THE FILIAL DAUGHTER

Wan Dalilah Atiyah Wan Ibrahim turns down offer to study abroad and is UniKL MICET’s cream of the crop for academic excellence
“THINGS TURN OUT BEST FOR THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE THE BEST OF THE WAY THINGS TURN OUT”

- John Wooden
  (Former American Basketball Player)
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A GARDEN OF KNOWLEDGE

Dean of UniKL MICET
Assoc Prof Dr Ruzainah Ali @ Jaafar
aims to take the institute to the next level through innovations

There is a great demand for chemical engineers. Universiti Kuala Lumpur Institute of Chemical and Bioengineering Technology (UniKL MICET) strives to meet the ever-increasing demand going forward.

Through the continuous effort of UniKL MICET, UniKL MICET graduates not only emphasise academic excellence but also display towering personality and high level of confidence. This enables them to contribute immensely to the organisation that they are affiliated to and to the nation at large.

The Dean of UniKL MICET, Assoc Prof Dr Ruzainah Ali @ Jaafar, in her welcoming post on the institute's official website, thanked students who chose to pursue their studies at the institute – one of 12 UniKL campuses around the country. It is located in the serene and calm outskirt of Alor Gajah town, approximately 35km from the 700-year-old Historical City of Malacca.

"Besides being a centre of education, we encourage our students to strive towards entrepreneurship and welcome any form of participation and collaboration from the industries. To date, UniKL MICET has linkages with several corporations. Higher Institutions are also welcome to visit our campus," said Assoc Prof Dr Ruzainah.

Like all Deans in 12 other UniKL Institutes, Assoc Prof Dr Ruzainah strives to do her best, regularly communicates with academic, technical and managerial staff regarding current activities and programmes to propel UniKL to be the leading entrepreneurial technical university. She was previously the Director, Centre for Instructional Technology and Curriculum Development at the Chancellery before being posted as Dean of UniKL MICET in 2018.

She holds a PhD in Biotechnology, Master’s Degree in the same field, Bachelor’s Degree in Applied Science (Biology) and a Diploma in Laboratory Technology from Universiti Sains Malaysia. Her areas of expertise include Molecular Biology and Chemistry.

The big question is what motivates Assoc Prof Dr. Ruzainah to set high goals for the Chemical and Bioengineering Technology Institute.

"When you're a Dean, there is a new challenge every day, and these challenges motivate me. Firstly, Dean is the facilitating link between academic, technical and management staff with the students. Then, there are the day-to-day decisions in running an institute with 228 staff and nearly 1,132 students. All activities and roles of the Dean are undertaken in light of furthering the best interests of the Institute. All of these challenges inspire me," she added.

"Our mission is to take UniKL MICET to the next level. It motivates me working with industry players, faculty members, students, and alumni. I admit this
is a challenging journey, especially to put everything in the right order and make everyone comfortable in MICET."

"Most industries in Malaysia require workers with the ability to handle chemical engineering-related equipment or types of machinery compared to graduates who major in theoretical design. Chemical Engineering Technology graduates are highly sought in the industry as its scope is not limited to the oil and gas sector. Among other sectors that are suitable for UniKL MICET graduates includes manufacturing, biotechnology, pharmaceutical, industrial chemical, consultation and research," she added.

UniKL MICET graduates are exposed to similar machines used in the industry during their studies and they would not have problems operating technologically advanced machines during employment. They will only need to undergo minimal training before operating industrial types of equipment. "Students would possess sufficient knowledge about chemical and bioengineering technology, along with their specialisation which can be polymer, process, food, bioprocess or environment. These are the six Bachelor Degree programmes offered in the campus along with five Diploma programmes," she explained.

UniKL MICET will introduce several new programmes, from Foundation up to Bachelors level. Foundation in Science Programme will kick-start in May 2020 to prepare students to be academically ready to enrol in UniKL bachelor programmes in one-year time. On top of this, the newly developed Bachelor of Food Safety and Quality will offer a unique learning experience by having a one-year attachment at selected industries that adopts the work-based-learning (WBL) concept. This WBL concept is also extended to the new Diploma in Restaurant Management planned to be offered in 2021.

"Since 2018, we have been conducting STEM programmes in schools in Malacca. STEM is a curriculum based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines — science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Generally, the feedback we received from schools has been very encouraging," she said.

"There are more students who have shown interest in the science stream. Science is not difficult or boring. Through our hands-on students’ engagement programmes, it will make science easier to understand and exciting," added Assoc Prof Dr Ruzainah.

With over 40 laboratories including chemical analysis lab, chemical technology lab, polymer analysis and testing lab, rubber processing lab, water treatment, air pollution control, it is not surprising that many of UniKL MICET undergraduates are recipients of excellence award namely presented by the Plastics and Rubber Institute of Malaysia (PRIM).

UniKL MICET, observed Assoc Prof Dr Ruzainah, is also the world’s first next-generation 3D Design Solution for a chemical Plants training centre that uses the Plant Design Management System (PDMS) and 3D software.

"The 3D design software can be utilised for the oil and gas, petrochemical and marine industries. These facilities could be used to train 60 students at a time.

"Industry players recognise UniKL MICET for being a technology provider and strategic partner with well-known institutions. We organise all kind of programmes with and for our partners both at academic and industrial levels," she said, adding that amongst the institute’s close industrial collaborators are Malaysian Rubber Export Promotion Council (MREPC) and PRIM.

The Section of Polymer Engineering Technology Division of MICET has been in collaborations with PRIM and MREPC in organising Professional Graduateship of Rubber Technology (PGRT/ GPRIM). Both PGRT and GPRIM are professional level post-graduate courses in rubber technology provided jointly by UniKL MICET and PRIM to graduates with related science and technical qualifications. It is a 6-month professional programme that comprises of two months of intensive theory followed by four months’ internship in an approved rubber manufacturing facility. Students have pass examinations in rubber science, rubber materials and rubber processes subjects before an internship.

MREPC, on the other hand, provides a full scholarship to fresh graduates not working in the rubber industry. This includes course fees, full board and lodging during the 2-month study period and also monthly allowance during an internship.

Other industrial partners such as You Dun Chao Healthcare Products San Bhd i.e. the producer of Daun Belalai Gajah (Sabah Snake Grass) herb for healthcare products, also collaborates with the Bioengineering Technology Section of MICET. The company conducts its Research & Development activities for the added value products of the herbs in UniKL MICET.

UniKL MICET also offers International Exchange Programmes to expose students to the best of international community, cultures and practices beyond their boundaries.

