.

It is also hoped that RCP has sparked interest in independent reading among the students which lays the foundation for becoming enthusiastic lifelong readers.

NURTURING INNOVATIVE THINKERS



Through the Innovate Malaysia Start-up Pre-accelerator, powered by MDEC, participants were taught on Lean Start-up methodology and new elements in entrepreneurship to give them the right mind-set before pursuing their journey, which was also supported by the Second Start-up.

By: DR. NURUL HAZLINA NORDIN and MOHD RAIZALHIMY MOHD RAIS

A total of 264 teams from 25 institutes of higher learning (IHLs) took part in the Innovate Malaysia Design Competition (IMDC) 2016 but only 45 made it through to the grand finale which was held in Equatorial Hotel in Penang on August 9, 2016.

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) hosted the grand finale which was officially opened by Deputy Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Datuk Dr. Abu Bakar Mohamad Diah.

Some 400 people attended the event comprising captains of the local and international companies, educators, stakeholders as well as guests from the government departments and agencies.

Also present was UMP Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Alumni & Student Affairs), Professor Dato' Dr. Yusserrie Zainuddin who, in his speech, stated that IMDC served as an intellectual platform for undergraduates to further enhance their engineering education and experience particularly in the electrical and electronics field.

This was done through constructive engagement with representatives from the participating industries and academia, he said, adding, the number of participations had increased this year as compared to the previous years.

He also said 45 technical papers were scheduled for presentation in the competition and this provided ample time and opportunity for participants to engage in constructive

discussions that would help to contribute to knowledge dissemination and experience enrichment.

TechSource Systems, which was the sole distributor for MathsWork in Southeast Asia, was picked as the host representing the industry for this year's grand finale.

The company strongly backed the development of Internet for network connectivity - the Internet of Things (IoT), Data Analytic Trend, Model Based Design (MBD) and usage of low-cost hardware such as Arduino and Raspi 3 which were related to subjects in technology among university students.

Chief Executive of TechSource Systems, Kenneth Koh said IMDC aimed to encourage and ignite innovative thinkers among university students by using the right tools as applied by industries and the latest products and technology that engineers and scientists around the world were now using.

He added that the company was very pleased to be part of the event as they were able to demonstrate, educate and empower the young talents, who were in the engineering and computer science fields, to become more skilful and competent.

Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) Chief Operating Officer, Dato' Ng Wan Peng, in her speech at the closing event, explained how IMDC was very much aligned to the agency's National ICT Initiative and National Digital Economy Initiative.

She said these initiatives, among others, were aimed at advancing the country towards a developed digital economy and in the process, helped to fulfil the government's aspiration of becoming a high-income nation.

For this year, IMDC had expanded its focus by including aspects of entrepreneurship, charting the path to create more Internet of Things (IoT) start-ups, she added.

Through the Innovate Malaysia Start-up Pre-accelerator, powered by MDEC, participants were taught on Lean Start-up methodology and new elements in entrepreneurship to give them the right mind-set before pursuing their journey, which was also supported by the Second Start-up, she said.

She also said MDEC viewed this as a good platform to nurture and accelerate high potential IoT start-ups, a sector that the agency strongly supported and deemed as one of the key drivers of the digital economy.

IMDC is a multi-discipline engineering design competition open to all final-year engineering and computer science undergraduates in Malaysia.

First introduced in 2010, IMDC has grown significantly over the years. It is organised by a panel of companies such as Altera, Intel, Keysight Technologies, MathWorks, Microsoft, National Instruments, SilTerra/CEDEC, Motorola Solutions and Vitrox.

IMDC has strong support from the



government and IHLs especially from Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC), Talent Corporation Malaysia (TalentCorp) and Malaysian Technical Universities (MTUN).

It is managed by Dream Catcher Consulting Sdn. Bhd.

This year's participants comprised final-year engineering and computer science undergraduates who had been involved in a tough year-long task to complete their respective project proposals.

The 45 teams made the cut after much scrutiny and undergoing training conducted by various participating industrial partners.

In the competition, they went through nine organisers' technology tracks and were required to identify a real life problem or take up the challenge thrown to them by the Design Challengers such as the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Telekom Malaysia Berhad (TM), Cancer Research Malaysia (CRM) and Sime Darby Group.

