

Animated short film wins big globally

A *FOLDED Wish* is a CGI animated short film created by 19 students who majored in the Digital Animation and Illustration courses at The One Academy for their graduation project.

In recently announced results, the film was named the Malaysia Gold Winner in the 22nd DigiCon6 ASIA Awards – Asia's Supreme Short Movie Contest, and chosen to represent the country in the final round of the competition. It also won the Excellent Works title under the Division II: "CG Animation Theatre" category in Asiagraph 2020, an international event where creators from Asian countries exhibit their works and compete for the top honours.

Inspired by an ancient Japanese legend and set in the 1940s Showa era, *A Folded Wish* explores the tale of a pair of twin sisters who share a wish, hoping for a miracle. Referred to as 'Senbazuru', which literally means '1,000 cranes', the legend promises that anyone who folds a thousand origami cranes will be granted a wish by the Gods.

The team of students called themselves Artmoeba Productions. Though relatively new to film-making, they showed advanced skills and work quality, proving their passion for the arts. The film has amassed 15 million YouTube views and counting.

In an interview with the Artmoeba Productions team – Yeow Chien Huey (Director), Nur Halimah Abdul Halim (Co-Director), Sion Ng Jia Shen (DG Line Producer), Shane Teng Xie Le (IL Line Producer), Siti Balqis Abdul Rahman (Art Director) and



A Folded Wish by Artmoeba Productions received the prize as the Malaysia Gold Winner in the 22nd DigiCon6 ASIA Awards.

Philip Oh Ming Hui (Lead Animator) shared their journey.

"We feel extremely happy and honoured to be one of the winners. The international recognition alongside other competent film-makers is a huge affirmation to our hard work and effort," said Yeow, who added that the inspiration for the short film stemmed from a love for origami. "I learnt about the 'Senbazuru' tradition when I was young, and thought that it was such an incredibly precious and beautiful gesture, especially when dedicated to a loved one to wish for good health. My team members and I then incorporated this practice into a meaningful story."

Nur Halimah shared her thoughts on working together, "It was a bit rocky in the beginning, having to navigate such a large number of people. It helped that all of us were quite skilled, so we were

satisfied with whatever roles we were given."

Siti Balqis commented, "The organisation was a bit messy at first due to miscommunication. However, with guidance from my peers and lecturers, I gained more confidence and trust from others, which led me to work better and guide the artists well to achieve good concept artworks."

Since this was the team's first 3D-animated short film, they were inexperienced and made various mistakes in the beginning.

Yeow explains, "Besides technical issues like cloth and hair simulation, another major difficulty we faced was to construct a good flow for the story. Since we were producing a heart-warming film, we thought, how could we bring out the necessary emotions from our audience?"

"The valuable suggestions from

ASIAGRAPH 2020 in Tokyo

第二部門 動画(アニメーション)作品公募部門「CGアニメーションシアター」
Division II: "CG Animation Theater" --Public subscription for Animation



A Folded Wish also won the Asiagraph 2020 'Excellent Works' under the Division II: 'CG Animation Theatre' category.

the team members along with guidance from our lecturers helped us to eventually overcome these obstacles together."

Oh added, "The most challenging part for the animation team was to finish an eight-minute short film – we were stressed out and rushing to complete all the shots. Luckily, our lecturer extended our submission deadline and told us to push for a better quality of animation. After six more months of hard work, we finally finished our animation with great quality."

For Ng, this final project was basically the completion of college life, "Going to the classroom every day was the happiest days of my college life. Getting to chat, hang out and work together in the lab are memories and experiences I sometimes wish I could still have nowadays."

Teng added, "Brainstorming and creating believable characters with

my fellow group mates was the best part – we were able to give room for creativity and express them wholeheartedly. It's still one of the best group project experiences I've ever had."

The One Academy is committed to providing the best art education programmes and continues to nurture its students passionately through its "Masters Train Masters" coaching philosophy, which has been practised for the past three decades, by providing diploma and degree courses namely Advertising and Graphic Design, Digital Animation, Digital Media Design, Film Visual Effects, Interior Architecture and Design, Illustration, Fine Arts and Paris Fashion Design and Pattern Making.

■ For more details, visit www.toa.edu.my or call 03-7875 5510 or email enquiry@toa.edu.my

A culture of nurturing excellence

MANAGEMENT and Science University (MSU) Foundation (MSUF) has launched the Yayasan MSU (YMSU) Scholarships.

The soft launch of the scholarship awards, held on main campus in Shah Alam recently, presented three recipients with MSU's SCORE.

All three, from MSU's February 2021 intake, will be studying the Foundation (Science Biology/Health Science) programme. Selected in the first batch from among 164 applicants, they are on the pathway to the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) programme at MSU's International Medical School (IMS).

Muhammad Danish Mohd Nizam, Lim Zi Ling and Mandy Chan Wen Xi each received the award from MSU president Prof Tan Sri Dr Mohd Shukri Ab Yajid; witnessed by MSU senior vice-president for Endowment and Communication Datuk Rosli Yusof.

The pursuit of excellence stands primarily behind the scholarships, remarked Prof Tan Sri Dr Shukri. The SCORE award is MSU's Scholarship Reward for Excellence in academic achievement. MSU Foundation also offers the MSU Outstanding Reward (MORE) for co-curricular achievements.

Aid of the needy through zakat is the second of three target aims

among MSU Foundation's efforts in meeting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs).

Scholarship assistance to the academically excellent among the economically disadvantaged is provided through the YM Hibiscus Project scholarship awards, which extend also to members of staff from MSU and MSU College in a human capital development initiative by the university.

The third aim in providing quality education for all is to create diversity on campus and facilitate global exposure.

Currently home to students from over 40 countries, MSU offers scholarships to international students too, as well as MSU-ians going abroad on the University's Global Mobility Programme (GMP), Global Leadership Programme (GLP) and Global Internship Programme (GIP).

Over RM9.2mil was disbursed through scholarships and zakat by MSU Foundation among 992 recipients in 2019 across primary and secondary schools as well as those in tertiary education.

In driving and transforming MSU towards excellence, financial assistance has been provided to outstanding and deserving students to acquire quality education.

The funds are distributed through various means including collaborative efforts between MSU and several public and private institutional partners. All scholarships, sponsorship and financial aid are offered through the MSU Foundation.

As a top university in Malaysia and the country's best teaching and learning university, MSU prioritises student development to enhance graduate employability.

Its highly qualified academics and international visiting professors support a holistic curricular framework that delivers compelling learning experiences.

Blending technical vocational education and training (TVET) with traditional academic curricula, MSU enhances competencies with industry internship, community and creative entrepreneurship, as well as global exposure; empowering MSU graduates with the well-roundedness desired and sought after by employers.

Extensive partnerships and collaborations with institutions in over 40 countries worldwide provide comprehensive mobility opportunities for all MSU students, enhancing graduate employability through global exposures by studies and internships abroad.

Among the best in the region, the university's programmes of study



Sharing a light moment (from left): Mandy Chan Wen Xi, Prof Tan Sri Dr Mohd Shukri, Muhammad Danish and Lim Zi Ling.

are meticulously crafted to enhance graduate potential, producing graduates that are a popular pick among employers.

MSU houses the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, Faculty of Business Management and Professional Studies, Faculty of Information Sciences and Engineering, International Medical School, School of Pharmacy, School of Education and Social Sciences, School of Hospitality and Creative Arts, School of Graduate Studies, Graduate School of Management and Centre for Fundamental Studies.