"Any student can apply to participate in the exchange programme for an enriching experience. UniKL MICET has established a partnership with academic institutions spanning across the Asia Pacific, Europe, and Africa, under the framework of staff and student exchange mobility. Exchange mobility to European institutions is usually supported under Erasmus+ training programme and scholarship by host institutions; which are awarded to the highly qualified student," she added.
WAN Dalilah Atiyah Wan Ibrahim has had a long-lasting significant presence in Universiti Kuala Lumpur Malaysian Institute of Chemical and Bioengineering Technology (UniKL MICET).

The institute is located in the industrial enclave of Taboh Naning near Alor Gajah, Malacca. It has been home to Wan Dalilah since 2013 in pursuit of a diploma in polymer and then leading to a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering (polymer).

The 24-year-old petite Wan Dalilah hails from Kerteh, an oil and gas industrial city in the state of Terengganu. She is energetic, and a good role model for other students - the kind that lecturers would love to have filed up their classrooms.

Since 2013, she has etched her name on the Dean List Awards in 11 semesters (5 during her diploma days and 6 in bachelors) – a feat considered an important milestone and a great personal achievement.

“My life begins every day with an open attitude which helps me build my knowledge and explore new ideas. I have spent almost seven years in UniKL MICET and that’s almost a little more than one-third of my life,” she smiled wryly.
“The hands-on-modules in MICET gives students the opportunity to explore like going through trial and errors until perfection rather than theoretical classes. We learn how to operate machines in the lab with supervision,” said Dalilah.

A high achiever in the Ujian Pencapaian Sekolah Rendah (UPSR), Dalilah was accepted into the Terengganu Elite School Mak Lagam in the district of Kemaman to continue her secondary education. In the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) examination, Dalilah’s perseverance paid off as she obtained 5As and 5Bs’.

“I have a deep fascination in chemistry and had planned to pursue a degree programme that is related to polymer in the field of chemical engineering,” said Dalilah, who like all other top performers presently and before, is the pride of UniKL MICET.

In recognition of her outstanding academic performance during her diploma years, Dalilah was presented with an excellence award by the Plastics and Rubber Institute of Malaysia (PRIM) Awards ceremony in 2016 and has also been nominated for the prestigious award in her bachelor’s programme in 2020.

MICET also honoured her with a gold medal for Undergraduate Research and Exhibition.

“My dreams today are my passions tomorrow, Don’t be afraid to make mistakes, because that’s the beauty of learning. It is a never-ending process. You can experiment, try things out, and discover what you can be,” said Dalilah.

The manufacture of products from polymers, explained Dalilah, requires a knowledge and understanding of a broad range of principles and technologies.

“For example, to make a product from plastic, one must choose which plastic to use from a very large range of plastics available, and then decide which processing method is suitable to produce the desired shaped product. Once these have been decided, it will often be necessary to design and make a mould for the products, and then ensure this mould functions effectively.”

“This does not include the considerable expertise required to design the product in the first place to ensure maximum strength, ease of function and an aesthetic shape,” she said.

She was captivated by MARA’s High Achiever Scheme that offered students an opportunity to further their studies abroad to do bachelor’s programmes if they obtain a CGPA of 3.5 and above in their diploma programmes.

However, her chance of studying abroad after obtaining good grades did not realise. The profound feeling of filial love superseded all else.

“MARA offered me a placement in an Australian University but my parents persuaded me to stay ‘home’ and continue my studies here. I am very attached to my parents and siblings. With a heavy heart, I had to turn it down and I thank MARA for giving me this opportunity.”

“I have no regrets at all although some of my friends accepted offers and are currently studying abroad,” she said with a laugh, adding that would have missed ‘mama’s cooking’ and all the Malaysian delicacies had she gone abroad.

“UniKL MICET teaching modules and labs are up to date. The lecturers are helpful and we are given all the space to gain knowledge. To me it’s ‘home away from home’ and I am very comfortable here,” added Wan Dalilah, who will graduate in August 2020.

The youngest of three siblings, however, is entrenched in empowering women to join the field of chemical engineering, once a man’s domain.

“There is so much to explore and so many areas to specialise in. It offers more opportunities. Take the bold step,” said Wan Dalilah.
Potential of food waste produce from sunflower-based industries as an alternative fibre source
FOOD waste is undeniably one of the issues which currently given much attention and reconciled for its potential utilization in scientific research.

The main concern of food waste as its fact that it exists in every stage of food supply chain and become a hindered in achieving responsible and sustainable consumption and more alarming with the mass growing population of the world and increment in food production. The end-stage of food waste ultimately is discarded to the landfill and it is a known fact that a billion tonnes of food waste is producing annually and the amount increasing.

Due to this factor, the science community and related field have indubitably given their concern in researching potential utilization of food waste as a possible energy source, material extraction and synthesis, animal feed and others. With similar ambition, this is the reason that initiates the research team led by Associate Professor Dr Norzahir Sapawe from UniKL Malaysian Institute of Chemical and Bioengineering Technology (UniKL MICET) that highlights the potential of food waste produce from sunflower-based industries as an alternative fibre source in animal feed formulation.

Petz Munchez is a research project that comes with a humble perspective in championing the application of food waste from sunflower-based industry, the sunflower shell husk. The sunflower-based industry mainly revolves in sunflower oil production, food and beverage, as well as confectionery industries, produce on average 45-60% of sunflower shell husk waste out of total sunflower seed weight used.

This mass-produces food waste currently either discarded to the landfill or burn. These factors have attracted this research team which has a multi-branch scientific background from UniKL MICET to research the probable of waste sunflower shell husk to be utilized in animal feed formulation.

This started a scientific journey that began in 2017 and is still ongoing in researching and producing a prototype animal feed pellet that used waste sunflower shell husk as part of its formulation.

The main concern of this research is on using the possible cheaper fibre source alternative in dry animal feed production. Meticulous studies performed on the waste sunflower shell husk collected from various industries confirmed that it contained a high source of fibre, approximately 50%, which is suitable to be used as fibre source under strict formulation and production processing. Thus, for the past two years, undertaken an arduous journey, Petz Munchez come to fruition. This project accumulating the research on raw material (waste sunflower shell husk), material processing, formulation and production of the animal feed in pellet form.

The entire project can achieve rapid progress due to the support provided by UniKL and MARA in terms of finance, logistics and equipment required.

The first of its kind, Petz Munchez is formulated from several ingredients that aim to provide beneficial nutrient for a pet yet by using alternative fibre source – sunflower shell husk. Currently, the first successful formulation employed for hamster consumption that followed their required daily nutrient. This project had been successfully presented in several conferences and exhibition which became the stage on highlighting the research projects current achievement, ongoing research and future planning.

Petz Munchez related research has been published in Scopus-index journal as well as achieving a positive result in the exhibition which display this project prototype. The highest recognition received by this project is winning the gold medal at the 30th International Invention, Innovation and Technology Exhibition (ITEX Malaysia) 2019 which was held at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre back on April 2019.

