Shaping future architects

IN a world shaped by evolving cities, sustainability challenges and cultural narratives, architecture stands at the intersection of creativity and responsibility.

At Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR), the Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science (LKC FES) nurtures future architects who do more than design buildings; they shape meaningful, resilient environments for society.

At the heart of this vision is the Bachelor of Science (Honours) Architecture, a three-year full-time programme accredited by the Board of Architects Malaysia, ensuring that graduates meet national professional standards.

The programme serves as a strong foundation for students aspiring to become professional architects, blending artistic exploration with technical precision.

What sets UTAR apart is its learning-by-doing philosophy. Students are immersed in studio-based learning, where ideas are transformed into tangible designs through sketches, models and digital simulations.

Guided by experienced academicians and industry practitioners, students develop not only technical expertise but also essential soft skills such as critical thinking, teamwork and communication.

Beyond the classroom, UTAR places strong emphasis on holistic and global exposure. Students participate in design competitions, academic conferences and collaborative projects with professional bodies such as Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM) and regional institutions.

Sustainability lies at the core of the programme. Through design studios and research initiatives, students are encouraged to address real-world issues such as climate change, urbanisation and resource management.

The strength of UTAR's architecture programme is best reflected in the remarkable achievements of its students and academics on both national and international stages.

In 2025, UTAR Architecture students clinched the Gold Award at the PAM Annual Architecture Student Works Exhibition (PAASWE), impressing judges with a design that seamlessly integrated environmental awareness, cultural identity and innovative use of sustainable materials.

The same year saw UTAR students excel at Architalent 2025, an international competition under the Architect Regional Council Asia (Arcasia). UTAR achieved a historic milestone by securing two finalist positions, with one student earning the first runner-up and Best Presenter Award for a visionary project that reimagined urban waste into opportunities for sustainable innovation.

Architecture students from UTAR secured two major accolades at the prestigious Architalent 2025 competition.

These accomplishments are complemented by strong academic excellence. UTAR academics from the Department of Architecture and Sustainable Design were awarded the Best Paper Award at an international architecture conference in Japan in 2025, showcasing the faculty's research impact and thought leadership in sustainable architecture.

For those who wish to advance further, UTAR also offers a Master of Architecture programme, designed to cultivate advanced design thinking, professional competency and ethical practice. This pathway equips graduates to take on leadership roles in shaping the built environment while addressing societal and environmental needs.

UTAR offers over 140 programmes from foundation studies to bachelor's, master's and PhD degrees in Accounting, Business, Finance and Economics, Actuarial Science, Mathematics and Process Management, Agriculture and Food Science, Arts, Social Sciences and Education, Chinese Studies, Creative Industries, Digital Animation, Multimedia and Design, Engineering and Built Environment, Information and Communication Technology, Life and Physical Sciences, and Medicine and Health Sciences.

■ For more information, go to *www.utar.edu.my* or call 05-468 8888 (Kampar campus) or 03-9086 0288 (Sungai Long campus). Visitors can walk in or call for any enquiries on weekdays from 9am to 5pm (closed on public holidays).

msu management and science university

Management and Science University (MSU) is a globally recognised institution, ranked by both Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) and Times Higher Education (THE). Committed to developing well-rounded human capital, MSU envisions a more sustainable and inclusive future. Through transformative learning experiences, the university promotes equality and strives to create a level playing field for all, enriching lives and shaping tomorrow's leaders.

Tel : 03 5521 6868
Email : enquiry@msu.edu.my
MSUmalaysia
MSUmalaysia.official
MANAGEMENT AND SCIENCE UNIVERSITY (MSU) DU019(B)
No.4, Persiaran Olahraga, Seksyen 13, 40000 Shah Alam, Selangor.
Yayasan msu

A celebration of cultural diversity

(Left) Students from diverse backgrounds come together at the Gala Lingua Franca 2026 programme to celebrate the university's rich cultural diversity. (Right) Students take to the stage in a vibrant display of traditional performances that foster intercultural unity and shared heritage.

MANAGEMENT and Science University (MSU), through its Language Centre (LGC) in collaboration with Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (DBP), organised the Gala Lingua Franca 2026 programme from May 11 to 18.