All in all, as an applied, enterprise, holistic and international university, MSU offers foundation, undergraduate, postgraduate and flexible programmes through an entry system that facilitates admission of students from all walks of life, aimed at "Transforming Lives and Enriching Future".

■ Want to be a doctor and qualified to sit the Medical Entry Test (MET) at MSU? For more details and to enquire about scholarships and fee waiver, call 03-5521 6868, email enquiry@msu.edu.my or visit www.msu.edu.my

High demand for psychology graduates

THE World Health Organization (WHO) has highlighted the increasing demand for mental health services due to the pandemic. According to a recent WHO survey of 130 countries, the Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted or halted critical mental health services in 93% of countries worldwide while the demand for mental health is increasing.

In view of the demand for mental health professionals such as psychologists, Heriot-Watt University Malaysia (HWUM) continues to offer high-quality British education with a global outlook to prepare its graduates to address global challenges and community needs and enhance their employability.

Heriot-Watt University Malaysia, School of Social Sciences, Professor of Positive Psychology Prof Deborah Hall said, "Our psychology graduates are highly employable because we teach them many transferable skills such as information gathering, data analysis, critical thinking, construction of logical arguments, expression of personal opinions, report writing, teamwork, and communication skills."

"They go on to work in a range of workplaces including commercial, not-for-profit and healthcare sectors."

Pathway to psychology

As a world leader in the fields of engineering, business, and psychology, Heriot-Watt University programme offerings include courses at the foundation, undergraduate and postgraduate levels



Prof Deborah Hall said, 'Our psychology graduates are highly employable because we teach them many transferable skills.'

in fields including psychology.

Psychology has always been an area of interest for Year 2 student Mohammad Amir Haziq Mohd Tazree, who is currently pursuing the BSc (Hons) Psychology at HWUM.

Mohammad Amir, who is also HWUM Psychology Society president, said, "Psychology is a broad topic, therefore studying psychology at HWUM has allowed me to explore all sectors pertaining to the field."

"The university has a variety of courses that look into the different aspects of psychology, which has helped me distinguish my passion for social psychology."

The pathway to the university's psychology programme begins with the Foundation in Science or



Year 2 student Mohammad Amir Haziq Mohd Tazree (right) is currently pursuing the BSc (Hons) Psychology at HWUM.

Foundation in Business, which are designed to prepare and equip students with the skill sets that will smoothen their transition into their undergraduate studies.

Additionally, the university recognises the importance of equipping its students with a global education through its acclaimed Go Global Inter-Campus Transfer programme, which permits a flexible transfer of their undergraduate programmes in Malaysia.

HWUM's commitment to positive mental health

In conjunction with the United Nations' International Day of

Happiness, HWUM organised a special online forum, the Global Happiness Forum 2021, as part of its efforts to promote the importance of mental health and its happiness agenda on March 20. The forum was catered to students, young people, parents, academicians, and members of the public.

The initiative aimed to inspire participants to try out new things towards happiness, and featured a global line-up of speakers who presented their perspectives on happiness and shared tips that will empower them to lead a happier, more fulfilling life.

During the forum, the speakers

shared the latest scientific understanding of happiness – tips to live a happier life, ways for students to beat some of the stress they face, and ways for academicians to apply principles of positive education to cultivate a learning environment that enables students to flourish in any environment.

The guest speakers were Vanessa King (from Action for Happiness, UK, and author of *Ten Keys to Happier Living*), who spoke on her 'great dream', tips built on the pioneering revolution of positive psychology and evidence-based research, Sulynn Choong (Positive Change Strategist from the Asian Center for Applied Positive Psychology, Malaysia), who talked about the recent stressors faced by young Malaysians in the educational system and how stress can be alleviated by changing what you do and how you think and Hj Syed Abd Rahman (from Diveheart Malaysia, and adviser for the National Dive Council Malaysia), who shared some inspiring stories of the young people whose lives he has transformed through his passion for diving.

Visit HWUM's Putrajaya lakeside campus on March 27 and 28 on its Info Day and speak to the education consultants and academics, as well as chat with HWUM students to learn more about the exciting study opportunities and scholarships offered.

■ For more information, log on to <https://www.hw.ac.uk/malaysia/events/info-day-march-2021.htm> or <https://www.hw.ac.uk/malaysia/>



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R/010/3/0022; 8/2021; JPT/BPP(K)1000-600/M411 Jld.4(7)

- Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery

R2/721/6/0057; 12/2027; JPT/BPP(K)1000-600/M411 Jld.6(11)

- Bachelor of Dental Surgery

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Learning beyond education

AT Tunku Abdul Rahman University College (TAR UC), learning is not academic per se but students get ample opportunities to learn outside of their classroom and textbooks so that they can tap into their fullest potentials.

This is in line with TAR UC's philosophy in learning "Beyond Education" where it aspires to provide a learning experience that is beyond academic knowledge and skills. This is clearly demonstrated by the Faculty of Accountancy, Finance and Business where students actively participate in specially curated industry programmes / societies to broaden their knowledge beyond academic curriculum.

Firstly, the TAR UC – BDO Student Ambassador Programme which serves as a strategic platform for accounting, finance and business students to connect and interact with industry professionals at BDO Malaysia – a leading professional services firm providing audit and assurance, advisory, tax services and business services and outsourcing to businesses.

The Student Ambassador programme was established in 2017 to encourage the active participation of TAR UC students in organising important events and activities to enrich students' learning experience on campus.

"The benefits of the events and activities organised under this programme have not only enhanced students' understanding in the fields of taxation, audit, business services and other relevant areas but also exposed students to current trends and practices in the industry. In addition, students are also able to network with industry professionals and many have shared that their interactions with

First Get Noticed, Then Get Hired - Virtual Resume Clinic With BDO

Date: 3rd July 2020
Time: 2pm - 4pm
Speaker: Ms Thong Siew Fong, Director of Talent Recruitment Team of BDO Malaysia

One of the relevant workshops organised under the TAR UC – BDO Malaysia Student Ambassador Programme in 2020.

"The learning experience from organising these virtual activities has truly enriched my skills in managing time, people and tasks. I am also gaining more confidence in interacting with industry professionals after the many pitching sessions I conducted with them to participate in the planned activities of the society," shared TAR UC ACCA Society chief executive director Low Kuan Chen, who is currently studying the Bachelor of Commerce (Hons) at TAR UC.

"For me, 2020 has been rewarding as I have learnt how to be creative in managing challenges to get things done, acquired valuable experience in working with a diverse team and industry professionals and more importantly, learnt how to help fellow students facing challenges in my capacity as chief executive director of TAR UC ACCA Society," shared Low.

professionals have helped them decide on their future career paths," explained TAR UC – BDO Student Ambassador Programme 2019/2020 president Cheng Pei Ni and she is currently pursuing her Bachelor of Commerce (Hons) in TAR UC.

"As for me and my other course mates who are part of the TAR UC – BDO Student Ambassador team, we have gained so much experience and exposure in working with the BDO Malaysia team. Apart from providing the necessary financial resources to organise the many events and activities, the team at BDO Malaysia are also actively

involved in mentoring and coaching us. I especially appreciate the empowerment that BDO Malaysia gives us to organise events and activities that are aligned to the objectives of this programme," explained Cheng.

TAR UC ACCA Society, on the other hand, is an academic-related student society which aims to add value to the learning and development process of TAR UC accounting students for a successful career in the accounting profession.

Established since 2015, the scope of this society includes engaging with accounting professionals in the industry as well as with the

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA).