Anxiety ran high among them as they needed to demonstrate their inventions and pitch their ideas before a panel of judges who were experts in their respective fields.

It was also undoubtedly a challenging but exciting task for the judges as this year's finalists showed excellent project proposals.

After much deliberation, the winners of each technology platform were announced with Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) taking the award in the Altera track. Their project was titled, 'FPGA Implementation on

Hearing Protection Device (HPD)'.

For the Intel track, the winner was Swinburne University of Technology with their project titled, 'NFC-based Intelligent Parking System Utilising Smartphones with Parking Lot Monitoring (InstantPark)'.

Keysight Technologies track winner was Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) and their project, 'Electrochemical Bio-Sensing Measurement System for Cancer Gene Detection' and followed by Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) with their project, 'IoT: Smart Car Monitoring System (Vehicle-After-Crash Alert)'.

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) was MathWorks track winner with their project, 'Development of Network Based Surveillance Module (NBSM) for the Wild' and Microsoft track's winner was Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) with their project, 'Innova Board (Compact Body Balance Training Device)'.

For the Motorola Solutions track, the winner was Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP) with their project, 'Development of a Health Monitoring Vest for the Elderly' while National Instrument track's winner was Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka (UTeM) with their project, 'Development and Analysis of Head Tracking System for Robotic Wheelchair Control'.

The winner of SilTerra/CEDEC track was UteM with their project titled, 'Design and Development of a Low Power Compact

Integrated Processor of an Embedded System' while Vitrox track's winner was Curtin University and their project was 'Camera-based Solar Tracking System'.

The Design Challengers also gave away prizes for best project with its Design Challenge Award. The winner of Sime Darby challenge was Swinburne University of Technology for their project titled, 'Autonomous Oil Palm Loose Fruits Collector'.

The TM Challenge winner was USM – 'Development of Flexible Platform Based on IoT for Telemedicine' while WCS Challenge winner was also team from USM with their project, 'Development of Network Based Surveillance Module (NBSM) for the Wild'.

Swinburne University of Technology team's project, 'NFC-based Intelligent Parking Systems Utilising Smartphones with Parking Lot Monitoring (InstantPark)' also won the MDEC IoT Award while MDEC Start-up Pre-Accelerator award went to five projects.

Other awards presented at the event were Best Demo Video – UiTM for their project, 'Electrochemical Bio-Sensing Measurement System for Cancer Gene Detection' while Institute of Engineers Malaysia (IEM)'s Best Paper Award went to USM with their project titled, 'Dendritic Cell Detection Kit'.

The highlight of the award presentation was when UTM was announced as the champion with their project, 'Innova Board (Compact Body Balance Training Device)'. The team received the Innovate Malaysia Excellence Award.

TalentCorp CEO, Shareen Shariza Dato' Abdul Ghani, in her speech, said as Malaysia shifted away from manufacturing and geared into research and development (R&D) which was in line with the government's aspiration of Malaysia becoming a high-income nation, demand would continue to grow for talent with the ability to think critically and creatively, and those who would be able to innovate and adapt to rapid industrial changes.

She added that greater industry academia collaboration (IAC) as well as participation by the industries in the academic field was needed to ensure that graduates joining the workforce where those with real work experience.

"In this respect, it was encouraging to see that the industry and academia had once again work together to nurture the next generation of engineering talent through IMDC," she said.

TEN NON-NATIVE CHINESE SPEAKERS FROM UMP EXCELLED IN THEIR MANDARIN PROFICIENCY INTERNATIONAL TEST

The results were commendable with three of them who sat the HSK Level One and seven, for HSK Level Two, scoring full marks.



Ten non-native Chinese speaking University Malaysia Pahang (UMP) undergraduates scored outstanding marks in their Mandarin Proficiency International Test which was announced on January 15, 2016.

The test, “*Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK)*” was established and recognised by China. It is equivalent to the IELTS and TOEFL tests.

HSK evaluates Mandarin language ability of non-native Chinese speakers. It has six stages of evaluation to test their skills in listening, reading and writing.