The programme aimed to celebrate the beauty of language, literature, the arts and cultural diversity through various performances and activities involving local and international students, special guests and members of the university community.

In conjunction with the programme, the organisers successfully brought together students from diverse academic and cultural backgrounds at the Performing Arts Theatre for the Malam Kebudayaan: Gala Lingua Franca 2026, held here recently.

Through lively performances and engaging cultural sharing sessions, the event honoured language, tradition, music and intercultural understanding while fostering unity and strengthening connections among the diverse student community at MSU.

This event emphasised the value of maintaining cultural identity while promoting harmony among students from many nations and cultures, which was clearly reflected throughout.

Cultural events, music and traditional performances gave students the opportunity to experience the richness of global diversity within the MSU community, while also fostering a sense of unity and mutual appreciation among different cultural backgrounds.

Global Mobility Programme (GMP) Japanese student, Miona Hayashi, who is pursuing Bachelor in Liberal Arts (Honours) attended the event.

She mentioned that the event provided valuable exposure for international students studying in Malaysia.

"This event is a valuable experience because I could learn more about the country, diversity and communicate with people from different backgrounds," she said.

Transitioning to another perspective, she also encouraged other international students to embrace new experiences and cultural learning opportunities during their studies in Malaysia.

"My advice for students studying in Malaysia is to stay open-minded and take every opportunity to learn from different countries and people," she added.

Meanwhile, Lim Wing Feng, a student pursuing Bachelor in Airline Service Management (Honours), shared that seeing students enthusiastically display their cultures through performances, traditional clothing and language-related activities was one of the event's highlights.

"My favourite moment was when the students shared their culture through performances, traditional clothing and language activities.

"I liked this moment because it showed how beautiful and different each culture is," he stated enthusiastically.

In addition, Dhanisha Nair Ramash, a Diploma in Management student, emphasised the value of fostering language use in both formal and informal settings to preserve it for future generations.

"I would preserve my language for future generations by encouraging young people to speak it at home, learn it in school and also use it proudly on social media, in music and also in daily communication," she explained.

The Malam Kebudayaan: Gala Lingua Franca 2026 showcased MSU's Language Centre's dedication to fostering inclusivity, solidarity and cultural appreciation among students from diverse backgrounds.

Through meaningful performances, cultural exchanges and shared experiences, the event not only celebrated the richness of global traditions and languages but also strengthened the sense of community within MSU.

■ To learn more about the university, visit *https://www.msu.edu.my/*

Shining at Accountancy Week

AN annual event for accounting students, the MICPA x CA ANZ Accountancy Week 2026 was organised by the Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (MICPA) and Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand (CA ANZ) to promote the accountancy profession and develop a community of students who excel not only academically, but also as well-rounded individuals.

With the theme "Creating Next Gen Accountants", this year marked the 26th Accountancy Week, which was held from April 21-25, with over 700 students from 28 different institutions of higher learning across Malaysia participating in various events throughout the week.

This year, MICPA joined forces with UPAC, the accounting club of Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) where all the events were hosted.

The week started off with a virtual treasure hunt, Cyberhunt and the Accountants Got Talent competition. Both events were tailored for students located outside the Klang Valley who wished to participate virtually.

This was followed by an exclusive networking session for high-achieving accounting students with the intention of providing the opportunity to meet and mingle with event partners who are amongst the top employers in Malaysia – Alliance Bank, Baker Tilly, Crowe, Deloitte, EY, Forvis Mazars, Grant Thornton, Johor Corporation, KHR, Ler Lum Advisory Services, Morison LC, PwC and UHY.

It was also a great opportunity for attendees to learn more about the dual professional accountancy qualification jointly offered by MICPA and CA ANZ.

Winner of the Most Outstanding MICPA Student 2025 (Silver) Award, Naif Zain, shared inspiring insights into his personal experience pursuing the MICPA x CA ANZ Qualifying Programme.

There was also a management simulation game, with 15 participating teams going head-to-head in running their businesses within a simulated environment, followed by the final five teams delivering winning presentations.