"Annually, the society organises various activities and workshops with active participation from industry leaders especially the Big 4 and ACCA Malaysia. In addition, we constantly encourage society members to join external competitions to help them widen their scope of knowledge and exposure. And in 2020, we organised quite a number of relevant online workshops on CV Writing, Career Advice, Personal Branding and Leadership as well as Public Speaking in addition to accounting and business-related webinars.

■ To find out how TAR UC programmes can prepare you for your future career, call 011-1054 8256 or email fafb@tarc.edu.my. Join the Virtual Open Day happening every weekend from March 27 until April 25, from 10am to 5pm. Its May and June 2021 intakes are now in progress. Prospective students are also encouraged to apply online at www.tarc.edu.my. Applicants who submit their applications online by April 30 will receive a RM60 waiver of processing fee. Attractive scholarships are also available at TAR UC on the basis of academic merit and sibling discount for qualified students.

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Finding a course you like

THERE is something magical about college brochures: the scientists in their white coats, making the world a better place, the artists with their crazy smiles, crafting beauty for us to feast our eyes on, the serious engineers who make everything navigable... Seriously, how can you not want to be in those professions?

If you're having trouble choosing a course, have a think about these points.

Every career has its downside

Like scientists often work in labs doing some pretty depressing work, artists do often starve like the clichés, and engineers can work in some dangerous places. Before you sign up, find out what the lows are as well as the highs. The best way to do this is to ask people in the industry.

What lights up your day?

If you're going to spend eight hours a day for the next 40 years on a job, it would be best if it's some-

"If you're going to spend eight hours a day for the next 40 years on a job, it would be best if it's something you love to do."

thing you love to do. So what are your values? Avoid picturing yourself in the films and in the brochures. Instead, look at your hobbies and evaluate any jobs you've done so far. If you find you love accounts, don't mind messy jobs and are a rock in bad times, you might look at jobs in finance, plumbing and nursing.

Can you do the job?

School marks aren't the be-all and end-all. Boys, for example, mature slower than girls, so they may find their study strengths a little later than early exams suggest.

Girls, for example, may suffer from discrimination like being told they can't do science and maths, so it takes them a while to figure out they're perfectly good at those subjects. So what you got in your school tests isn't always a good reflection of your strengths.

Talk to people

Talk to your teachers, your parents and people who know you to understand what you do have, what you can work on and what you can improve. Understand that you may have to do some extra work before you can sign up for your dream course. However, do be practical. If you hate research, you're not going to be a good lawyer. To choose a great course, be informed and choose wisely.

A valuable experience



AIMST University offers high-quality education that is globally recognised by the relevant professional bodies and industries.

AIMST UNIVERSITY has pioneered a specially designed pre-foundation programme constituting the best preparation for admission to the mainstream foundation programme.

This programme is designed specifically for SPM-leavers in line with the challenging environment due to the Covid-19 pandemic. It is structured to encourage students to learn and try new activities, offer insights into what a university education entails, and embolden them to reach outside their comfort zone, inspiring them to find new passions, boost their confidence and develop new skills. This will be a valuable experience before entering a university campus environment.

The pre-foundation programme offers a dynamic and interactive learning environment. Here, the educator guides students who apply concepts and engage creatively with the educator and peers.

The time will be well spent, as participants will have the opportunity to get connected and engage with the educator and fellow students.

This programme will also provide an effective platform to form bonds as students share experiences and strengthen friendships where they can truly be the best versions of themselves, make lifelong friends and be a part of something bigger than themselves.

The pre-foundation programme will encompass online classes for two weeks. It will also involve a two-day and one-night stay at the AIMST campus with full board and lodging.

This is optional and subject to the Movement Control Order (MCO) at the event date. Transport will be provided for participants who wish to be picked up from the Sungai Petani bus terminal or train station. This will be arranged subject to advanced request made three days before students' arrival.

The pre-foundation programme runs for two weeks. It will take place after the 2020 SPM examination, which is expected to end on March 23.

Acceptance criteria / entry prerequisites

AIMST University's pre-foundation programme is open to all SPM and O-Level students with a minimum of five credits in SPM



The programme will be a valuable experience before entering a university campus environment.

trial examination results or mid-year school examination results.

It will cost RM300 per participant. Upon completion, participants will be awarded a Certificate of Attendance.

The fee collected will be offset against the fees when the student joins the mainstream foundation programme in May.

Full scholarships and rebates

Foundation programmes with full scholarships are available for students opting to pursue their degree at AIMST University in nursing, biotechnology, physiotherapy, bioinformatics, dental technology and engineering.

In addition to full scholarships, rebates on tuition fees are available varying from 40% to 100% subject to the number of A's obtained at SPM/O-Levels.

About AIMST University

AIMST University is a premier private university catering to the needs of local and international students. It offers high-quality education that is globally recognised by the relevant professional bodies and industries. The university also emphasises international exposure through a network of many international partners. Student exchange programmes help students to develop global perspectives and skillsets.

AIMST's graduates enjoy 100% employability within six months of graduation in leading national and international organisations.

■ For details, visit www.aimst.edu.my. You can also email Student Recruitment Division senior education facilitator Mohd Khairil Faiz at faiz@aimst.edu.my or call 012-549 8108 (mobile phone) / 04-4298 000 (Office).



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Enjoying a fulfilling career



Medical students in IMU get clinical exposure as early as Semester 1.

CELINE Perera started her journey as a medical student at the International Medical University (IMU), Malaysia and after two and a half years in 2015, she transferred to Queen's University, Belfast (QUB) in Northern Ireland – one of IMU's partner universities. One of Celine's greatest achievements at IMU was being elected Student Representative Council (SRC) Vice President of Medicine (now known as the VP of Medical Sciences).

As part of her elective placement at IMU, in December 2013, Celine spent three weeks in Tokyo, Japan at Juntendo University Hospital in the departments of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Paediatric General and Urogenital Surgery.

She had the opportunity to sit in and observe outpatient clinics, which included a variety of cases. In her second week in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, she saw a newborn being delivered for the first time.

She also attended theatres, where she observed breast reconstructive surgery for breast cancer survivors.

During her final week in Paediatric Surgery, she saw a whole range of operations from more common conditions to a rare congenital condition known as pulmonary sequestration.

At QUB, she was the Japanese Society president. She was also involved with academic activities such as teaching medical students in years below, as well as secondary school students interested in studying medicine, and volunteered as an examiner for mock examinations.

With her interest in surgery, she competed in the Royal College of Surgeons Edinburgh National Student Surgical Skills Competition last year and emerged the winner in the local Northern Ireland heat. She was also recently awarded the John Menary Prize in Paediatrics.

Celine had the unique opportunity to undertake a second elective placement at QUB and chose the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department in Belfast.

In Japan, she completed the remaining four weeks split

between Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Paediatric Surgery in two hospitals.

In comparison to her first elective placement, she was able to have hands-on experience – with more medical knowledge and practical skills under her belt, she was given the opportunity to assist in theatres and be more involved with patient care.

Celine graduated from QUB in July 2020 and is now working as a Foundation Year 1 Doctor in a small district hospital in the Southwest of England. She finds it challenging but rewarding.

At IMU, students studying medicine can complete the entire degree in IMU or study the first two and a half years in IMU and transfer to one of over 20 partner universities in Australia, UK, Ireland or Canada for completion of the medical programme.

These partnerships indicate the IMU curriculum has been developed to meet these universities' high international standards.

Medical students in IMU get clinical exposure as early as Semester 1 to ensure they gain sufficient skills before transferring to the clinical years.

