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Like it or not, change is inevitable. With the advancement in technology and the speed information travels nowadays, it has accelerated the pace of change happening around us greatly. Just like how Microsoft changed the way we use personal computers 40 years ago, just like how Apple brought new meaning to smartphones and mobile technologies, just like how Facebook, Twitter, and WhatsApp changed the way we communicate, companies and organisations are constantly trying to predict the NEXT BIG CHANGE in the world. To quote Prof Philip Kotler, the world’s leading marketing guru, “Today you have to run faster to stay in the same place.”
In the Face of Rapid Change, Institutes of Higher Learning Need to Revolutionise Teaching and Learning

This phenomenal transformation of technology has created a sense of urgency and opportunity for institutes of higher learning. As an institute that takes pride in developing students who are well equipped and has hands-on-knowledge of their industry, the rapid growth in technology might prove to be a hamper as what they are taught in their first year, might be obsolete by the time they graduate and enter the workforce three or four years later.

Foreseeing this problem, UniKL introduced the Industrialmanship programme, where students are attached and exposed to the industry as early as year one. This is part of UniKL’s enhancement of the Industry-Academia relationship, where we believe both parties can play an equal role in talent development for the benefit of the nation. With this kind of cooperation, both parties seems to be winning; with the university producing employable graduates, and employers getting talents who are able to adapt quickly to the working environment, thus saving them precious time and resources.

However industries have to be realistic in their expectations of a fresh graduate. For the young graduates, the challenge is to constantly evolve themselves to be relevant in this changing time. This can put a huge burden and stress to these undeveloped raw human capital. Due to the constant change and huge expectation of the industry, graduates nowadays are not given enough time to learn and experience the working process compared to their peers 10 years ago.

As a university, it is our responsibility to equip students with the necessary attitude and mind-set to survive in the working world. Even if they might not hold the current knowledge of the industry, at least with the right attitude, they are able to grasp of what is required of them much quicker. Graduates have to be steadfast, humble, willing to be a lifelong learner and continuously improve for the benefit of themselves and the company they are working for. Thus it is imperative that graduates, when they start working, embrace change with the right attitude to become an essential human capital for the nation. And that is what UniKL constantly tries to achieve, to produce graduates with the right attitude and are able to contribute positively to the nation.

Prof. Dato’ Dr. Mazliham Mohd Su’ud
President and Chief Executive Officer,
Universiti Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia is focusing on development of its significant small hydropower potential, with a goal of adding 490 MW by 2020 to increase renewable energy generation in the country.

By Samizee Abdullah, Engku Ahmad Azrulhisham, Mohd Juhari Mat Basri and Jamel Othman
UniKL Malaysia France Institute

The threats of climate change caused by burning fossil fuels and escalating fossil fuel prices make the further rapid development of renewable energy sources a global imperative. Hydropower, as the largest clean and renewable energy source, has played an essential role in the global energy mix. Energy provided by small hydropower is considered a renewable alternative that meets the need to reduce dependence on fossil fuels while substantially reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore, small hydropower is considered one of the most cost effective and environmental friendly energy generation technologies.

Most small hydropower systems are run-of-river schemes, which do not require large storage reservoirs. Power generation from run-of-river plants is free of CO2 emissions and this is one of the oldest environmentally friendly technologies. The potential of small hydropower projects in Malaysia is huge, providing a total generating capacity of about 500 MW for the long run, especially in the run-of-river types.

Malaysia’s installed electricity generating capacity was 26,063 MW in 2013, consisting of 21,628 MW in Peninsular Malaysia, 1,303 MW in Sabah and 3,132 MW in Sarawak. Gas and coal remained the most-used fuels for power generation at 47.99% and 25.73%, respectively, followed by hydroelectric at 14.73% and biomass at 2.97%. Meanwhile, mini hydro (see below for definition) contributed 0.17%. In terms of electricity growth, maximum demand of 16,562 MW as recorded on May 13, 2013, surpassing the initial target of 16,324 MW by 1.5%.1
Categorizing Small Hydro

There is no globally accepted definition of small hydropower. The criterion currently used is capacity, and the definition varies by country. In Malaysia, small hydropower refers to run-of-river schemes up to 30 MW in capacity.1 Small hydropower usually is broken down into three sizes: full scale, mini and micro.2 A full scale small hydropower scheme has a capacity of more than 10 MW, which is enough electricity for large areas and extensive grid supplies (up to 30 MW). Mini hydro schemes make a smaller contribution to national grid supplies, typically in the range of 500 kW to 10 MW. Micro hydro schemes usually range from 5 kW to 500 kW, do not supply the national grid and produce just enough power to provide domestic lighting to a group of houses through charging a battery.