According to Director of Mandarin Language and Culture Centre (MLCC) and senior language teacher Yong Ying Mei, the undergraduates sat their HSK tests at the end of last year at Kong Zi Institute in Universiti Malaya and received the results from China two months later.

“The results were commendable with three of them who sat the HSK Level One and seven, for HSK Level Two, scoring full marks.

“This shows that engineering students can master a foreign language with flying

colours. Challenges when learning a foreign language need to be overcome with diligence and hard work,” she said.

She also said it would be an added value for a non-Chinese undergraduate who learned a foreign language when they went out to look for employment in the highly competitive technology era.

Two of the outstanding undergraduates were from Faculty of Mechanical Engineering (FKM), Dzutika Muhamed and Nabila Mohd Adzan, who scored 200/200 for their HSK Level One.

Zulhilmi Mohd, an undergraduate at Faculty of Technology Engineering (FTEK) obtained the highest mark of 190/200 for the HSK Level Two and he attributed his good results to singing Mandarin songs during classes.

He also said the singing made him more confident to speak Mandarin.

Another undergraduate, Norhaida Wati Mamat, 21, from Faculty of Electrical & Electronics Engineering (FKEE) said she had

always wanted to learn Mandarin and was inspired by popular singer Shila Amzah.

Norhaida was excellent too in her HSK Level Two.

Nurzuriati Kamarudin said she was proud with her achievement and expressed her gratitude to the language teachers and MLCC for organising the HSK intensive test that had benefitted the undergraduates.

For someone with no basic in the Mandarin language, Mohamad Ikhwan Mohd Rashid, 21, of FTEK, took 56 hours of lessons in his second semester and was very happy to have passed the HSK Level Two.

Nurul Syammimi Zulkarani Hassan, 21, an undergraduate at Faculty of Civil & Earth Resources Engineering (FKASA) said it was worth all the efforts because she passed with good results for her HSK Level Two.

Also in the same mood was FKASA undergraduate, Nur Fazliana Muhamad Razali, 21, who sat the HSK Level Two and she hoped that it would serve as a bonus for her when seeking for jobs after graduation.

A DAY OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE - DISCOVER THE BEAUTY OF THE PROPHET'S LANGUAGE



The one-day programme was aimed at promoting cultural exchange and the university's international students were also roped in as volunteers.

By: JAMILAH BEBE MOHAMAD, NURSYAHEEDAH MUHAMMAD ISA AND ROSJULIANA HIDAYU ROSLI

Centre for Modern Languages & Human Sciences (CMLHS), Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) organised an educational programme with Arabic elements involving secondary students from Sekolah Menengah Agama Al-Maarif, an excellent cluster school.

The programme was held on September 28, 2016 and jointly organised with Department of Academic and International Affairs.

Those involved included Dr. Mohamad Hilmi Mat Said, Mohd Azam Muhammad Akhir, Mardhiyyah Zamani, Rosjuliana Hidayu Rosli, Farah Hanan Aminallah and Jamilah Bebe Mohamad.

The one-day programme was aimed at promoting cultural exchange and the university's international students were also roped in as volunteers.

Various activities were carried such as Explore Race, exhibition on Arabic culture, Arabic calligraphy workshop and al Funun.

The secondary students also got to practise their oral skill in Arab as many of the international university students were native speakers of the Arabic language and vice versa as the Malay language was a compulsory subject for the undergraduates.

Yaser Mohamad, an undergraduate from Yemen, said the programme not only helped to boost his confidence as he and his friends were able to practise speaking in Malay with the secondary students but they also got to showcase their culture.

The undergraduates were mainly from Sudan, Yemen, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates.

It was indeed a fruitful and productive programme as participants mingled and shared a lot of things. They learned about cultures and values of other countries.

UMP CONTRIBUTES ITS EXPERTISE IN A HUMANITARIAN MISSION IN ACEH

The university would also continue to hold the programme in the future and would help to improve the water supply system especially for cooking as well as other facilities deemed fit for the home in order to cater to the increased number of occupants.





In a move to 'Communitising Technology', Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) had strategically mobilised its talents to ensure that those who were experts in the technology area were deployed to the field so people at the grass root level would be able to enjoy the benefits.