Those who complete the entire degree locally in IMU will undergo an intensive six-month Senior Clerkship at Hospital Batu Pahat or Hospital Kluang in Semester 10, working in wards under the supervision of senior clinicians.

This early clinical exposure and intensive Senior Clerkship will better prepare them for patient care and housemanship training, and to become better doctors.

The next commencement date for this programme is in August. If you have pre-university qualifications and an interest in Medicine, apply online now towards a promising and rewarding career.

If you have just completed your SPM and do not have pre-university qualification, the one-year IMU Foundation in Science (FiS) is the direct route for entry into any of the university's degree programmes.

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



One of Celine's greatest achievements at IMU was being elected Student Representative Council (SRC) Vice President of Medicine (now known as the VP of Medical Sciences).



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Yusna, THE ONE ACADEMY Student Work

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The One Academy's continuous endeavours in striving for the best have paid off in achieving the rank of **World's No. 1 Best Concept Art & Illustration School** (for Game, Animation & Film Art) in The Rookies World School Rankings – regarded as the world's most respected rankings for educational institutes that propels careers in creative entertainment art industries. In addition to that prestigious title, we are also ranked **World's No. 4 Best Architectural Visualisation School, World's No. 4 Best 3D Motion Graphics School and World's No.10 Best Game Design School**. Furthermore, a student also won the **People's Choice Award** for Rookie of the Year. This sterling achievement highlights that with emphasis on its **"Masters Train Masters"** teaching philosophy & industry-driven syllabus, The One Academy has fulfilled its promise of **'Just World-Class Results'**, and leads students to be a part of and contribute to the global creative talent pool in an economy that generates US\$2.25 trillion in revenue and employs 30 million people worldwide*. This industry has thrived even during the pandemic and will continue to soar higher, so don't miss out on the golden opportunities!

*based on the 2018 Global Report by UNESCO & EY

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KL (N/213/4/0327) 10/22

Illustration, Movie & Game Art

KL (R/213/4/0317) 11/21 & PG (R/213/4/0219) 3/25

Interior Architecture & Design

KL (R/214/4/0185) 10/22, (R/581/6/0045) 2/24 & PG (R/214/4/0132) 4/25

Paris Fashion Design & Pattern Making

KL (R/214/4/0056) 10/22

Advertising & Graphic Design

KL (R/214/4/0152) 4/21, (R/213/6/0135) 11/23 & PG (R/213/4/0220) 3/25

Digital Media Design

KL (R/213/4/0290) 11/21, (R/214/6/0086) 10/23 & PG (R/214/4/0221) 5/25

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THE ONE ACADEMY | MASTERS TRAIN MASTERS



Doing HELP proud at Cambridge University: (from left) Goh Kah Wei trained in Law while Grace Ng and Melissa Chee's performance won praise from the principal of Newnham College.

A-Level success in two exam boards

HELP University's A-Level centre is widely accepted as among the best for pre-university preparation in the region and internationally due to consistent adherence to a high standard of teaching and mentorship. It has a consistent record of successfully preparing students to enter the world's top universities for courses such as Actuarial Science, Economics, Engineering, Medicine, Natural Sciences and Biological Sciences.

Strong academic leadership is behind this success. HELP's A-Level Department head Yeap Soon Chye is an experienced science lecturer specialising in Chemistry and a master counsellor with a knack for successfully guiding students in applying to top universities.

He and his team of lecturers (popularly called the 'A-Team') have mentored countless A-Level students to attain A and A* grades in Maths and Further Maths, Economics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology to qualify for admission to universities like Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial College London, King's College London, the London School of Economics, Harvard, Stanford, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Princeton and Chicago where they distinguished themselves further by winning prizes for academic excellence and first class honours results.

HELP is the only centre in the country to offer the full A-Level programme from two exam boards – the Pearson Edexcel International Advanced Level (IAL) and Cambridge Assessment International Education (Cambridge).

The IAL's modular system allows students to re-sit single subjects in stages (or units) for a better grade. The Cambridge exam, meanwhile is taken in two levels – AS and A2. Students dissatisfied with any unit must re-sit the entire level, but AS grades are accorded UCAS points and counted for university entrance in the UK.

Both boards are widely accepted for university admission worldwide and give students the chance to develop intellectually.

The HELP Academy is well equipped to nurture A-Level students to achieve excellence. Its state-of-the-art Curie Science Labs were acclaimed by the IAL chief examiner from the UK to be among the best in the world.

Its Getting the Edge (GTE) programme cultivates leadership and organisational skills by assigning students to work with experienced lecturers on award-winning science projects. This has enabled the centre to win the Malaysian Toray Science Foundation's Science Education Award for a record-breaking 24 years.

A unique pastoral care programme assigns

"HELP University's A-Level centre is widely accepted as among the best for pre-university preparation."

students to a mentor-lecturer.

HELP's A-Level department is also a vibrant centre with opportunities for nurturing personal and intellectual skills. Speech, drama and writing workshops hone presentation, speaking and critical thinking skills. Successful admission to good universities requires students to think critically, form their own opinions and present their arguments effectively and convincingly in their application forms.

This also explains how HELP's A-Level students can muster their skills to excel in cross-disciplinary studies. A good example is Goh Kah Wei who attained A* in Maths, Chemistry, Physics, and A in Economics, but who ended up studying Law at Cambridge University, graduating with honours.

Goh ascribes his successful academic journey at HELP to the close attention, supervision and friendship from the lecturers. This helped him to cope well with the Tutorial System (called Supervision) at Cambridge.

The department's success stories attest to the efficacy of its teaching and nurturing methods.

Not only have its students gained admission to prestigious universities and won scholarships from prestigious institutions, their subsequent academic performance has drawn praise and recognition for the department.

One such testimony is from Prof Dame Carol Black, principal of Newnham College in Cambridge University. Referring to the First Class Honours equivalent results attained by former HELP A-Level students Melissa Chee and Grace Ng in their Chemical Engineering and Natural Sciences Tripos, Prof Black said, "Much of the credit must go to the education they received before coming to Cambridge. We are always keen to receive applications from students of such calibre."

■ Intake now in progress. For details, email marketing@help.edu.my or call 03-2716 2000.

Dual awards certifications for students

ARE today's graduates ready to face challenges at the workplace? Are they innovative and equipped with communication and problem-solving skills? Many fresh graduates find themselves ill-prepared for the workforce, without realising it.

But when universities partner with industries to deliver their programmes, incredible things can happen.

Students graduate with practical industry experience and relevant up to date knowledge; impressing employers and able to transition to working life a lot better prepared.

Students at the International University of Malaya Wales (IUMW) are lucky enough to work with industries through local and international brand names as part of the Communication degree's "branded syllabus".

The academics behind the programme teamed up with a number of organisations so the faculty can deliver their modules with industry input and influence. Students embark on industrial-driven assignments to boost their portfolios and prepare them for the increasingly complex demands of the workplace.

Eight students recently received recognition from one of the biggest camera brands in the world today, Lumix Panasonic, for their outstanding video production work. Challenged with producing a short film or video production – even in these difficult times – students produced such incredible work that they earned recognition from the electronics giant.

"I'm incredibly proud of my students' work – they did a fantastic job producing such high-quality work and really earned this recognition from our industry partners. This is exactly why we created the branded syllabus – we're bridging the gap between the academic world and industry, and students graduate with a strong portfolio to back up their academic qualification," said Faculty of Arts and Science acting dean Dr Nurul Nisa Omar.

Students' work is showcased in faculty exhibitions and on a variety of online and streaming platforms.