The next day, the much-anticipated Accounting Students Quiz for Diploma and Degree levels was held in two stages. Participants completed a preliminary quiz on an individual basis and from there, the top four teams were selected to battle it out in a nail-biting final round.

The Sports and Games Competition commenced on the final day with an opening ceremony officiated by MICPA president Soo Hoo Khoon Yean. Participating teams took up the challenge in six different sports events.

The whole event drew to a close with a closing and prize giving ceremony which was graced by MICPA council members, Datuk Mohd Muazzam Mohamed and Datuk Muhamad Umar Swift who is also the CA ANZ regional councillor for Asia, as well as representatives from the event partners.

UPAC president Khaw Qi Xuan said, "It was a meaningful platform for accounting students to learn beyond the classroom and grow both professionally and personally."

■ For more information on the MICPA x CA ANZ Qualifying Programme, contact the Marketing Department at 03-2698 9622, email marketing@micpa.com.my or visit the website at *www.micpacaanz.com*

The MICPA x CA ANZ Accountancy Week 2026 drew a huge turnout at UPM for the Sports and Games Competition's opening ceremony.

MSU College's Diploma in Graphic Design programme is designed to prepare students for the fast-evolving creative industry.

Graphic designing for creative minds

GRAPHIC design is more than just creating images – it's the powerful art of communicating ideas, emotions and stories through visual and textual elements.

From stunning advertisements and impactful branding to sleek web designs and captivating magazine layouts, graphic design shapes how the world sees and experiences ideas.

At Management and Science University (MSU) College, the School of Science and Technology offers a Diploma in Graphic Design programme, designed to unleash your creativity and prepare you for the fast-evolving creative industry.

This comprehensive two-and-a-half-year programme blends artistic vision with practical industry skills, empowering you to become a confident, innovative and industry-ready designer.

Among the programme highlights are that students will explore a wide spectrum of subjects, thoughtfully selected to strengthen both their creative and technical capabilities.

This includes visual communication, typography, communication skills, advertising design and interactive multimedia.

Through hands-on projects, real-world assignments and industry-relevant coursework, you'll learn how to craft designs that inspire, inform and influence – across print, digital and interactive platforms.

Graduates will be prepared to step confidently into diverse roles such as graphic designer, layout artist, technical illustrator, art director and creative director.

They will also find opportunities in fields such as advertising, branding, corporate identity, packaging design, digital media, app design, signage and website development – anywhere creativity meets communication.

Entry requirements for the programme are a pass in Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) or its equivalent with three credits in any subject, or an MSU College certificate in a related field with passes in all subjects.

Upon completing the diploma, students may advance directly into the second year of a Bachelor's programme at MSU, through the Faculty of Information Sciences and Engineering, paving a seamless path towards higher qualifications and career growth.

At MSU College, your ideas don't just stay on paper – they come to life.

So, step into the world of design innovation and start your creative journey today.

MSU College is also the MSU APEL Centre for potential candidates to take the APEL Aptitude Test as the non-conventional pre-qualification for entry into higher studies, in which MSU currently offers APEL A and APEL C at T-3 (certificate), T-4 (diploma), T-6 (bachelor's) and T-7 (master's) levels.

■ For more information, call 06-764 8686 or 03-5521 6868, email enquiry@msucollege.my or visit *www.msucollege.edu.my*

UTAR
UNIVERSITI TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN
Wholly owned by UTAR Education Foundation
Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR)
Kampar Campus | Sungai Long Campus

20% Rebate

UTAR Prihatin Grant
Seize the Offer, Begin your Journey at UTAR
June 2026 Intake

*Get 20% rebate on our foundation and 12 selected undergraduate programmes now!**

Receive a RM500 voucher for student mobility programme when you sign up now!*

ZERO Application Fee
Start your programme at RM313 ONLY!
Up to 100% Bond-Free Scholarships
RM1,000 Study Grant* for Sibling/ Parent Alumni
0% interest student loans
Care Scholarships for needy students
Sports/Talent Scholarships and other financial aid
PTPTN, MARA (TESP), KOJADI student loans available*

*Terms and conditions apply.

Intakes in Progress. Apply Now!