As such, innovations and research works carried out by the university encompassed the human factor, universality factor and social factor. A simple but big impact innovation that could transform the life and socio-economy of the people would be far more meaningful.

UMP held a programme called 'Acheh Social Innovation Humanitarian Mission Project' on May 4, 2016 that provided water filters and solar lights for 230 residents and orphans at the Dayah Nurul Huda Charity Home in Banda Aceh.

The programme was organised by UMP Women Association (Matahari), together with the Technology Engineering Faculty Student Association (Protech) and the undergraduates from Kuala Syiah University (Unsyiah). The objective was to provide better basic necessities to the group.

There were 36 people involved in the

project and they helped to clean the water ponds, paint and spruce up the home and its surrounding as well as conducting awareness and academic programmes.

The project did not only serve as a mobility programme for the undergraduates but was also seen as an initiative that supported volunteerism agenda implemented by UMP, an initiative called 'Community University'. It is an internationally-recognised social service work.

The project was led by Chief of Deputy Registrar (Research & Innovation) and Matahari Advisor, Datin Fazia Ali. Also present was Matahari President, Professor Datin Dr. Mimi Sakinah Abdul Munaim.

Matahari also received good cooperation from the Teuku Umar University Women Association or Darmawanita UTU.

They also raised funds of RM300,000 to build and upgrade facilities in the hostel that would benefit the occupants whose numbers kept growing. The current facilities could only cater to 60 people.

The charity home also received contributions from Malaysia Islamic Economy Development Foundation (YaPEIM) that was

meant for the construction of a residential unit for the teachers.

This project gave the opportunity for the participants especially UMP undergraduates to share ideas with UTU undergraduates. It gave them the perspective of doing humanitarian work with an Acheh community.

The university would also continue to hold the programme in the future and would help to improve the water supply system especially for cooking as well as other facilities deemed fit for the home in order to cater to the increased number of occupants.

UMP would ensure that its research findings and technology-based innovations would be the platform for sustainable development to further enhance the socio-economy of the targeted group of people.

The same thing would be applied for its social innovation effort which was a community charity drive involving the transfer of technology. It was to be carried out through its Community University programme. This would help to make the university more closer to the people and for the people to be more open to the university.

UMP UNDERGRADUATES' NOBLE CAUSE IN CAMBODIA

It was UMP's Fourth Humanitarian Mission to Cambodia. The first stop was Kampung Baik Anlong and among the activities that they conducted were free health checks for villagers aged between 35 and 80 and English classes to the children as well as a gotong royong session to clean the surrounding area of the villages.



A total of 20 undergraduates and four staff of Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) took part in a humanitarian mission where they carried out community service works and helped the people of Kampung Baik Anlong and Kampung Crai An Dait in Cambodia.

Kampung Baik Anlong was four hours drive from the city of Phnom Penh while Kampung Crai An Dait was different from other villages.

The mission was organised by the Student Representative Council (MPP), with the cooperation of the Student Affairs & Alumni Department (JHEPA).

It was UMP's Fourth Humanitarian Mission to Cambodia. The first stop was Kampung Baik Anlong and among the activities that they conducted were free health checks for villagers aged between 35 and 80 and English classes to the children as well as a gotong royong session to clean the surrounding area of the villages.

Programme Director, Alief Uzair Naharudin said they were well received by the community.

"The children and youths were taught about oral hygiene and the right way of brushing their teeth, were given medicine to clear worms in the guts and lice and given explanation on the importance of personal hygiene.

"They also held a programme, 'Oh My English (OME)' and was

assisted by one of the students who is fluent in Bahasa Melayu, who helped other children to understand the universal language that is spoken worldwide," he said.

He said they learned to use words that were commonly used, adding, response to the OME programme was encouraging and that it was a fun experience for everyone.

On the next trip to Kampung Crai An Dait, it was a challenging but exciting one that included a boat ride crossing the Mekong River. It was something that was simply unforgettable.

One of the programme participants, Muhammad Hafizuddin Rasid, said the journey was a thrilling one where they got to experience the boat ride and arrived safely at the village.