Other exhibition that has been participated includes ECIPTA’19, NRIC 2019, NACES 2018, MIU 2018 and URCE 2017 where this project won 3 gold and 2 silver medals. It also won the first prize in Undergraduate Research Competition and Exhibition (URCE 2017), runners-up in Made in UniKL (MIU) 2018 and National Chemical Engineering Symposium (NACES) 2018.

Paper on this project was also presented at the International Conference on Green Chemical Engineering and Technology in 2017 and the International Conference on Chemical Sciences and Engineering in 2018.
FRICITION Stir Welding (FSW) is a solid-state joining process which operates at below the melting point of the workpiece. This process was introduced by The Welding Institute (TWI) since 1991. It uses a non-consumable high rotating tool that stirs and moves along two closed adjacent parts to form a high quality joint.

This FSW tool is made from material harder than workpiece with a profiled shoulder and pin. A special jig is required to perform this process successfully. Significantly, FSW won’t produce any arc radiation and dangerous fumes. Therefore, the operator requires no welding helmet and mask when operating the FSW work. Shielding gas or filler is not required thus saving operational cost and prevent additional weight.

MARINE APPLICATIONS

Deck panels, bulkheads and superstructure
Aluminium plates are applied for constructing ship structures especially deck panels, bulkheads and superstructure. It is used to maintain a lightweight construction with good strength. The uniform shape of deck panel, bulkhead and superstructure make it possible for the FSW process to be utilized in these structures fabrication. In performing this operation, the tee-butt joint configurations are the best option. A similar practice can be used for bulkhead and superstructure fabrication.

MATERIALS

FSW can be used to weld all similar and dissimilar grade of aluminium alloys. This process is specially used for aluminium to eliminate the weld defects and distortion which are usually related to fusion welding. It can weld up to 75 mm thick of aluminium plate with closed-square butt joint configuration. Besides that, harder material alloys such as steel, stainless steel, titanium, copper, lead and Inconel can also be welded by using this process.
In a recent development, this team managed to join the pipe sections which previously posed a challenge due to its tubular shape. This will expand further for possibilities to be applied in marine construction practices in Malaysia. MIMET collaborated with Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS (UTP), Science and Technology Facilities Council United Kingdom (STFC) and Welding Research Institute Japan in this area of research. Their project received recognition internationally when they are awarded several gold awards at ITEX in 2013, 2016 and 2019 respectively.

More than 20 indexed papers related to this project have been published including several patents produced. This similar process can be applied for automotive, aerospace and railways industry. Besides FSW, another process that is to be explored for future development is Magnetic Pulse Welding. For more details on future needs and collaboration. Both Fig. 6 and 7 show the FSW set up in the lab and the FSW UniKL MIMET team.

**Pipeline joining**

Instead of application on flat-panel, this FSW process can be used for a tubular section such as pipe joining. This tubular form posed a very unique challenge. Therefore, a different set of jig is required. An orbital clamping unit was successfully developed and the final pipe joint as shown in Fig.3. Meanwhile, Fig. 4 and 5 shows the application of FSW in shipbuilding practices respectively.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The authors gratefully acknowledge Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA) and Universiti Kuala Lumpur for their financial support in this project via MARA Innovation and Grant Scheme and Short Term Research Grant.

A team from UniKL MIMET had actively participated in FSW Research & Development since 2012. Thin and thick plate sections had successfully joined by butt, lap and tee joint configurations.

Apart from that, they also managed to join dissimilar thickness of aluminium plates. They have also successfully performed underwater FSW process too.

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LEARNING what humanitarian leadership is all about brought together an estimated 1,000 students from 85 countries to the 10th University Scholars’ Leadership Symposium in Malaysia.

It was the second time that this country was given the honour to host the week-long symposium that was held from August 1-7 at the Setia City Convention Centre in Shah Alam. The inaugural USLS took place at the Historical City of Malacca in 2010.

The 10th USLS is a leadership and training programme designed for young leaders hosted by Humanitarian Affairs Asia – a United Nations Development programme that focuses on developing leaders to bring social change and teach youths how to understand the ever-changing world around them. The Ministry of Education co-hosted the symposium whilst the strategic partners were the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Malaysia Convention and Exhibition Bureau and Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL).

The opening ceremony was graced by Prime Minister YAB Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad who left an indelible mark in his opening address when he remarked that leadership is not rocket science and retaining ideals and upholding noble values will mould youths into good leaders.

Also in attendance were the Minister of Education, Dr Maszlee Malik, his deputy Teo Nie Ching and Humanitarian Affairs Asia Secretary-General Mr Kim Solomon.
The Prime Minister said as much as he wants youths to be competitive and inculcate themselves with capabilities to take on the rest of the world, it is not about dollars and cents, profits and losses or bottom lines.

“Firstly, a leader must have integrity and honesty, without them, a leader would be corrupt and untrustworthy. Next, a leader must be willing to work hard and to have pride in his work. Apart from that, a leader must have the hunger for knowledge and be aware of the changes around him,” said the 94-year-old senior statesman.

He also reminded the younger generation that if they do not keep abreast they will be left behind in the global race and that will result in economic backwardness and could lead to poverty.

“In other words, leadership is a lifelong task of learning and experience. The issue is how we fare as a leader. What kind of impact do we make and how much of our leadership touches the lives of others? These are essential concerns and ideals that a leader should know and address,” he added.

Besides being inspired by motivational speakers such as UniKL President and Chief Executive Officer Prof Dato’ Dr Mazliham Mohd Su’ud and Dr Eiad Yafi, the Deputy Dean of UniKL Institute of Post Graduate Studies, Prof Tan Eng Chye, the President of the National University of Singapore, and Filipe Queipo, the information officer at the United Nations NGO Relations & Advocacy Section of the Department of Public Information, delegates were left jaw dropping by the real-life experiences of Geraldine Cox, Arifa Nasim, Hong Kong-based 14-year-old Hilary Yip, Sam Cawthorn, Ryan Hreljac and Chris Temple – Co-founder and CEO of Living On One Dollar.

The highlight of the 10th USLS, however, was ‘Service Day’ whereby delegates were divided into groups and embarked on different volunteering programmes. More than 80 delegates helped to conserve life on land during Service Day – specifically the life, and habitats of fireflies in Kampung Selangor.

Another group of 200 delegates were entrusted to repaint and restore SK Tun Razak – a primary school for children of indigenous community in Kuala Kubu Baru whilst it was a fun-filled day for children of refugees at SuperPark Malaysia, UniKL British Malaysian Institute campus in Gombak and at the Malaysian Institute of Aviation Technology campus in Sepang.