We are Open Mondays to Fridays
Kampar Campus /Sungai Long Campus
We are open on weekdays from 9am to 5pm. (Closed on public holidays)

Outstanding 5 Plus Stars Rating by QS Stars™
BRONZE 2025 Education and Learning
TALENTBANK EMPLOYERS' CHOICE 2026

018-9722 100 | 016-2233 557
UNIVERSITI TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN (UTAR) DU012(A)
Wholly owned by UTAR Education Foundation (200201010564(578227-M))
Kampar Campus Jalan Universiti, Bandar Barat, 31900 Kampar, Perak. 05-468 8888
Sungai Long Campus Jalan Sg. Long, Bandar Sg. Long, Cheras, 43000 Kajang, Selangor. 03-9086 0288
enquiry@utar.edu.my study.utar.edu.my

An engineer's vision

IN a world where innovation defines progress, one young Malaysian engineer is proving just how far curiosity, grit and education can take him.

Having graduated with a mechanical engineering degree from Tunku Abdul Rahman University of Management and Technology (TAR UMT), Lee Han has already stepped onto the global stage with an extraordinary accomplishment – the invention of Frame 1, a pair of wireless full high-definition (HD) augmented-reality (AR) spectacles.

During his years of study at TAR UMT, Lee was able to refine his childhood dream project – a prototype made from cardboard and recycled lenses – into Frame 1, and establish himself as an entrepreneur in the AR technology space.

His innovation is expected to officially enter the market this year, targeting early adopters and tech enthusiasts who are looking for the next ground-breaking immersive AR tech with plans for a global launch following suite.

Lee showcasing Frame 1, a pair of wireless HD AR glasses that evolved from a cardboard prototype.

A high school dream

"The idea for wireless AR glasses came about in high school when I encountered the Microsoft HoloLens. Due to its cost, I decided to try and build my own virtual reality (VR) headset using Google Cardboard which I presented during my high school science fair. Since then, I was obsessed with the idea of merging digital and physical worlds into a sleek, intuitive, and untethered device," Lee shared.

During his time at TAR UMT, Lee's studies equipped him with the necessary technical knowledge and honed his ability to conceptualise his idea into a market-ready product.

"I was taught in class to develop a strong technical foundation and problem-solving mindset. The lecturers were very dedicated and ensured that we (students) understood the syllabus, and constantly kept us engaged via a mix of theoretical and practical applications to help us understand the concepts easier.

"This conducive study environment improved my discipline, analytical skills, and critical thinking – aspects that I believe are important in the engineering field.

Real-world experience

"Via TAR UMT, I also had the opportunity to undergo a three-month internship with the design engineering team at Dyson in Johor. During that time, I was deeply influenced by their innovative approach to product design and development. That experience influenced and reshaped how I improved Frame 1," said Lee, whose product took over 235 iterations to arrive at the current version.

On top of that, Lee was grateful for the opportunities provided at TAR UMT for him to showcase his innovation via the university's Centre for Business Innovation and Entrepreneurial Ventures (CBIEV), a platform dedicated to supporting and accelerating students' ideas into impactful ventures.

Through that experience, he was able to pitch his product in the 2025 Nanning International Elite Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition Malaysia Preliminary Round and Hainan Southeast Asia AI Hardware Battle (HNSE AHB) 2025. His venture earned international recognition after winning the AI Rising Star Award at HNSE AHB 2025.

Stepping onto the global stage

"Engaging with local and global industry experts, leaders and entrepreneurs helped build my confidence in Frame 1, and their feedback was very helpful in gauging the potential market and viability of my product. I am very happy that I studied at TAR UMT, where students with entrepreneurial dreams are encouraged to develop their passions and are provided the necessary support and resources to grow," said Lee.

■ To find out more about TAR UMT's Mechanical Engineering and other engineering and technology programmes, visit their Open Day from June 6 to 7, (10am to 5pm) at TAR UMT campuses nationwide.

Qualified students will receive their on-the-spot offers during TAR UMT Open Day at the Kuala Lumpur campus (T&C apply).

Alternatively, call +6011-1082 5613 or +6011-1059 7120, email foet@tarc.edu.my, or visit *www.tarc.edu.my* to apply online.