Small hydropower can offer more opportunity to support rural electrification expansion and also contribute to energy and capacity support of the grid. The potential for small hydro in Malaysia is huge, but the energy available from the rivers already contributes significantly to electricity supply in rural areas. One example of a successful small hydro project in Malaysia is Perting Mini Hydropower plant at Bentong, Pahang (see photo above and at left). It is a run-of-river scheme that began operating in 2009 with a capacity of 4.2 MW and net export capacity of 4 MW to the Tenaga Nasional Berhad power station. This plant is owned by Amcorp Pertin Hydro Sdn. Bhd. and was upgraded to 6 MW in 2015. It attained global recognition by receiving the ASEAN Energy Award in 2012 and the Association of Consulting Engineers Malaysia’s Silver Award of Merit 2013 in the field of Renewable Energy.

Power From Water

For purposes of our assessment, we used the below “definition” of a small hydro facility: It is a run-of-river scheme that does not stop the river flow but partially diverts it by means of an intake weir. A settling basin in front of the weir removes sand particles from the water and then a channel leads the water into a forebay. Finally, the penstock delivers the water to the powerhouse, where it runs through a turbine and is discharged back into the river downstream. A small hydropower system requires both adequate water flow and a change in altitude.

As is known, power available from a hydropower scheme is related to the vertical height the water falls (head) and the flow rate through the turbine.

But there are several factors that affect the overall efficiency of small hydropower systems. The overall efficiency of power generated depends on the overall losses of the system, which is calculated by considering the losses at the channel, penstock, turbine, generator and transmission.
Issues And Challenges

The population of Malaysia is more than 30 million and the country has a total area of 329,847 km2. The climate of the country features high humidity and copious rainfall. Daytime temperature rise above 30 degrees Celsius year-round and night-time temperatures rarely drop below 20°C. The average rainfall is 2,500 mm for Peninsular Malaysia and 5,080 mm for East Malaysia.

With its hills and mountains in the interior, Malaysia is blessed with abundant streams and rivers flowing from the highlands, and 149 sites for small hydropower installation have been identified through reconnaissance studies carried out in 2010, with estimated capacity of 28.9 MW. Malaysia has utilized its hydro potential mainly in the range of large hydropower, with about 5,456 MW installed. In 2012, the government expressed a goal that the energy provided by small hydro schemes be increased substantially, from 60 MW in 2011 to 490 MW by 2020. Small hydropower development is in line with the country’s Small Renewable Energy Programme (SREP), which encourages the development of electricity generation from renewable sources. In the SREP, owners of small renewable energy plants can apply to sell the electricity to the national utility through the Distribution Grid System.

The adoption of small hydropower has been making progress in Malaysia, and this has been spurred on by the Renewable Energy (RE) Act 2011, which was approved by the parliament in April 2011. As a result of this law, a feed-in tariff (FIT) scheme was adopted in December 2011. Under the FIT scheme, small power generation plants that use RE can apply to sell electricity to the utility through the distribution grid system owned by the national utility company Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) through the RE Power Purchase Agreement (REPPA). As of May 2016, installed capacity of small hydro under the country’s Fit program reached 18.30 MW, and the plants in progress equal 255.84 MW.
There are several issues and challenges that affect the development of small hydropower in Malaysia. The lack of field expertise and technical skills is the largest barrier impeding this development, and also the financial institutions are unfamiliar with assessing risks for small hydropower projects. Malaysia also appears to be facing a number of specific challenges in developing small hydropower, including heavy rainfall causing flooding and overflow, inefficient designs to filter out sand and debris before it enters the turbine, complicated regulatory requirements in terms of land acquisition and environmental impact assessment, and risk of water pollution during construction work resulting from logging activities. In addition, the access to land and water is subject to federal and state regulation.