The 10th USLS was an unforgettable of learning, sharing and fostering global networks as to help communities in need. It is about turning adversity into opportunity.
Their latest production of “Upin & Ipin: Keris Siamang Tunggal” (The Lone Gibbon Kris), however, raked in RM26.19 million at the local box office after it premiered on March 21. The Les’ Copaque Production Sdn Bhd film earned a whopping RM25 million within three weeks and is also screened in Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines and China.

The new animated adventure follows twin brothers on their quest to save the fantastical kingdom of Inderaloka from the evil Raja Bersiong. It all begins when Upin & Ipin, and their friends stumble upon a mystical dagger that leads them straight into Inderaloka. While trying to find their way back home, they are tasked with restoring the kingdom to its former glory.

For Syed Nurfaiz and Ahmad Razuli, the men behind the scene in Les’ Copaque Production, they are in a buoyant mood thanks to the international fame of Upin & Ipin.
“I have been working for 12 years. My first entry in Les’ Copaque Production was as a technical executive. We did the animation and worked with a small team of 14 staff during that time. Now we have a large team that consists of almost 200 staff who are involved in the production of Upin & Ipin and other productions,” said Syed Nurfaiz. “It is without doubt very challenging working in Les’ Copaque because we always push the boundaries to our limits. In Les Copaque Production we always do our best.”

“All along we wanted to create an impact in our society. Watching our product grow in a good way. Instead of just making fun cartoons and entertaining that has no added value to it we created contents that were not only entertaining but educational as well to a different level of people in our society, especially children. They learn about our ethics and the importance of good behaviour,” he added.

The rustic charm of kampong lifestyle, said Syed Nurfaiz, is part of the Malaysian culture due to its carefree life and living in close proximity to nature. There are no restrictions. No-holds-barred roaming around.

“Be proud of being a Malaysian. When we started looking at the mind-set of the industry, people say that to be successful we have to take the Hollywood path. Kampong stories won’t sell. A lot of people have said that we will not succeed with kampong stories. That was the initial mind set of the people then. But we went ahead and proved otherwise.

Upin & Ipin actually brings back the nostalgia of the 50s 60s and 70s. Bringing back our traditional games. which society has forgotten.

“Upin & Ipin depicts how the younger generation grew up during our days as kids in villages, away from the hustle and bustle of city life. We reached out to parents and children in our neighbourhood. With Upin & Ipin a lot of our fans gave positive feedbacks that kids started asking why do we play with bottle caps. They never knew these were games played in the kampongs in yesteryears.

Children, he added, became curious but parents are just too happy to explain how they indulged in ‘kampong games’.
HAPPY 17TH ANNIVERSARY
UNIVERSITI KUALA LUMPUR!
Universiti Kuala Lumpur was officially established on 20 August 2002 and this year marks its 17th Anniversary. The occasion was a historical event as all 12 UniKL campuses located in several states from up north Kedah to down south Johor in the peninsular were connected via video conferencing for the celebrations hosted by UniKL Malaysia France Institute (UniKL MFI) in Bangi.

The welcoming ceremony at MFI began with UniKL chairman Prof Emeritus Datuk Dr Sukiman Sarmani inspecting the guard and reviewed the parade consisting of undergraduates from the University’s Reserve Officers Training Unit (ROTU). He was accompanied by UniKL President and Chief Executive Officer Prof Dato’ Dr Mazliham Mohd Su’ud.

The 17th Anniversary celebrations was also attended by UniKL Deputy Presidents Prof Dr Shahrulniza Musa (Academic and Technology), Datuk Salmah Hayati Ghazali (University Development and Sustainability), Prof Dato’ Dr Khairanum Subari (Student Development and Campus Lifestyle), Prof Dato’ Dr Azanam Shah Hashim (International, Industrial and Institutional Partnership), Dato’ Amir Azhar Ibrahim (Chief Marketing and Planning Officer), Puan Nik Eliza Nik Omar (Chief Finance Officer), Deans, Deputy Deans, senior UniKL and Mara officials.

Prof Dato’ Dr Mazliham, said: “We have come a long way, 17 years to be where we are today, not counting the days of IKTM, where individually each of the campuses is an entity of its own competing against one another in the education landscape.”

“The effort made to upgrade the colleges into a university, making everyone to share common objectives and dreams and pulling all the resources and strength in the name of UniKL is no easy feat.”

“I’m really happy that we managed to make this event an annual tradition of a gathering of all staff and students of UniKL. Today, we celebrate the 17th anniversary of UniKL with all campuses under the spirit of We Are UniKL.”

The 17th anniversary was an opportunity for staff and students to reflect on UniKL’s success and challenges; to share what we have achieved, and to celebrate the spirit of intellectual discovery that has been our hallmark since the inception of this university.
The Nipah virus outbreak in Malaysia that occurred from September 1998 to May 1999 has been categorised as a major disaster, resulting in 265 cases of acute encephalitis with 105 deaths. It has been 20 years since the virus reared its head and stamped its mark across the states of Perak, Selangor, Negeri Sembilan and Johor, while Singapore was also affected - causing tremendous human sufferings. Many of us would have just passed through that phase as we were still in our early teens not realising the danger that loomed over our heads.

But for that personnel who were involved and contributed immensely towards the control, and subsequent eradication of the Nipah virus, their services were never forgotten, albeit two decades later.

Associate Professor Dr. Muniandy Narasiman from the Medical and Health Science Division of UniKL Royal College of Medicine Perak is among the 20 ‘Heroes of Nipah Virus’ who received appreciation letters and plaques from Dr. Lee Boon Chye, the Deputy Minister of Health, during the “International Congress on One Health”.

Nipah virus is a zoonotic agent that is pathogenic to animals and humans. In Malaysia, fruit bats were identified as the probable host of the virus and pigs were the effective carrier. Transfer to humans was through direct contact with the infected animals, and via consumption.

In 2001 the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) declared the Malaysian swine population free of Nipah virus infection following a major nationwide crackdown conducted by the Government of Malaysia, in particular by the Department of Veterinary Services, Malaysia (DVS).
Reminiscing the early days of the outbreak, Dr Muniandy, who is 69 now, said at the time of the Nipah virus outbreak he was a senior research officer with the Veterinary Research Institute under the Ministry of Agriculture and was based in Ipoh.

“The first outbreak occurred in farms in Tambun, Ulu Piah and Ampang in Ipoh. In total 15 people died in Ipoh in October 1998. When the owners of these farms realized the number of infected incidents in humans and animals increased by the day, they sold off these swine at far cheaper rates to farmers in other states,” said Dr Muniandy.

“This gradually led to the Nipah virus spreading to farms in Penang, Selangor, Negeri Sembilan, Malacca and Johor. In Singapore alone, 11 people died,” he said.