The villagers also received free health checks and another gotong royong session was held where they helped to clean a newly-built surau and its surrounding. The participants took the opportunity to visit a new house which was constructed based on public donations initiated by UMP in a bid to help poor families in the area.

Although the location of Kampung Crai An Dait was not far from the nearest town, the facilities were rather limited. They had to contend using a dilapidated boat to ferry them to town while the houses were still wooden structures. It was different with Kampung Baik Anlong where the facilities were better while the homes were made of bricks.

ENACTUS UMP MOBILITY PROGRAMME IN INDIA

The programme is rather unique as compared to other programmes because it shows us that we should not only strive for excellence in engineering and technology but also in entrepreneur skills and health matters



Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) staff and members of Enactus UMP Club went to India in April this year to carry out various community services under the Enactus mobility programme called *'Boosting Opportunity Beyond Border'*.

They spent nine days in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Agra and Jaipur beginning April 8, 2016.

Those in the group included Entrepreneur Centre Director, Professor, Dr. Azlinna Azizan, Enactus UMP Advisor, Datin Hajah Mazita Mokhtar and two staff members, Ramddan Zahari and Azeri Adnan.

The programme was organised by the university's Entrepreneur Centre and Health Centre and focused on three main objectives - providing community service by sharing knowledge, experience and conducting check-ups together with Enactus Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (Delhi IIT).

Enactus UMP Project Advisor and Faculty of Chemical & Natural Resources Engineering (FKKSA) undergraduate, Mohamad Ridzuan Mohamed Ali Jinnah said the programme aimed at educating the people on the importance of healthcare.

He added that India was a highly-populous country and emphasis was given on cleanliness and hygiene especially among children to prevent viruses from spreading.

"The programme is rather unique as compared to other programmes because it shows us that we should not only strive for excellence in engineering and technology but also in entrepreneur skills and health matters," he said.

Mohamad Ridzuan added that the trip, which served as a benchmark for future communal activities, really helped UMP Enactus in their plans to take the club to greater heights, in line with the university's aspirations.

He also said they held a meeting with representatives from Enactus Delhi IIT, which was one of the programme's highlights because Enactus Delhi IIT was the champion of Enactus India National Cup.

They represented India at the World Cup Championship that was held in South Africa last year.

"Several suggestions and views were discussed and eventually it was settled that Enactus UMP should be involved in something new - social entrepreneurship.

"It led to the two clubs working together to provide aids to the locals. Enactus UMP latest project called *'Nadi Craft'* was seen as suitable to be implemented in the cities in India because there were a lot of agriculture wastes which were not been properly managed.

"This could be harmful to the people and

the solution to the situation was to burn the wastes," he said.

Mohamad Ridzuan said they also met Delhi IIT Consultant Executive, Professor Somarajan and got the chance to see the institute's entrepreneur incubator system managed by its Entrepreneur Centre, which had among the best systems in India.

"The experience gained would help UMP Entrepreneur Centre to come up with a similar system," he said.

Faculty of Industrial Sciences & Industrial Technology (FIST) undergraduate and Programme Director, Nurul Izzati Ahmad, 23, said she was pleased with the commitment showed by the participants to continue realise the university's aspiration in being a community university through strategic and efficient volunteer works and community services locally and globally.

She said Enactus UMP would remain with its works to help the less fortunate and those in need of financial aids as well as organising international humanitarian mission such as the one in India.

She also said its two main projects, *'Nadi Craft'* and *'Serai Wangi'*, located in Bukit Kenau, Pekan were high-impact projects that would participate in Enactus competition.



INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY STUDENT HELPING OUT IN GOTONG- ROYONG AT MADRASAH DANIYAH DURRULILMI

The initiative taken by the international students and organised by Islamic Centre & Human Development (PIMPIN) and UMP Women Association (Matahari) was part of the efforts taken to foster closer ties between the university and members of the public.



Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) international students took part in a *gotong-royong* to spruce up Madrasah Daniyah Durrulilmi at Kampung Padang Jaya, Jaya Gading Kuantan on January 17, 2016.