A forward-thinking university, IUMW was established based on a mutual partnership between the University of Malaya (UM) and the University of Wales, UK, the two oldest universities in their respective countries. IUMW offers programmes in Business, Communication, Psychology, Science, and Technology and caters to students from foundation to postgraduate level.

The university stands out for its Dual Awards collaboration with its partner university, the University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UWTSD), UK.

When students graduate, they will receive certification from both IUMW and UWTSD. This global recognition along with industry-driven programmes means IUMW produce graduates who are ready to make a positive impact on any organisation.

■ For more information, call IUMW at 011-3663 3644 or visit iumw.edu.my



IUMW's students' work is showcased in faculty exhibitions and on a variety of online and streaming platforms.

How to boost your attention span

EVERYONE goofs off sometimes but when you watch too many videos on YouTube instead of studying, you might waste so much time that you start failing your exams.

So if you have trouble maintaining a decent attention span, here are some tips.

Get seven to eight hours sleep

Sleep deprivation is a torture. After a day without it, you become clumsy and can't make rational decisions, after a couple of days you will begin to hallucinate.

So don't torture yourself: you need a good night's sleep every night in order to keep your brain buzzing along efficiently.

Write a to-do list

You need to set yourself clear goals so that you can track how you are doing and to help you focus on tasks that must get done.

Also, it feels really, really good to cross things off.

Work in downtimes

When you're waiting for the bus, you can read a chapter of your book.

When you're walking to class, you can visualise that presentation you will be graded on.

Switch off your phone

It's nice to see who's doing what on WhatsApp but unless someone is in hospital or in an emergency situation, you can live without it. So switch it off and concentrate on what you're doing.

Reward yourself

If you plan your time well during the day, you will have ample time to do what you love most. So block time in your schedule that is your own time.

Tip: try for five-minute refreshers here and there in a busy day, and at least one big chunk of time during the week where you can do something substantial like hiking or playing football.



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R/724/6/0003 (MQA/FA1050)(08/2021)

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N/721/6/0048 (MQA/FA 4147)(08/2021)

■ Bachelor of Optometry (Hons)

- Fully accredited by MQA and Malaysian Optical Council (MOC)

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R2/726/6/0063 (A11255)(11/2027)

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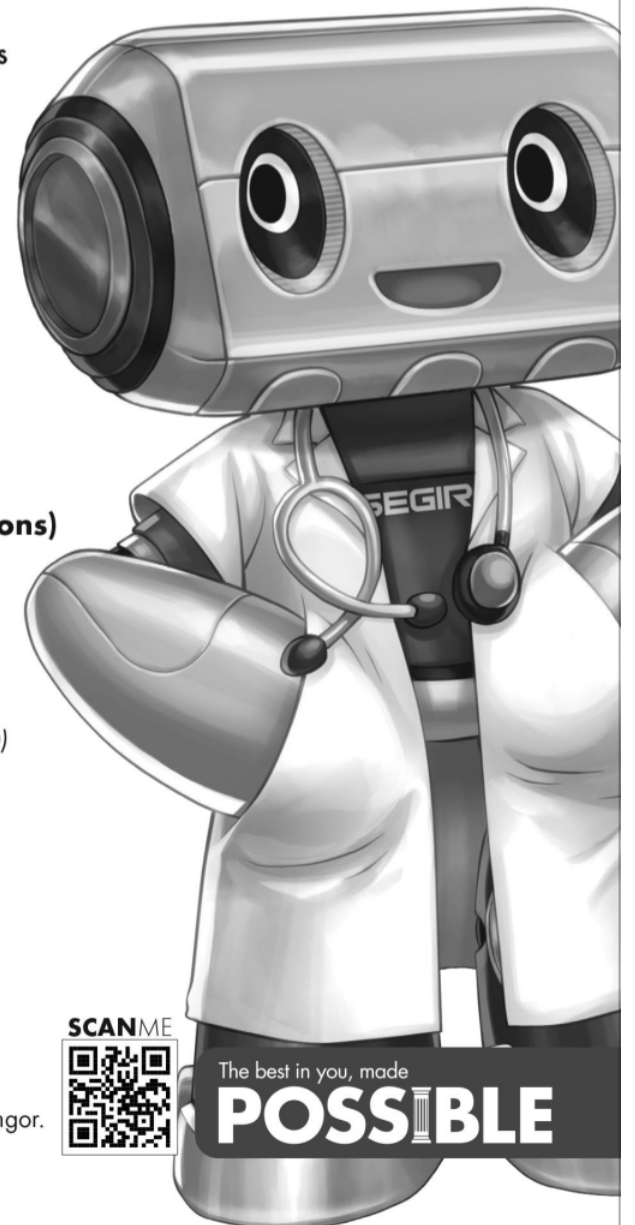
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How to make the most of your research

YOU have an assignment to work on, and you will have to do some research to get started. So, where do you start? Throwing keywords in Google is where most people start their research and although it may yield something juicy, leaving that as your only resource is somewhat limiting. To make the most of your research, try these steps.

List down what you need

The best place to start your list is to look at the rubric. It will tell you what information you need, and the marks assigned to each will tell you the depth you will need to cover.

Check the course text

If you have one, this should lay out the

parameters of your research and reveal some of the highlights. Make a list of the references and chase these down.

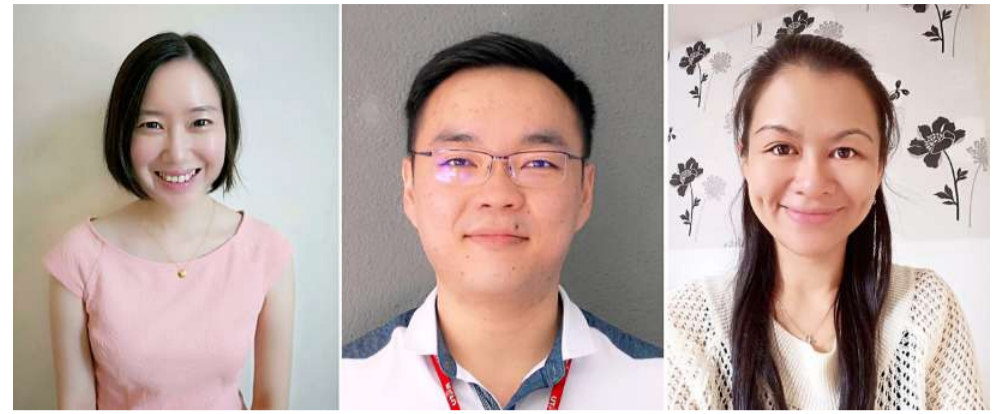
Having read the original work instead of a summary will give you good leads to more resources.

Check the library

Look for textbooks and appropriate journals. If you have an online database at your university, check this for academic papers and conference papers.

Check Google Scholar

The website <http://scholar.google.com> specialises in academic information, so throw your keywords in here.



Research papers by three FBFA academics (from left) Assoc Prof Dr Lee Voon Hsien, Hew Jun Jie and Dr Leong Lai Ying were recently awarded the 'Hot Paper' and 'Highly Cited Paper' awards for May/June 2020 by Clarivate Analytics.

A highlight of achievements

THE vision to be a global university of educational excellence with transformative societal impact has led Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) to be agile in facing new frontiers and responsible in pursuit of excellence. Resonating with the qualities of a progressive university is the Faculty of Business and Finance (FBF).

Interactive classes

Vastly experienced lecturers with industry experience share insights that transform textbook theories to workplace practices, while those with PhD qualification are expected to nurture students in aspects of scholastic temperament.