He added that the Government, under the leadership of Malaysia’s 4th Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad (now 7th Prime Minister) had set up a task force led by then Deputy Prime Minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi to curb the situation. Following consultations with experts from Australia, it was decided that culling of pigs in the infected farms was necessary to control, eradicate and prevent.

“My involvement came during the height of the outbreak. The most mind-boggling question that came to our minds was what is the status of the remaining 900-1,000 farms in the country. We were closely monitoring these farms. Many field workers were stationed there and samples of blood specimens were sent to my lab. We had a very committed team and worked round the clock looking out for new outbreaks,” he added.

“We are not to reveal anything should we discover ‘new cases’ in these 900-1,000 farms for fear the owners might transport these animals to other locations. It was the best-kept secret. The division involved in ‘eradication’ was notified and a team was dispatched for the culling exercise,” said Dr Mahendran, adding that it was carried out by trained personnel.

The outbreak, added Dr Muniandy, emphasizes the need for sharing information of any unusual illnesses in animals and humans, an open-minded approach and close collaboration and coordination between the medical profession, veterinarians and wildlife specialists in the investigation of such illnesses.

Environmental mismanagement (such as deforestation and haze) has far-reaching effects, including encroachment of wildlife into human habitats and the introduction of zoonotic infections into domestic animals and humans.

No new outbreaks have been reported in Malaysia since 1999.
IPOH: It was a proud day for 119 graduates as they received their temporary certificate in a special Hippocratic Oath ceremony organised by the Faculty of Medicine, UniKL Royal College of Medicine Perak (UniKL RCMP).

The Presentation of Temporary Certificates and Oath Taking Ceremony was held at Casuarina @Meru Hotel on 28th June 2019. The Hippocratic Oath was led by Dr Jasminder Kaur Hari Singh, a Malaysian Medical Association award recipient.

The Dean’s and Surgery award recipient, Dr. Sophia Sharom Nizan, in her valedictorian speech said she was thankful her hard work eventually paid off.

"Studying at UniKL has opened me to lots of opportunities I will never get elsewhere. I took an active role in clubs, organised events and experienced new things outside the scope of MBBS. I do realise one thing that is not to limit our knowledge within the university’s syllabus. To pass an examination is important but wanting to learn new stuff is equally important,” she added.

The President and Chief Executive Officer of UniKL, Prof. Dato’ Dr. Mazliham Mohd Su’ud, in his keynote address congratulated the graduates for their excellent achievements in their Final Professional Examination.

“The university is truly proud of you and what you have achieved, and we join your parents and loved ones in celebrating this special occasion with you. Today is a great time to feel good about accomplishing something that very few people do in their lives, which is graduating from a university as a doctor,” he said.

“There are many people out there who wished to be in your shoes. It is you that Allah has chosen to become a doctor. Therefore, treat your patients with love, diligence, professionalism and humility. Listen and remember that many times you will need to listen more than you need to talk,” said Prof Dato’ Dr Mazliham, adding that graduates can learn a lot more from patients than what they learn from books.
He reminded the graduates to prepare themselves to face the real challenge which will be different from the university environment.

“I believe the two years’ horsemanship training at government hospitals will make you a mature and well-rounded physician,” he said.

He expressed hope that more UniKL graduates will follow UK-based Malaysian trainee surgeon Dr. Nur Amalina Che Bakri footstep. She has accomplished many achievements and will go the extra mile to help others. Malaysia is proud to have her and Dr. Mazliham hopes to have more Dr. Nur Amalina in UniKL.

The Oath Taking Ceremony continued with the presentation of awards to nine outstanding graduates in recognition of their academic and curriculum excellence performance.

The graduates who received their awards were Dr Jasminder Kaur (MMA), Dr. Nurul Huda Binti Ismail (O & G), Dr. Muhammad Yahya (Pediatric), Dr. Muhammad Danial Mohamad Rosni (Orthopedic), Dr. Muhammad Firdaus Pazil (Primary Care), Dr. Theviyaah Thiagarajan (Mental Health) Dr. Nur Fitrati Azhani Fauzi (Public Health) and Dr. Wan Nur Adilah Wan Halim (Medicine).

Meanwhile, the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Associate Professor Syed Rahim Syed Hamid, in his speech advised the graduates to treat patients equally and humbly regardless of their status and race.

“My advice to you would to be humble as you do not become any less of a doctor by being so. You will be working together as a team with categories of healthcare members. Do not look down on them as you are part of the team with one common goal which is the safety and wellbeing of your patients. Mutual respect is very essential. You will realise soon enough that you may learn a thing or two from them. Believe me, I did,” she said.

Also present at the ceremony were Prof. Dato’ Dr Azanam Shah Hashim, Deputy President of International, Industrial & Institutional Partnership (IIIP); Puan Nor Zaini Abu Kassim (MARA Perak Director); Hishamuddin Omar, CEO/ Head of Campus UniKL RCMP, Dr. Suresh Subramaniam, representing Chairman of Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) Perak; Dean of the Faculty of Medicine RCMP Associate Professor Dr Mah Kin Kheong, and Puan Haslina Tan Sali, representing the Director, Hospital Raja Permaisuri Bainun, Ipoh.

Meanwhile, Professor Dato’ Dr. Wahinuddin Sulaiman was elected as the Fellow of the Royal College of Physician London (FRCP). The FRCP Fellowship is an accolade held by some of the most exceptional and innovative physicians in the world. It is a mark of their achievement and skill as a doctor and recognises their ongoing contribution to the profession.

The admission ceremony was held at Royal College of Physician, St Andrews’ Place Regent’s Park, London on 3 July 2019.
92 ENROL

ULUL ALBAB
PROGRAMME
Ninety-Two undergraduates from eight Universiti Kuala Lumpur campuses enrolled for an intensive 3.0 Ulul Albab programme hosted by UniKL Malaysian Institute of Marine Engineering (UniKL MIMET) in Lumut, Perak.

Organised by the Student Development and Campus Lifestyle (SDCL) division of the Chancellery, this third edition of the intensive series Ulul Albab programme drew a total of 92 participants – 55 male and 37 female students.

Apart from MIMET, participants are from UniKL the Malaysian Institute of Aviation, UniKL Malaysian Spain Institute, UniKL Royal College of Medicine Perak, UniKL British Malaysian Institute, UniKL Malaysian Institute of Chemical and Bioengineering Technology, UniKL Malaysia France Institute and UniKL Malaysian Institute of Industrial Technology.