The initiative taken by the international students and organised by Islamic Centre & Human Development (PIMPIN) and UMP Women Association (Matahari) was part of the efforts taken to foster closer ties between the university and members of the public.

Twelve of them helped to clean the floor, window and painted the madrasah so children could start learning at the madrasah.

Madrasah Daniyah Durrulilmi which means 'Religion – Gem of Knowledge' (*Agama*

Permata Ilmu) has been operational for almost five years, teaching children from age five until 12.

According to UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim, the madrasah was built based on public donation but it was still insufficient.

"As such, UMP came forward with several contributions that would help with the needs of the students and to ensure that they would benefit from these donations," he said.

He said the activity was also meant to inculcate the culture and spirit of volunteerism among undergraduates.

The madrasah's principal Ustaz Zulkiflee Hamid, 46, said they were honoured to receive

the visit from UMP and could feel them being so close with the community.

"The pupils are taught *Fiqh, Usuluddin, Tasawuf, Ilmu Alaf*, Quran reading and *Fardhu Ain*," said Ustaz Zulkiflee who received his education in Pattani and Yemen.

Chemical engineering undergraduate Muhammad Abdulqawi, 23, who is from Yemen, said he felt very motivated to joining the programme which aimed at facilitating the children at the madrasah.

Also present were PIMPIN Islamic Affairs Officers, Ustaz Md Abdu Ishak and Ustaz Muhammad Sallehuddin Md Derus.



UMP VOLUNTEERS DISTRIBUTED SAHUR MEALS TO THE HOMELESS

The programme is part of the initiative taken by UMP in its support to the UMP MyGift Programme and its volunteerism agenda. These are efforts to make UMP a community university.



A total of 50 volunteers from Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) distributed 450 food packs to the homeless in the city of Kuala Lumpur under its 'Kembara Singgah Sahur' programme on June 24, 2016.

It was organised by Islamic and Human Development Centre (PIMPIN) and among those present were Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Industry Partnership & Community Relations), Professor Dr. Zulkefli Yaacob, Ustaz Muhammad Sallehudin Md. Derus and Ustaz Muhammad Farid Mohd. Idris.

Professor Dr. Zulkefli said the programme gave the opportunity to UMP undergraduates to see for themselves the homeless and at the same time, do good deeds by distributing the food packs for sahur during the holy month of Ramadan.

"The programme is part of the initiative taken by UMP in its support to the UMP MyGift Programme and its volunteerism agenda. These are efforts to make UMP a community university.

"The programme has also been made more meaningful with the participation of Marrybrown Restaurant in Kuala Lumpur which provided the food packs," he said.

He added that the programme was carried out with the aim of instilling the values concern and kindness to the less fortunates as well as to inculcate a sense of responsibility among the younger generation on the virtue of helping the needy.

The volunteers were divided into three groups and the places that they went were Jalan Tunku Abdul Rahman, Jalan Raja Laut, Jalan Munsyi Abdullah and ended at Masjid Jamek, Kuala Lumpur.

For Mohamad Danial Mohd. Azmi, 25, who had been a homeless for the past three years, said most of them stayed in the area because they had no choice and that it was difficult to get a job.

He added that his family no longer cared for him but that did not deter him to strive to make changes in his life and aimed for the

better.

Another homeless man who wanted to be known as Azman, 30, said he worked at a restaurant but him and his uncle decided to sleep at the five-foot pavement of a shop because room rental was too high.

He said they also received a lot of aids from members of the public and would regularly receive food and other essentials and that it was easy to go to work.

UMP volunteer Muhammad Amirul Hafidz Darus said the experience of meeting the homeless got them to see for themselves how the homeless lived in the city centre.

Most of the homeless were former drug addicts, ex-convicts, unemployed, those ostracised by their families and those from poor background.

There were also those who were homeless because of problem of their own that required some form of support, motivation and awareness.

‘KONGSI REZEKI’ CHARITY PROGRAMME FOR UMP UNDERGRADUATES



There are a number of students who receive aids from ‘zakat’ every year which is open to all undergraduates facing hardship. They will get financial aids for subsistence allowance or tuition fees.