The hydrological parameters are also an important factor contributing to the success of small hydropower projects. Any run-of-river scheme has the same major constraint: the amount of water available varies from season to season. There are challenges in determining the feasibility of a small hydro scheme due to the risk of water scarcity and unexpected water flows resulting from dry seasons, climate change and river pollution. Furthermore, the performance of small hydropower is influenced by sedimentation, which reduces the overall efficiency of the power generation system. There is a need to have detailed research on sedimentation, such as how to better solve sediment problems and facilitate sediment handling in small hydro systems. The Sustainable Energy Analysis Laboratory at the Universiti Kuala Lumpur is currently involved in the KeTTHA (Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water) funded research project on development of an empirical sediment settling prediction system and optimization tools for small hydropower plants.

**Conclusion**

Small hydropower is a good alternative to conventional electricity generation, especially to provide considerable electricity in rural areas. With its hilly topography and an abundant number of streams flowing to foothills, Malaysia offers many potential sites for run-of-river small hydropower.

Despite the positive benefits from small hydropower plants, there are issues and challenges that need to be considered for the success of the project. The research and innovation in developing small hydropower is very encouraging, which is providing many benefits in terms of design, cost effectiveness and the installation process.

**Source of Article:**
At UniKL, promoting and sustaining a research community is important for the university to foster research enculturation. UniKL’s research activity is focused on developing new technologies and products to support the techno-entrepreneurship ventures with our researchers, graduates and industrial partners. At UniKL, we keenly motivate research and innovative activities contributing to the creation of new values that benefit industries and businesses.

In this edition of UniKL Xpress we will be highlighting one of UniKL’s innovation which has won numerous awards and recognitions and has huge potential for commercialisation.
The ‘DOOR – BUCK INSTALLATION SYSTEM’ or D.I.S was developed by researchers from UniKL Malaysia France Institute. A door buck is a simple site made jig that many carpenters use to hold doors securely on edge while planting them or routing the hinges. Basically, the door is placed between two holders of a door-buck where the door will stand upright for easy installation of the door hinges. Then, the door is brought to the door frame to complete the installation process. Current means of transporting a door from one place to another utilizes two workers. With D.I.S, the manpower needed is cut into half for the job.

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<th>BENEFITS</th>
<th>ADVANTAGES</th>
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<td>This product decreases installation cost by 50% and increases door installation productivity and safety.</td>
<td>Portable for easy carrying and storing.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Suitable for one-leaf and two-leaf types door thickness and height.</td>
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<th>OBJECTIVES</th>
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<td>To study the ergonomics and safe method of door installation.</td>
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<td>To design an innovative and effective tool for carpenters.</td>
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<td>To produce an innovation which can reduce labour cost and increase productivity</td>
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<th>MARKET POTENTIAL</th>
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<td>Construction of Buildings, Houses and Offices.</td>
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<td>Maintenance of Buildings and Offices.</td>
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<td>Hardware (D.I.Y)</td>
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<th>INVENTORS</th>
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<td>Mohamad Helmi Bin Mat Jusoh</td>
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<td>Wan Nazirul Mubin Bin Wan Mohamad</td>
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<td>Mohamad Yazman Bin Yaakub</td>
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<td>Mohamad Juraidi Bin Jamal</td>
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<td>Made in UniKL 2015</td>
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<th>CONCLUSION</th>
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<td>The product is designed to solve the following problems;</td>
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<td>D.I.S will help reduce the back – pain on workers during transporting a door.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D.I.S can save door installation time.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D.I.S maintains the quality of the door.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D.I.S minimizes the risk of accidents at work.</td>
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<tr>
<td>D.I.S can save cost of labor.</td>
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‘I used to consider myself as a grain of sand, insignificant, easily thrown away every time the wind blows. But a grain of sand can form a mountain or even an island!’
Siti Sarah Shamsul Anuar is a UniKL undergrad currently pursuing her Bachelor's Degree in Multimedia Technology in Interactive Multimedia Design at UniKL Malaysian Institute of Information Technology. The young undergrad takes pride in having research and innovation projects core to her undergraduate study experience.