Various financial aid and merit scholarships are available for qualified students.

Building careers in nutrition

AS health awareness continues to rise globally, nutrition has emerged as one of the most dynamic and future-relevant fields of study – bridging science, lifestyle, business, and consumer behaviour.

At IMU University, the forward-looking Nutrition Programme is preparing high school-leavers to step confidently into this evolving landscape with a blend of scientific knowledge, industry insight and practical experience.

Far beyond traditional classroom learning, the programme integrates nutrition science with business marketing, consumer behaviour and communication, as well as sports performance.

This multidisciplinary approach reflects the realities of today's health and wellness industries, where professionals are expected not only to understand science, but also to translate it into solutions that influence health, business strategies, consumer choices and performance outcomes.

A key strength of the programme lies in its emphasis on applied learning. Students work on practical assignments, case studies, and collaborative projects that simulate real industry environments.

Communication skills, teamwork and leadership are continuously developed through presentations, discussions, and interprofessional learning experiences alongside peers from other healthcare disciplines.

An alumna of the IMU Nutrition Programme, Sayli Viren Vartak, said: "My time at IMU provided me with a strong academic foundation and valuable real-world exposure in nutrition and health.

"It has greatly shaped my growth and prepared me for my current postgraduate studies in the Master of Nutrition and Population Health programme at Deakin University."

Chua said that her time at IMU University gave her the confidence to communicate health information clearly.

Students are trained to apply nutrition knowledge in real-world contexts, ranging from developing healthier food products, nutrition marketing, supporting exercise and athletic performance, and analysing consumer trends, to creating impactful wellness promotion campaigns.

Through projects, industry engagement, and community-based learning, students gain early exposure to the challenges and expectations of the workforce.

Another alumna, Savanna Chua Jing Min, added: "My time at IMU University gave me a strong evidence-based foundation in nutrition and trained me to think critically. It also built my confidence in communicating health information clearly, which continues to shape my career growth today."

Graduates of the IMU University Nutrition Programme are equipped with versatile, future-ready skills to support the evolving food, health, wellness and sports performance industries.

Career opportunities span across food and wellness industries, Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) sectors, nutrition and health services, functional ingredients and supplements, pharmaceutical industries, and nutrition service providers.

"IMU University provided me with a strong foundation in evidence-based nutrition, communication, and professionalism, which continues to guide me in my career now as a retail nutritionist.

"I'm grateful for the supportive learning environment and practical exposure that helped shape both my professional growth and confidence," Tan Yi Tseng, another alumna said.

Beyond technical and industry-based roles, graduates may also contribute to workplace wellness programmes, fitness and sports centres, digital health and media platforms, schools, as well as care settings such as confinement centres and residential homes.

With experience, graduates can progress into management and leadership positions such as brand manager, sales and marketing manager, product manager, or retail manager, leading business growth, product innovation, and strategic development across the nutrition, food, and wellness industries.

Several other key advantages of studying nutrition at IMU include exposure to experienced academic staff who are active researchers and industry contributors, as well as the opportunity to learn within a vibrant healthcare university environment that fosters collaboration across disciplines such as medicine, pharmacy, business, psychology and health sciences.

Students also benefit from early industry exposure, community projects, and opportunities for student mobility and experiential learning, helping them build confidence and workplace readiness before graduation.

At IMU, the Global Exposure Programme provides its nutrition students with opportunities to engage with international nutrition institutes, multinational companies, research centres, health promotion organisations, and physical activity institutes.

In addition, students enrolling in the programme for the 2026 intakes may also benefit from various scholarship opportunities offered by the university.

The Global Leadership Scholarship worth RM30,000 is awarded to eligible students, at the discretion of the university. The IMU Merit Scholarships and IMU Need Scholarships are also available to qualified students.

Students in the Nutrition programme will also have the opportunity to begin their degree at IMU University and transfer to Deakin University to complete their studies, gaining valuable international exposure and access to a globally recognised learning environment.

The next commencement of this programme is in September. Prospective students interested in enrolling for this programme can apply online.

■ For more information, refer to *www.imu.edu.my* or email: start@imu.edu.my or call IMU at 03-2731 7272.