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) carried out a ‘*Kongsi Rezeki*’ programme which was a really low-priced lunch take-away aimed at helping to lessen the financial burden of needy undergraduates.

The cost of the lunch is RM5 but it is sold at RM1.

The programme was organised by Department of Student Affairs and Alumni (JHEPA) at both of UMP campuses in Pekan and Gambang and supported by the university’s cafeteria and Student Representative Council (MPP).

UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato’ Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim said the initiative was part of the efforts by the university in looking after the welfare of undergraduates.

He added that the university had a unit,

Student Funding and Welfare Unit which was managed with the assistance of MPP’s Service and Welfare Exco Committee.

“The unit would identify poor undergraduates or those who needed help while pursuing their studies in the university.

“There are a number of students who receive aids from *zakat* every year which is open to all undergraduates facing hardship. They will get financial aids for subsistence allowance or tuition fees.

“Similarly, the Islamic Centre and Human Development (PIMPIN) also plays a role by organising ‘*Jejak Asnaf*’ programme in a bid to find and help undergraduates of poor background,” he said.

He added that PIMPIN also organised other activities such as helping with food



preparation during Ramadan that was carried out every year as well as preparing and serving lunch during certain days at UMP Mosque.

He said under the Iftar Jamaie programme which had been carried out for the last two years, PIMPIN would give away free meals every Thursday while porridge would be distributed to eligible undergraduates after the Friday prayer.

Professor Dato' Dr. Daing also said as part of the efforts to acculturate the campus, UMP Women Association (Matahari) introduced *Sinaran* Voucher Programme which involved sponsoring lunches for those in need.

He added that with the various initiatives and aids in place, he urged undergraduates to take the opportunity given.

He said the undergraduates could also work under the Working Undergraduate

Scheme (SPB) or get involve in entrepreneurial activities available in the campus that would help lessen their burden.

He also said UMP was serious in tackling welfare issues involving its undergraduates and would always improve efforts to help those in need.

One of the ways was by introducing UMP MyGift Programme – an initiative that encouraged all staff members and the public to contribute for a good cause.

There are 10 types of endowment and fund - Student Scholarship Endowment, Laboratory/Facilities Endowment, Chair Endowment, Endowment for Excellence, Community Fund, Ramadan Fund, Mosque Fund, Disaster Fund, *Wakaf* Fund and Infrastructure Fund.

The MyGift Programme is a channel

where campus denizens and alumni as well as outsiders especially those from the industry and companies can join forces and make contributions to the university's endowment fund.

UMP staff members can make contributions through salary deduction.

Support from staff, alumni, individuals and corporate bodies will indeed help to promote the culture and practise of giving for the good cause and contribute to the growth in education.

Contributions from all parties in supporting the development of education will project the university to an outstanding position and in due course, will help to realise its Strategic Plan (2016-2020).

It is in line with the theme of the strategic plan, 'Glory by Design'.



UMP ORGANISED GOLF CHARITY EVENT TO RAISE FUND FOR MYGIFT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

The programme needs to be a sustainable one, operating in a strategically planned and well-defined framework with funds raised from various sources. The funds are to be utilised for the purpose of academic sponsorship as well as for improving facilities and academic quality in UMP,”

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) Golf Club hosted UMP Golf Charity Tournament on September 3, 2016 which was aimed at raising fund for scholarships under its MyGift programme.

The charity event was held at Glenmarie Golf and Country Club, Shah Alam, Selangor with funds raised to be utilised as scholarships offered to undergraduates of poor families with good grades.

UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato’ Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim said it was an initiative under the university’s MyGift programme and the funds would help the undergraduates to continue with their studies.

“MyGift programme is set up as a facility for the society, campus staff and alumni as well as those from the industries and companies to join forces with the university in supporting a culture of giving for the purpose of espousing

great education.

“The programme needs to be a sustainable one, operating in a strategically planned and well-defined framework with funds raised from various sources. The funds are to be utilised for the purpose of academic sponsorship as well as for improving facilities and academic quality in UMP,” he said.

Programme Director, Dr. Ayib Rosdi Zainun said the entry fee was RM3,000 for each person while a flight cost RM10,000, adding, the charges included expenses for the use of the golf course, buggy cars, insurance, souvenirs and prizes as well as breakfast and lunch on the tournament day.