The event was graced by UniKL President and Chief Executive Officer Prof Dato’ Dr Mazliham Mohd Su’ud, and accompanied by Deputy President Prof Dato’ Dr Khairanum Subari (Student Development and Campus Lifestyle), Assoc Prof Ts Dr Mohd Yuzri Mohd Yusop and MIMET staff members.

The ultimate goal of UniKL Ulul Albab is to produce holistic Huffaz Professionals. This programme provides a venue for those who have memorised partly or wholly 30 juz’ of Al-Quran to continue while pursuing the academic programmes of their choice. Besides, Sijil Tahfiz Malaysia (STM) is presented to participants who complete the programme as an added value.

UniKL embarked on the Ulul Albab programme in September 2016 involving four campuses with an enrolment of 43 students. However, in 2017 the programme expanded to include four other UniKL campuses, making it a total of eight campuses with 141 students.

In September 2019, the figure increased to 256 students. Ulul Albab programme students will undergo an additional 10 hours per week of learning to help them in Quranic memorisation process facilitated by a qualified Tahfiz instructor. Those who have completed 30 juz’ of memorisation are eligible to sit for Sijil Tahfiz Malaysia (STM) commissioned by Darul Quran JAKIM.

The objectives of the Ulul Albab programme is to provide an integrated and balanced system of learning that caters for the spiritual, moral, intellectual and ethical values of Islam.

It is also to produce a balanced, just and united society by inculcating the spirit of justice, honesty and selflessness in the service of humanity and to model the students’ daily activities based on the Qur’an and Sunnah.
A picture paints a thousand words. Universiti Kuala Lumpur Royal College of Medicine Perak (UniKL RCMP) witnessed a steady stream of visitors on June 27 in conjunction with ‘UniKL Hari Raya 2019’ Celebration.

RCMP received the thumbs up for a splendid job as hosts. Guests, numbering more than 600 came to celebrate the auspicious occasion. The men were clad in the traditional baju melayu and women the baju kurung as guests treated themselves to partake of food, festive delights and music.

The event was graced by the UniKL chairman, Prof Emeritus Datuk Dr. Sukiman Sarmani. Also in attendance was the President and Chief Executive Officer of UniKL, Prof. Dato’ Dr Mazliham Mohd Su’ud, members of the board of directors, UniKL top management officials, deans and deputy deans from all 13 institutions and staff.

Senior officials from Majlis Amanah Rakyat (Mara), a statutory body under the purview of the Rural Development Ministry and owners of UniKL, also gathered to join the revelry – an annual affair observed by Muslims all over the world, to mark the end of the fasting month, Ramadhan.

Each of the 12 UniKL campuses around the country set up food stalls or ‘Campus Speciality Corner’ serving an array of Malaysian delicacies such as Laksa Sarang Burung Hae, Spaghetti Carbonara, Apam Balik crispy, Laksa Mee Pangkor, Satay, fruit cocktails, and lots more.
The Saranghae City Campus Kuala Lumpur team that served Laksa Sarang Burung Hae, received the best food stall award and walked away with RM2,000 in prize money.

In his welcoming address, Prof Emeritus Datuk Dr. Sukiman Sarmani said ‘UniKL Raya 2019’ is a time for all staff of the university’s 12 campuses get together and usher in this moment.

“I wish to congratulate RCMP for hosting this year’s event. All the campus speciality corners are well decorated and served a variety of food. Majlis UniKL Raya 2019 is a special day for all of us and I am delighted to join everyone here,” he said.

“This event also enhances the spirit of comradeship and nurtures a closer bond between us as one Big UniKL Family,” added Prof Emeritus Datuk Dr. Sukiman.

While guests thronged to the many food stalls within the perimeters of RCMP, it was also a memorable day for the guests who were treated to renditions of Hari Raya songs by students of the medical institution. Syarifah Alawiyah, a second-year MBBS student and one of several performers had the audience spellbound from the start with her talent on the saxophone. The 22-year-old Syarifah who hails from Johor said the boredom of playing the piano as a nine-year-old led to her switching to a different musical instrument.

“It is not always we see people playing the saxophone and I decided to do something different. There is so much of joy in it,” added Syarifah, who scored straight 9A’ in her Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) Examination. “I am glad the audience enjoyed my performance.”

Congratulation and thank you RCMP for a joyful and fun-filled UniKL Hari Raya 2019 Celebration.
UNIVERSITI Kuala Lumpur Business School (UBIS) turned on the power in the 15th UniKL Student Sports Carnival (USSC) to emerge overall champions for the first time since the inception of the Annual Games. Living up to its nickname of UBIS Beast, the triumph was UBIS’ greatest ever achievement since the Games were first introduced in 2010.

With a haul of nine gold, five silver and three bronze medals, UBIS Beast took the shine away from defending champion and six-time winner Malaysian Institute of Aviation Technology (MIAT) Dragons, who finished second overall (4-3-5) in the final medal tally standings, followed by Malaysian Institute of Information Technology (MIIT) Phantom (4-3-4), Malaysian Spanish Institute (MSI) Matador (4-2-1) and Malaysia France Institute (MFI) Roosters (3-0-1).

MIAT Dragons were champions in 2011-2014 and 2017-2018 whilst BMI Spartan Beez were the inaugural champions in 2010. The Lumut-based Malaysian Institute of Marine Engineering Technology (MIMET) Lions swept the overall crown in 2015 and Malaysian Institute of Chemical Engineering and Bioengineering Technology aka MICET Lions clipped the wings of their fancied opponents to lift the title in 2016.

UBIS Beast won gold medals in the women’s singles bowling competition through Nur Zuwaida Mohd Noor Azmi, women’s badminton doubles, men’s tennis singles and mixed doubles, women’s table-tennis doubles, men and women’s futsal, women’s volleyball and women’s petanque doubles events.

It was a double celebration for UBIS Beast. As overall champions, the Business School received a RM50,000 winning purse for the development of its sports programmes.

The other campuses that won gold medals were MICET Lions (1-4-3), British Malaysian Institute (BMI) Spartan Beez (1-4-3), Malaysian Institute of Industrial Technology aka MITEC, Southern Hunter (1-4-1) and MIMET Hammerhead (1-1-4). Royal College of Medicine Perak or RCMP Bison (0-1-2) and Institute of Medical Science Technology (MESTECH Soul Knight (0-1-1) ended their campaigns with gold medals.
Malaysia Italy Design Institute (MIDI) sank to the bottom of the medal standings with no medal to show.

The UniKL Student Sports Carnival was hosted by UniKL-MSI at its campus in Kulim, Kedah from July 6-9. The four-day carnival involved all 12 UniKL campuses with the participation of 1,476 athletes in 13 events.