UTAR students are nurtured and trained to make opportunities out of challenges, echoing one of its missions – tenacity in overcoming challenges.

Its undergraduate programmes have attracted students from across local and international borders and have an employability rate of 95% to 97% within six months of graduation (updated as at 2019).

Meanwhile, postgraduate programmes such as the Master of Philosophy, Master of Business Administration (Corporate Management) (MBA) and Doctor of Philosophy offer the right resources for a continuous learning experience.

Soft skills advantages

FBF programmes are actively being developed, incorporated with Soft Skills Competency and implemented with strategic plans. "Those strategic plans are aimed at enhancing and maintaining the high standards of the programmes, developing and implementing research strategies, and intensifying local and international industry and professional bodies' collaboration," said FBFA dean Dr Au Yong Hui Nee.

Activities such as visitations by an Industry Adviser where students and staff are provided with the latest industrial information, online discourses where reputable personalities are invited to share their life successes, career talks and recruitment drives allow the syllabus to be consistently updated.

Accredited quality education

Assuredly, FBFA programmes are recognised and accredited by the Malaysian

Qualification Agency (MQA) and Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) Malaysia.

FBF is also a member of Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) and Alliance on Business Education and Scholarship for Tomorrow (ABEST21). FBFA also collaborates with prestigious professional bodies, while strong collaboration with industry partners enables students to obtain hands-on industrial experience.

Staff achievements

Notably, the successful approach of FBFA programmes can also be credited to the commitment and excellence shown by its academics who hold many notable achievements.

FBFA staff members have also won best paper awards and excellent oral presentation awards at conferences and competitions.

As FBFA programmes are set to instil a research culture among staff and students, this is a gateway to establish research collaborations and projects with positive socio-economic impact. One example is the International Conference on Business, Accounting, Finance, and Economics (BAFE) that has been organised by FBFA since 2013.

Together with research centres, FBFA also actively conducts research seminars, research colloquiums, research talks by international experts and professors, research workshops and research conferences annually.

UTAR is reputed as one of the fastest growing private higher education institutions in the country since its inception in 2002 with campuses located in Kampar, Perak, and Bandar Sungai Long, Selangor. It currently offers more than 120 programmes from Foundation Studies to Bachelor's, Master's and PhD degrees in various fields.

UTAR is ranked #501-600 in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2021, ranked #157 in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Asia University Rankings 2021 and awarded Self-Accreditation Status by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA).

■ For more details, go to www.utar.edu.my or call 05-468 8888 (Kampar Campus)/ 03-9086 0288 (Sungai Long Campus).



The exterior of UTAR's Faculty of Business and Finance.



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- Foundation in Science
KPT/JPT(R/010/186/09/2023 | MQA/FA3974
MAR | JUL | AUG

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

- Medicine
KPT/JPT(R/272/16/0033/09/2026 | MQA/FA6155
FEB | SEP
- Psychology
KPT/JPT(R/272/16/0013/09/2022 | MQA/FA8177
FEB | SEP
- Counselling
(Master)
KPT/JPT(R/762/7/0046/09/2026 | MQA/PA12002
SEP

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

- Dentistry
KPT/JPT(R/272/16/0010/01/2023 | MQA/FA7026
FEB
- Endodontics
(PG Dip)
KPT/JPT(R/724/7/0043/05/2024 | MQA/PSA12162
APR
- Implant Dentistry
(PG Dip)
KPT/JPT(R/724/7/0019/06/2026 | MQA/PSA6111
INTAKE IN 2021
- Prosthodontics
(PG Dip)
KPT/JPT(R/724/7/0042/05/2024 | MQA/PSA12163
JUN

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

- Pharmaceutical Chemistry
KPT/JPT(R/244/2/0003/01/2023 | MQA/FA8229
FEB | JUL | SEP
- Pharmacy
KPT/JPT(R/272/16/0050/09/2026 | MQA/FA8374
JUL | SEP

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

- Biomedical Science
KPT/JPT(R/242/16/0011/09/2022 | MQA/FA8230
JUL | SEP
- Diabetes Management and Education
(PG Dip)
KPT/JPT(R/726/7/0030/02/2023 | MQA/PA9086
MAR | JUL
- Dietetics with Nutrition
KPT/JPT(R/272/16/0021/09/2022 | MQA/FA8176
JUL | SEP
- Medical Biotechnology
KPT/JPT(R/254/5/0014/09/2022 | MQA/FA8228
JUL | SEP
- Nursing
KPT/JPT(R/723/6/0125/04/2027 | MQA/FA8944
SEP
- Nutrition
KPT/JPT(R/726/6/0011/06/2022 | MQA/FA1298
JUL | SEP

CENTRE FOR COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE

- Acupuncture
(MSc)
KPT/JPT(R/721/7/0071/03/2022 | MQA/PA8570
SEP
- Chinese Medicine
KPT/JPT(R/721/6/0059/01/2027 | MQA/FA10260
FEB | SEP
- Chiropractic
KPT/JPT(R/726/6/0054/08/2026 | MQA/FA9294
FEB | SEP

SCHOOL OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

- Analytical and Pharmaceutical Chemistry[#]
(MSc)
KPT/JPT(R/2-CDL/442/7/0001/01/2027 | MQA/FA1191
MAR | SEP
- Business Administration in Healthcare Management
(PG Cert / PG Dip / Master)
KPT/JPT(R/1345/7/1082/9/2023 | MQA/PSA11354
KPT/JPT(R/1345/7/1090/12/2023 | MQA/PSA11355
KPT/JPT(R/1345/7/1085/10/2023 | MQA/PSA11353
MAR | SEP
- Health Professions Education
(PG Cert / PG Dip / Master)
KPT/JPT(R/145/7/0066/09/2025 | MQA/PSA05162
KPT/JPT(R/145/7/0064/09/2025 | MQA/PSA1563
KPT/JPT(R/145/7/0070/09/2025 | MQA/PSA1564
MAR
- Health Informatics and Analytics^{NEW}
(PG Cert / PG Dip / Master)
KPT/JPT(R/720/7/0131/09/2025 | MQA/PSA13973
KPT/JPT(R/720/7/0130/09/2025 | MQA/PSA13972
KPT/JPT(R/720/7/0129/09/2025 | MQA/PSA13974
SEP
- Molecular Medicine[#]
(MSc)
KPT/JPT(R/545/7/0078/07/2022 | MQA/FA1299
MAR | SEP
- Pharmacy Practice
(Master)
KPT/JPT(R/727/7/0051/03/2024 | MQA/PSA02796
MAR | SEP
- Public Health[#]
(MSc)
KPT/JPT(R/720/7/0077/09/2025 | A.10261
MAR | SEP
- Medical and Health Sciences
(MSc / PhD)
KPT/JPT(R/720/7/0049/06/2026 | A.10618
KPT/JPT(R/721/8/0043/01/2027 | A.3767
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Curtin to host econometrics conference

CURTIN University Malaysia (Curtin Malaysia) will be the proud host and local organiser of the 2021 Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society (AMES 2021), the prestigious annual regional conference for The Econometric Society in Miri from June 25 to 27.

The Econometric Society is an international society for the advancement of economic theory in its relation to statistics and mathematics. Its main activities are the publication of the journals *Econometrica*, *Quantitative Economics*, and *Theoretical Economics*; publication of a research Monograph Series; and organisation of scientific meetings in six regions of the world.

The conference is aimed at promoting research in economics using quantitative approaches, both theoretical and empirical, and is expected to bring together more than 500 local and international participants.