MARA Technology Exploration 2016 in the Community category, the Undergraduate Research Competition and Exhibition 2015 (gold medal & first place winner), FYP Competition and Exhibition (Best Final Year Project winner) and Language Olympics 2014 (first place winner).

With her deep love for research and her aspiration to pursue her PhD in software engineering, she hopes to become an educator and a professor in the future.

Siti Sarah Shamsul Anuar is recipient of the President’s Award in Diploma Category and the Chancellor's Award Recipient (Best Student Overall), the highest achievement award for a UniKL student during UniKL's 2016 Convocation Ceremony.

The petite lass from Kuala Lumpur, has been involved in undergraduate research and innovation competitions and was exposed to writing for research publications for international conferences from a very young age. She shows a deep understanding and passion in research and innovation, and to date, has published three research publications for international journals, a remarkable achievement for an undergraduate student.

Sarah has represented UniKL and won numerous research and innovation based competitions, among them winning the Gold medal and ‘The Very Best’ Award at the Asian Youth Innovation in Malaysia Technology Expo 2017, gold medal at the Apprentice Innovation & Research Exhibition 2016, first place winner at the MARA Technology Exploration 2016 in the Community category, the Undergraduate Research Competition and Exhibition 2015 (gold medal & first place winner), FYP Competition and Exhibition (Best Final Year Project winner) and Language Olympics 2014 (first place winner).

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YB Minister of KKLW Greets New UniKL Students

BANGI, 12 February - YB Dato’ Sri Ismail Sabri Yaakob, Minister of Rural and Regional Development and Pro Chancellor of UniKL, took some time off from his busy schedule to welcome 370 new students from UniKL MFI, UniKL BMI, UniKL MIAT and UBIS who registered today for the February 2017 intake. YB Dato’ Sri welcomed the new students and had some words of encouragement for the highly enthusiastic group of students who were visibly delighted to see the Minister personally meeting them.

He said, “Technical Education is no more seen as a second chance opportunity for students to enter tertiary education.

UniKL has proven that through time, it has grown to become one of the preferred private universities of choice among Malaysians and HTVET is seen as the prime mover for economic development of the nation. I hope you will use your time here wisely and may success follow wherever you go.”

The Honorable Minister spent almost one an a half hour with these students having afternoon tea together while having informal conversations, played foosball and a little bit of golf at the new student recreational area.
KUALA LUMPUR, 5 MARCH – Pitch for Progress 2017 hosted by Universiti Kuala Lumpur is a competition organised in collaboration between the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE), the Organisation for National Empowerment (ONE) and Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL). The PfP competition provides university students the opportunity to pitch their ideas on how to improve the perception of higher education in Malaysia, in line with the Ministry’s motto ‘Soaring Upwards’.

The competition was participated by 40 teams from public and private universities in the country. Participating teams are required to present their ideas on improving the perception of higher education in Malaysia. This idea can be in the form of a social media campaign, short video projects, or anything creative as long as it meets its objective. The competition allows the participants to enhance their leadership and persuasion skills with guidance from experienced and talented coaches and facilitators.

The team representing Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL), Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) and Management & Science University (MSU) were proclaimed as winners based on their winning ideas and presentation skills.
Dato' Sri Idris Jusoh, Minister of Higher Education is seen here in a commemorative picture with participants and guests at the event.
KUALA LUMPUR, 6 APRIL – Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL) hosted the Jelajah Pendidikan Bumiputera (JPB) 2017 series for the Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur Zone. JPB, a special project initiated by YAB Prime Minister is a nationwide tour with the goal of providing a second chance to Bumiputera students from disadvantaged backgrounds especially in remote and rural areas to continue their tertiary education. The project is co-organised by Gerakan Pendidikan Bumiputera Malaysia (GPBM), Yayasan Destini Anak Bangsa (YDAB) and Koperasi Profesional Putrajaya Berhad (KOPROJAYA).