The closing ceremony was graced by UniKL chairman, Emeritus Professor Datuk Dr. Sukiman Sarmani, UniKL President/CEO Prof. Dato’ Dr. Mazliham Mohd Su’ud, Prof. Dato’ Dr.Khairanum Subari (Deputy President, Student Development and Campus Lifestyle), Prof. Dato’ Dr. Azanam Shah Hashim (Deputy President, International, Industrial and Institutional Partnership) and Prof. Dr. Abu Talib Othman, the Dean of MSI.

Also in attendance were En Zulkifli Abdullah (Mara Kulim District Officer), Nik Syamim Firdaus Nik Ahmad Zuky (Deputy President, UniKL Student Representative Council), top management officials of UniKL and Mara Education Institutions.

In his closing address, Emeritus Professor Datuk Dr. Sukiman congratulated UBIS Beast for its outstanding performance and all athletes for their great sportsmanship.

"Congratulations everyone involved in the successful organisation of UniKL’s 15th Student Sports Carnival. Special thanks to MSI and Campus Lifestyle Division for all the hard work and commitment shown throughout the event," he said.

"The organisation of USSC is mainly to promote healthy lifestyle within our students and staff. As students, you should grow comprehensively as a person. We expect you to balance between study and co-curriculum activities and this will help you to be successful," added Emeritus Professor, Datuk Dr. Sukiman.

Various activities, he added, have been undertaken by the university in the infrastructure development and upgrade, especially sports facilities such as the completion of the Tengku Abdullah Hockey Stadium in Bangi.

"I believe under the leadership of our President, YBhg. Prof Dato’ Dr. Mazliham Mohd Su’ud, all campuses will experience a healthy lifestyle and best future sports facilities and tournaments," he said.

The 16th Student Sports Carnival will be hosted by UniKL Malaysia France Institute (MFI) in Bangi next year.
A today of 327 students from Universiti Kuala Lumpur Malaysian Institute of Information Technology (UniKL MIIT) were honoured for their excellent academic achievements.

The Dean’s Award Presentation Ceremony was held at the Bistari Hall of the Chancellery.

Information Technology in Software Engineering undergraduate Nik Ahmad Faisal Nik Ahmad Kamal received the Overall Bachelor Programme Best Student award while Afrina Batrisyia Abu Bakar (Multimedia) received the Overall Best Diploma Student award and Mohamad Redza Izudin Abu Zahrin (Bachelor of Information Technology in Computer System Security) received a special certificate (short course).

MIIT honours outstanding Bachelor and Diploma programme students at the end of every semester.

The Dean of UniKL MIIT, Associate Professor Dr. Zalizah Awang Long, Rafidei Mohamad (Deputy Dean, International, Industry & International Partnership (IIIP), Ts. Dr Mohd Nizam Husen (Deputy Dean, Academic & Technology) and Dr Norsazali Abdullah (Deputy Dean, Student Development and Campus Lifestyle (SDCL) presented certificates to the students.
Assoc Prof Dr. Zalizah acknowledged that there has been a substantial increase in the number of students awarded the Dean’s List in every semester which augurs well in the overall academic achievement of students.

“And I hope this figure increases during every semester. If we look at the statistics 15.7 per cent of students in MIIT received awards for the January semester. But I want all of you to be more competitive not only in academic but technical aspect as well,” she said.

“Your life is surrounded not only in the classrooms. You have to be involved in many projects to stay competitive. Being a top student in the academic field alone will not take you far in the real world,” added Assoc Prof Dr Zalizah.

“So MIIT expects all of you to double your effort by participating in many projects and competitions,” said Dr. Zalizah, adding that students should enjoy university lifestyle during their 3-4 years of the learning experience here.

MIIT also honoured athletes for their achievements. Muhammad Aiman Mohd Sharif received the Best Male Athlete award and Latifah Syamimi Mohd Latib was acknowledged as the Best Female Athlete. The other recipients are UniKL MIIT Computer Engineering Club (Best Student Development Club) and Kelab Rekreasi UniKL MIIT (Best CL Club).
Puan Mahfuzah Mohaidin, a Tekno Putra lecturer, and Puan Farahwahida Mohd, Head of Section Tekno Putra, assessed every product designed and presented by students. The Innovation Day, said Puan Mahfuzah, is a moment of truth for these students.

“This is an Innovation Management subject and each student is required to think of any product which is not in the market yet. It can be any product as long as we have not seen it in the market,” she said.

“We have three groups with almost 80 students in each group. So that is about 250 or more students involved. Their products are measured by their creativity. Innovation Day is held every semester and involves students from MIIT pursuing various degree programmes,” added Puan Mahfuzah.

She added that there was great creativity in some products designed by the students that even surprised lecturers.

“They deserve credit for thinking out of the box and were very innovative. It was worth the effort. We are impressed by their work,” she said.

Adding that Innovation Day has been a compulsory programme for MIIT students, it deeply represents and inspires students to greater heights.
CURRENTLY, many professionals in Quality Engineering (QE) ranging from engineers to managers are looking for a platform to upgrade and enhance their knowledge and career development in QE.

With the currently limited platform, the only available avenues for advancement is via the Chartered Quality Institute (CQI) and Certified Quality Manager Certificate by the Federation of Malaysian Manufacturer (FMM). However, these are skewed more towards attaining professional certification/membership rather than enhancing academic content.

Hence, Universiti Kuala Lumpur’s Master of Quality Engineering and Management (MQEM) programme, which comes as a holistic career development platform. It is designed to offer a blend of academic content and QE professional certification. This programme opens up to attaining certification from various professional certification bodies such as CQI and Lean Center of Excellence (MLCoE). The mix of academics and industrial expertise is integrated into the teaching and learning process, making it a unique Master’s programme.

The MQEM offers a comprehensive, internationally-recognised Master’s degree in Quality Engineering. It is aimed at producing professionals with leadership skills who are knowledgeable and competent in the QE discipline and technopreneurs activities. Graduates of MQEM will be equipped with advanced theoretical knowledge and understanding of the applications of QE, particularly in Total Quality Management (TQM). They will also receive the option of attaining the internationally recognised CQI membership or Lean Six Sigma Green Belt (LSSGB) certification from MLCoE.

It is expected of the MQEM graduate who will be competent to serve as a QE professional and manager in the workforce. This course is designed at attracting both local and foreign applicants. MQEM will admit engineering graduates and those with relevant technical knowledge and working experience from the manufacturing and service industries.

With the MQEM, “students” can expect to enhance their knowledge and understanding across all aspects of advance manufacturing, inspection and quality improvement methodology (which they may not be quite familiar with), and even specialise further in this discipline.

This programme is new and there are no other institutes among public or private universities in Malaysia offering a similar programme type. The MQEM is the first in Malaysia that will offer CQI membership and award a Lean Six Sigma Green Belt (LSSGB) to its graduates, both which ultimately add value to a graduate’s resume considering the international recognition.