It will feature an impressive line-up of distinguished keynote speakers comprising senior academicians and economics experts from leading universities such as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Oxford University, Yale University, University of Wisconsin-Madison, University of Southern California, Stanford University, Boston

University, Columbia University and University of Chicago.

Among the keynote speakers is Prof Robert J Shiller, a Nobel Prize laureate in Economic Sciences of 2013. More details on the keynote speakers can be found at <https://ames.curtin.edu.my/keynote/>.

The conference advisory committee also has a distinguished lineup of senior economics experts from the University of Southern California, National Taiwan University, Peking University, Kobe University, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Seoul National University, and Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Similarly, the programme committee comprises representatives from Monash University, University of Kansas, Academia Sinica, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, National University of Singapore, University of Pennsylvania, University of California-Riverside, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Yale University, Boston College, Cheung Kong Graduate School of Business, City University of Hong Kong, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, North-West University, Kyoto University, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Singapore Management University,



The 2021 Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society is proudly hosted by Curtin Malaysia.

Seoul National University, University of California-Davis, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Guangzhou), University of Toronto, and Singapore Management University.

The local organising committee, meanwhile, is comprised of staff of Curtin Malaysia's Faculty of Business and ICT Department, headed by associate professor of the Department of Finance and Banking Dr Changyong Zhang, and senior lecturer of the Department of Marketing, Dr Goi Chai Lee.

Among the committee members are Dr Shamsul Kamariah

Abdullah, Siti Kasmah Mohd Kassim, Wendy Li Ling Law, Tanusree Chakravarty Mukherjee, Megawati Mustapha, and Dr Abey P Philip.

Dr Goi Chai Lee, co-chair for the conference, said that AMES 2021 will be significant in bringing together researchers or academics with common interests, enabling them to meet and discuss issues or ideas that focus on topics of mutual concern.

He said that delegates have the option to attend the conference online or physically, if the situation allows, and appropriate registration

fees will apply. There are different fees for professionals and students, and for Econometric Society members and non-members.

Those interested to attend the conference can register starting today until April 30. This includes an early bird registration period from today until March 31, allowing delegates to qualify for a registration fee discount.

Furthermore, the Econometric Society will award a limited number of grants to attend for young scholars whose papers are accepted to present at the conference.

The allocation of the fund will be on a competitive basis and applications will be evaluated by a review committee. The grants will help cover the registration fee at a minimum. Further details can be found on the conference website at <https://ames.curtin.edu.my/>.

At present, the conference programme has yet to be announced. A preliminary announcement will be made on May 10.

■ For any enquiries, contact the local organising committee at Curtin Malaysia via email to ames@curtin.edu.my.

For more information on Curtin Malaysia, visit curtin.edu.my, or look for Curtin Malaysia on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, or LinkedIn.

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Economics (Economics)

EMILY NG ZHI QING
3 A* 1 A
Oxford University
(Biochemistry)

CALVIN YEOH
3 A*, 1 A
Stanford University
(Economics)

AMANDA LEE MEI WAH
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Imperial College London
(Mechanical Engineering)

AARON LOW
4 A*
Imperial College London
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- Winner of the Malaysian Toray Science Foundation Science Education Award for 24 years
- Cambridge University crediting HELP's A-Level Department for nurturing students to excel in studies there
- A record of 108 Outstanding Pearson Learner Awards for top subject grades
- Scholarship awards from JPA, Shell, Tunku Abdul Rahman Fund (Cambridge University), KAIST University (South Korea), Bank Negara, ASEAN, CIMB, Maybank, Maxis, YTL

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Tips for proofreading your paper

THERE are usually a couple of marks in the grading scheme for good grammar and punctuation, so a little overview at the end of your writing process should give you a boost. Here are some tips on how to get that extra margin.

Spell check

Set your spell and grammar check to the right language (English UK if you're writing English for Malaysian teachers). Then go through your document and accept or reject each item.

List and fix your most common mistakes

This may include typing "personal" when you actually mean "personnel" and writing "grey", which is UK English, when trying to romance American readers who prefer "gray". Neither is picked up by a regular spell check, so look through the document using the Edit, Find and Replace commands.

Print your paper

It's amazing how differently things look in print and how much easier it is to spot mistakes. Mark up problems with marker pen. Then go back and fix the problems.

Read your paper aloud

Some people find that they hear their mistakes better when they read them. Print your paper and then stand up and orate. Mark the sentences that need fixing.

Proud moment for varsity



On March 8, UNIMY was presented with the BestBrands Brandlaureate e-branding 2020 Awards in the Education category in Computer Science & Engineering.

BEING a premier digital technology university, University Malaysia of Computer Science and Engineering (UNIMY) prides itself in being at the forefront of technology in the education industry.

Through the years, UNIMY has steadily been building its brand through features in the traditional print, radio, online, events, and out-of-home media like billboards that have grown UNIMY's brand awareness among students and parents alike.

The exposure has impacted UNIMY's brand positioning in the education industry, especially in the computer science and engineering fields.

Currently, UNIMY is known for

its eight digital technology focus areas which are Internet of Everything, Artificial Intelligence and Intelligent Machine, Cloud Computing, XR (AR, VR, MR), Cyber Security, Human-Machine Interaction, Coding Development and Operation, and Business Technology.

On March 8, UNIMY was presented with the BestBrands Brandlaureate e-branding 2020 Awards in the Education category in Computer Science & Engineering.

The BestBrands Brandlaureate award is a stamp of excellence and the event was organised by the World Brands Foundation.

To honour and celebrate the best



UNIMY vice chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Mohd Razali Muhamad: 'This means a lot to me and my colleagues at UNIMY that rewards the effort we have put in.'

brands in the world, the award is the most sought-after and prestigious branding award.

Recipients of the award are from various industries that have demonstrated strong branding initiatives to build their brands.

UNIMY's award was received by UNIMY vice chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Mohd Razali Muhamad who said, "I am very proud and honoured to receive this award and would like to thank the Brandlaureate for awarding us this award. This means a lot to me and my colleagues at UNIMY that rewards the effort we have put in, and to the UNIMY students who are getting their education at the university."

This award will propel UNIMY to reach its vision of being a premier digital technology university and its mission to develop highly sought-after graduates in a vibrant digital-centric environment that promotes innovation and breakthrough solutions using accelerating digital technologies.

UNIMY will be having its open day on March 27 and 28 at the UNIMY Campus, Block 12, Star Central, Lingkaran Cyber Point Timur, Cyberjaya, Selangor.

■ For further information about UNIMY, visit <https://www.unimy.edu.my>, contact 1300 885 008 or email enquiry@unimy.edu.my

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How to get through a difficult course

DO you have days when you wonder why on earth you ever decided to sign up for a course? When times are tough and you're having difficulty focusing, there are several things you can do to help you through.

First, try and build a vision of what it will be like when you complete your studies.

For example, work out what it will be like to finally get that job as a doctor and help heal people, or an architect and design houses that people love to live in. Or maybe you want to be independent and

earn your own money.

Whatever you're looking forward to, the feel-good factor of that image will then help energise you.

Second, instead of looking at the difficulties, think about your strengths. You've made it this far, so you should have plenty on your side.

Maybe you're good at seeing the big picture or maybe you're industrious about chasing little details.

Whatever it is, make a list of all the stuff you're good at. Hang it on your mirror so you see it every day. It will give you a positive lift.

Third, talk with a fellow student. As long as you keep it short, and you don't make it a constant thing that has you depressed all the time, a bit of a whimper can help you unload all the stress.