Among the higher learning institute involved in the tour are Universiti Kuala Lumpur, Universiti Teknologi Mara, Kolej Poly-Tech MARA, Politeknik Malaysia, Giat MARA Malaysia, Kolej Komuniti, Institut Kemahiran Malaysia, Institut Kemahiran Belia Negara, Kolej Universiti Agrosains Malaysia, Kolej Profesional MARA, Perbadanan Tabung Pendidikan Tinggi Nasional (PTPTN) and 15 public universities from all over Malaysia including Universiti Malaya, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and many more.

The central zone of the Jelajah was held at Universiti Kuala Lumpur, attended by Minister of Federal Territories, YB Datuk Seri Utama Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor and Minister of Rural and Regional Development Dato’ Sri Ismail Sabri Yaakob, who is also the Mentor Minister for the programme. Also in attendance were Ybhg Profesor Emeritus Tan Sri. Ir. Dr. Sahol Hamid Abu Bakar, Chairman of YDAB, Vice Chancellors and leaders of public and private universities from all over Malaysia and the general public.
Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, the Prime Minister of Malaysia launching the Jelajah Pendidikan Bumiputera 2017 at Bera, Pahang.
CREATING SUSTAINABLE JOB AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

This forum was initiated following UniKL's establishment of the professional centre known as Asia Rail Institute on 23 March 2016. The Asia Rail Institute has been recognised as the first national higher institute focusing on rail technology where it offers professional courses, licence programmes and customised courses for the professional development of the rail industry workforce in Malaysia.
YB Datuk Ab Aziz Kaprawi, Deputy Minister of Transport was the guest of honour.

Datuk Ibrahim Ahmad, Director General of MARA presenting the keynote address.
UNIKL, UNITEN, MMU AND UTP FORM STRATEGIC ALLIANCE TO ENHANCE HIGHER EDUCATION INDUSTRY

PUTRAJAYA, 21 November – Four Government Linked Universities comprising of Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL), Multimedia University (MMU), Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP) and Universiti Tenaga Nasional (UNITEN) today formalised their strategic partnership through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding in a ceremony which was witnessed by Minister of Higher Education, Yang Berhormat Dato’ Seri Idris Jusoh. Also present were Vice Chancellors and Presidents of the four universities, top management and delegates of the GLU Management Forum.

The Council for the Vice Chancellors and Presidents of Government-Linked Universities was established in January 2016 involving Vice Chancellors and Presidents of UNITEN, MMU, UTP and UniKL to charter the course in advancing higher education through voluntary, cooperative and co-ordinated action.

The objectives of this Council are among others; promote the interests of GLUs to the government, the industry and the general public; develop policies and guidelines on higher education matters including teaching, research and training; advancing the internationalisation of GLUs; and promoting collaboration between the GLUs and other universities in Malaysia and abroad.
The MOU signing will enhance the GLUs collaborations in developing an ecosystem to move forward and eventually supporting the national education aspiration as outlined in the Malaysian Education Blueprint for Higher Education, which is to be a world-class knowledge economy – and regional education hub. Together, the GLU’s have vast potential to grow and become Malaysia's Leading Education Group and a Global Education Player.
“INSPIRATION FROM NATURE”
A Showcase of Digital Photography Exhibition

"sharing knowledge, sharing experience"

“INSPIRATION FROM NATURE”, is an exhibition designed for the purpose of evaluation and assessment of digital photography works by final semester students of Creative Multimedia Section, Malaysian Institute of Technology (MIIT), Universiti Kuala Lumpur.

The work represents the students journey and exploration of human being’s relation with their environment, drawing inspiration from it since the time of our forefathers as seen in our cultural heritage, our architecture, and our crafts.

The main objective of publishing “Inspiration from Nature” is actually meant as a reference for generation to come. A lot of creative ideas have been created from each student from this type of photography that has been originated from different range and depth of their research. With this catalogue, students are able to discover the vast changes that are going on the world today and to prepare the next generation of artist and designers for a life of sustained creative practice.

The students involved also got the chance to give back to the society through highlighting the plight of the ‘orang asli’ community and social activities organised.
“A good landscape photograph captures the spirit of the subject – wild or pastoral exciting or tranquil, town or country and enables us to enjoy it long after we have left the scene itself…”
Roger Hick
UNIKL IN THE NEWS