“MyGift gets its funds from the entry fees as well as donations contributed by participants of the tournament such as corporate bodies and individuals.

“At the same, the tournament also helps



to promote UMP and encourage people to donate for a good cause. It is also a sporting event that promotes good ties between UMP, the industries and public agencies," he added.

He also said the university was pleased with the support they had received such as from DRB-Hicom Berhad, HeiTech Padu Berhad, Perusahaan Otomobil Kedua Sendirian Berhad (Perodua), Proton Holdings Berhad, UMP Alumni Association, Grahatech Resources Sdn. Bhd., Hewlett-Packard and Tenaga Nasional Berhad.

The tournament attracted 54 participants and among the prizes up for grabs were a Proton car for a hole-in-one, electrical appliances and golf goodies.

The tournament's winner was Jonas Lind from Grahatech with the second place won by his friend Kamarul Zaman Abu Samah while Mohamad Kawi Nong from Bank Rakyat was



placed third.

Also present at the prize-giving event were UMP Board of Directors' Chairman, Dato' Sri Mohd. Hilmey Mohd. Taib and Tan Sri Dato' Sri Abi Musa Asa'ari Mohamed Nor from HeiTech Padu.

UMP was glad to have been able to invite



local and international golfers, UMP alumni, captains of the public and private sectors and members of the public who supported this noble cause and for those who took part in the second charity event tournament held at the Mahkota Golf and Country Club in Kuantan, Pahang.

UMP INTRODUCED EAP TO NURTURE CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE AMONG STAFF



EAP is an initiative by UMP to help improve work satisfaction among staff by focusing on the resource and services rendered so they would stay happy and contented.



By: SUZLINA MOHAMAD

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) introduced an Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) aimed at providing help and support to staff, which in turn, would transform them into a workforce that practised a culture of excellence in all aspects.

It included living a healthy lifestyle and having high awareness and compliance to the rules and practice of sustainable living.

EAP is an initiative by UMP to help improve work satisfaction among staff by focusing on the resource and services rendered so they would stay happy and contented.

Acting Registrar, Abd. Rahman Haji Safie said, the idea for the programme was mooted by UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim himself when he delivered his Annual Speech last year.

"The main purpose of establishing EAP is to provide advice to staff facing difficulty in work, struggling to find balance between career and family and suffering from physical and emotional health as well as experiencing personal life changes that can have direct impacts on quality, focus and daily work performance," he said.

He added that a Staff Consultancy and Assistance Unit was set up under EAP that

would let matters involving problems faced by the staff to be managed more effectively.

He also said free professional help would be provided, with counselling rendered on short term basis and referral given if need be, adding, they would be assured of confidentiality.

"The programme has been reviewed and extracted from the best practices of its kind, with similar practices already implemented in reputable universities in the world such as in the United States of America and United Kingdom.

"It is a programme which these universities have taken to ensure excellent work performances are produced consistently and eventually, heightened to the next level.

"In the world's current state where rapid and dramatic changes continued to occur, issues relating to human resources remained to be an agenda that needed to be addressed by academic researchers or human resource practitioners," he said.

Thus, UMP viewed the facts of changes that are happening as something which should be given due focus especially in areas that can have impacts on the environment of a workplace such as increase in social network

influence, healthcare cost, low motivation among employees and personal issues that will have direct effects on work productivity.

Currently, a road show is being carried out at every responsible centre where briefings are held in order to give a clear picture about the programme such as the objectives, services offered. The road show is also a platform where feedbacks from staff are obtained.

The first few initiatives that have been implemented under the Staff Consultancy and Assistance Unit (UPBS) are drafting of the EAP Policy, setting up an official portal, an application and statistical system, building a facility and service area and conducting several pre-assessment sessions and related training programmes.

In a bid to have the programme getting the reputation and credibility equal to the functions carried out, it will be referred to EAP professional bodies, practitioners and agencies that have long been implementing this procedure.

It is necessary for the programme to go through the right benchmarking and discussed at professional conferences so the latest and comprehensive input can be obtained.

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