While you're enjoying your misery, have a lovely cup of hot chocolate or an ice cream.

Fourth, go out and have some fun and forget about work for 24 hours. If you're all burned out because you're working too hard, your brain slows down and it becomes very difficult to get anything useful done.

Recharge, re-energise and give yourself a bit of time.

When you do hit the books again, you'll be all rested and efficient.

Fifth, get a study buddy who will keep your nose to the grindstone.

When you've someone to bounce ideas off, and who will help you figure out what you need to work on more and what you've mastered, studying becomes a lot easier.

Above all, remember all the other times that you thought you'd never make it and you did. You can do it.

"Whatever it is, make a list of all the stuff you're good at. Hang it on your mirror so you see it every day. It will give you a positive lift."

Developing healing hands and caring hearts



SEGi's MBBS programme also prepares students to be globally competitive.

AS a child, many of us dream to be a doctor for we know that doctors play a significant role every stage of our lives – from the moment we were born till our last breath. They perform routine check-ups, vaccinations, treating us when we were sick to providing palliative care.

Those are the traditional roles of doctors. However, like everything else these roles have evolved with time. With the advancement of technology and changing expectations and demands of society, among many factors, the roles of healers change as well.

In line with this, educators are changing and updating their teaching methods as well.

For instance, when it comes to an education in medicine, real-life practices and outcome-based learning are emphasised. Additionally, professional ethics and bedside manners are also instilled.

At SEGi University, the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) programme is developed especially for students who believe in making a difference in the lives of others through the delivery of better health care. The university strives to produce doctors who are lifelong learners, keeping abreast with technological advances in medicine, to ensure the community receives prompt, accurate, and effective care.

As a fully accredited programme by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) and the Malaysia Medical Council (MMC), SEGi also provides a full range of laboratories such as the Anatomy Museum and Dissection Hall with real cadaveric

specimens for practical classes. SEGi's MBBS programme also prepares students to be globally competitive and United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) ready, in collaboration with Lecturio.

"The MBBS programme offered by SEGi University is unique. Our main objective is to bring up 'The Best in You, Made Possible' via our innovative integrated curriculum where we focus on educating our students in a patient-centred, science-driven, team-based, high-value healthcare environment. The Faculty of Medicine provides diverse learning opportunities in a variety of clinical settings across the country. This provides them with an environment that is conducive to develop their leadership skills and prepare them to become the doctors of tomorrow," said SEGi University Faculty of Medicine dean Prof Dr Mohamad Raili Suhaili.

In the *Routledge International Handbook of Medical Education* (2016) on the promotion of health, "The future role of the doctor will include an enhanced focus on health promotion and on the prevention of illness. The future doctor must understand and contribute to the improvement of those conditions in society that affect the health of individuals and of different population groups, from both a national and global perspective. The doctor must be responsive to society in meeting the needs of people and populations in the area in which he or she works, and at the same time, must expand this social accountability to a global perspective."

Exemplifying this, SEGi's Faculty of Medicine highly dedicated team of academics are actively taking part in conversations on the latest development of medicine further contributing to the society with their expertise. Additionally, members of the faculty are also being recognised for their efforts in their field via research and development.

Recently, SEGi University Faculty of Medicine Professor in Paediatrics Prof Dr Toh Teck Hock, who is also a Consultant Paediatrician and Clinical Research Centre head at Sibuh Hospital, shared insights on the effectiveness and safety of the Covid-19 vaccine. Held as a Facebook live session, Prof Dr Toh also addressed the concerns from the public regarding the vaccination. Here, he stressed that vaccination is important not just to protect the people themselves, but it is also to protect others who cannot take the vaccine.

Another recent notable effort by a member of the faculty was when Dr Rebecca Wong Shin Yee, Associate Professor of Physiology and Preclinical Sciences head at SEGi University's Faculty of Medicine, was listed among the World's Top 2% Scientists by Stanford University published in October 2020. The list represents the top 2% of the world's most-cited scientists in various disciplines (Source: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3000918>; <https://data.mendeley.com/datasets/btchxktzyw/2>).

■ Learn more about SEGi's MBBS programme by visiting www.segi.edu.my or call 03-6145 1777.

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AS the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia examination ends, the question on everybody's mind would be "What's next?"

Students wishing to enter the healthcare profession have an abundance of pre-university choices ranging from university-specific Foundation in Science to the STPM to the A-Levels.

Choosing the right pre-university is never an easy choice as it is the door that keeps all options at the undergraduate degree level open.

Manipal University College Malaysia (MUCM) which was formerly known as Melaka-Manipal Medical College, started its Foundation in Science (FIS) programme in 2012.

A one-year programme, the FIS is geared towards helping students get a head start in their chosen field of Health Sciences.

Offering a blend of subjects, its FIS is the academic bridge specially designed to equip students with the proper grounding of fundamental knowledge they will need to ensure a smooth transition to their undergraduate studies.

Focused and specialised

What makes the MUCM Foundation in Science unique for aspiring healthcare professionals is the inclusion of subjects from pre-clinical studies of a health science degree. These would be subjects of Basic Human Anatomy and Basic Human Physiology.

Early exposure to Human Anatomy helps students learn the definition of terminology related to anatomy that can be used especially for medicine as well as differentiate the facts, concepts, and principles of anatomy.

As for physiology, this subject

Giving students a solid head start



FIS Batch 20 student Ajairam learning about pulse measurement in the clinical skills learning centre simulation room.

exposes students to the knowledge and understanding of physiology and basic genetics. They will be educated on various physiological processes in the human body.

With this, students would be able to understand common disorders resulting from abnormal physiological functions.

According to Ajairam Sivanananda Perumal, FIS student from Batch 20, "The medical orientated subjects offered definitely helped me tremendously to get a rough idea on what's to come and prepare myself for MBBS.

"Although majority of my experience was through online classes, the lecturers evidently gave their best to ensure maximal learning. When it came to face-to-face

lessons in campus, it was indeed a very exciting experience especially for laboratory classes due to the well-equipped labs and friendly lab assistants."

Transitioning from school to university

University life is vastly different from school. This is why MUCM's Foundation Department organises a Mentor-Mentee event with each intake.

The main objective of this event is to foster friendship among all students and familiarise them with the university environment in a fun way.

Through this event, new students can learn the ropes of successfully navigating their studies from students who have already



MUCM incorporates the use of the latest in technology to make learning interesting to students.

undergone a semester of studies of the same programme.

This event also enables pastoral care from the faculty as they coach their mentees in goal setting, time management, resolving conflicts, developing new skills, appreciating the lasting importance of learning, and of having a sense of purpose in life.

Unique problem-based learning

Another unique feature of MUCM's Foundation in Science is the POSMED competition, whereby students create a poster that features the students' research on medical devices from the aspects of Biology, Physics, Mathematics, and Clinical Correlation.

As part of this, students are also required to produce a prototype to complement their posters using scrap materials. Creativity remains key to set for the prototype construction.

Stepping-stone to MUCM's degrees

Since its inception, MUCM has successfully nurtured over 6,000 medical and over 400 dental surgeons who have been delivered to both the Malaysian and overseas international health systems, with many alumni progressing successfully into specialist careers of their choosing.

"I'm grateful and happy for the choice I made to continue my higher education studies in MUCM and without a doubt looking forward to my degree years," added Ajairam.

Through the FIS programme, MUCM hopes to empower young students to become agents of change and gear them towards personal and professional success in the field of healthcare.

■ For details on the programme, call 1700 811 662 or log on to www.manipal.edu.my

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