Graduates can expect employment as executives and managers in the following industries and areas of employment - as Lead Auditor; Quality Management Representative (QMR); Process Improvement Expert; Lean Manager; Meteorology and Calibration Expert; Testing and Inspection Expert; Quality Manager; Business Excellence Manager; Project Manager; and Researcher / Academician, among others.

Furthermore, with the comprehensive and constructive course/module established and the MQEM certification attained, graduates, can also choose to build careers across a wide range of non-manufacturing industries that include the electrical and electronics, oil and gas, automotive, metal stamping, healthcare, logistics, information technologies, utilities, business administration etc.

Looking at the industry’s demand for quality engineering application and deployment, this new Master’s programme, the MQEM, will provide the individual with a competitive edge in enhancing his/her career.
LECTURERS GAIN KNOWLEDGE ON CHINESE CULTURE

SEVEN mandarin language lecturers from five Universiti Kuala Lumpur campuses participated in a Chinese traditional culture programme at the East China Normal University in Shanghai.

The two-week programme was held from July 14-28 and involved 12 participants from Vietnam, Russia, Uzbekistan and Canada. It was co-organised by East China Normal University and Chinese Language Council International (HanBan). Both institutions are affiliated with the Chinese Ministry of Education and committed to providing Chinese language and cultural teaching resources and services worldwide.

The UniKL delegation was led by UniKL Business School senior lecturer Dr Liew Hui Nee. The others are Lai Siew Yoon (MIIT), Tay Yang Lian (RCMP), Wong Siaw Wuei (RCMP), Chan Yang Shean (MICET), Chin Jing Ru (MIMET) and Yeong Mei Yit (MIAT).

The objective of the programme, said Dr Liew, is to enhance participants’ knowledge in Chinese traditional culture, strengthen their knowledge in the philosophy of Confucianism and to improve participants’ teaching skills in mandarin as a foreign language.

HanBan, he added, host many Chinese language training programmes throughout the years. This organisation covers the costs of the training programmes - fees, materials, accommodation and meals.

“HanBan’s Chinese culture classes are opened to foreign teachers from all over the world who love the Chinese language to understand China in a better way. The Chinese culture programme offered a series of activities regarding the history of China and Chinese cultures. Some historical and cultural visits were held during the programme and this will help the foreign teachers explore themselves in fascinating ancient Chinese culture,” he added.

Some cultural elements, said Dr Liew, had intertwined with language itself. Integrating cultural elements into foreign language teaching will effectively improve students’ language acquisition.

“The Chinese traditional culture training programme will enhance lecturers’ knowledge of Chinese traditional cultures. This will help to improve the teaching and learning process of a Mandarin course. At the same time, it will increase students’ interest in learning Mandarin,” he observed.

Miss Lai, a senior lecturer in UniKL MIIT, echoed that the training comprised of various types of lessons. This included an introduction to Chinese culture and festivals, Chinese philosophy, hands-on Chinese culture classes and visits to the Shanghai Museum, Confucius Temple, Chinese Confucianism Museum, Quzhou International Economic and Trade Centre and Quzhou City Exhibition Hall.

“Participants have learned and experienced different Chinese cultures in this training. Most of the teachers in China were knowledgeable and professional in their teaching field. Besides theory and philosophy of Confucius, there were also lessons related to Chinese culture and skill such as Chinese paper cutting, Chinese painting, Chinese Opera Mask Painting, Shadow Puppet Playing, Chinese character curving and so on,” she added.

The experiences gained in the hands-on Chinese traditional culture classes are helpful for the lecturers in sharing the knowledge with UniKL students.

Participants will integrate the Chinese cultural elements in Mandarin lessons in future to create a happy and attractive learning environment. This will enhance students’ interest in learning Mandarin.

“UniKL Mandarin lecturers would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to UniKL and HanBan (China) for giving us this opportunity to attend training in Shanghai.”
UniKL AND JETBOOM IN STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Universities and industry have been collaborating for many years and the rise in global knowledge as intensified the need for a strategic partnership.

In keeping the ship steady, Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL) and JetBoom (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd (JetBoom) signed a Letter of Intent (LOI) on 23 May 2019 intending to infuse industry-based skills into education that will ensure students gain the practical know-how to match theories and graduate with a holistic view of their specialisation.

JetBoom’s core business is in manufacturing of Electric Vehicle (EV) and partners JetBoom Automobile China to build a manufacturing plant in Malacca for EV-based Jip Rakyat production. The location of the plant will be in Melaka Gateway.

Prof. Dato’ Dr. Azanam Shah Hashim, the Deputy President in overseeing International, Industrial and Institutional Partnerships, represented the President and Chief Executive Officer of UniKL Prof Dato’ Dr Mazliham Mohd Su’ud in the LOI signing ceremony while JetBoom was represented by its Managing Director Dato’ Dr Alex Tan Siong Seng.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by Prof. Ts. Dr. Jamel Othman, the Dean and Head of UniKL Malaysia France Institute, and Rosly Ahmad, General Manager of Industrial Linkage Division in UniKL.

This university-industry collaboration reaffirms the commitment of UniKL in supporting the research, development, training and commercialisation of scientific findings and technologies for the efficient, economical, and environmentally friendly production of Electric Vehicles.

Under the agreement, UniKL and JetBoom will cooperate in the scientific and technology research area of mechanical, automotive, manufacturing and automation.

Research and development concerning EV will be the main focus area of UniKL MFI which relates to the technological advancement of automotive industries inline with Industrial Revolution 4.0 (IR4.0).

With more than two decades of experience in automotive engineering, maintenance and services, UniKL MFI is currently focusing on the technology of Energy Efficient Vehicle (EEV) which include Hybrid, EV and Autonomous Vehicle (AV).

The involvement in this EV collaboration with JetBoom is headed by the Automotive Engineering (AE) Section of UniKL MFI and assisted by various sections in UniKL MFI and other campuses that have the expertise in electrical, electronics, ICT, energy, design, mechanical and manufacturing.

This cooperation will assist researchers from UniKL MFI particularly and UniKL as a whole in the acquisition of scientific data and access to research facilities and manufacturing plant which in turn beneficial in increasing numbers of academic publications as well as human resource development through postgraduate and undergraduate programs.

In addition to that, other activities between UniKL and JetBoom will be organised within the framework of UniKL’s “Industrialmanship” programme.
Two Adventure Clubs or ‘Kembara’ from UniKL Royal College of Medicine Perak (RCMP) and Student Representative Council (SRC) were jointly involved in the organisation and expedition of Kembara Hiking Gunung Pulai on 17 August 2019.

Gunong Pulai is a 600-meter-high mountain situated in the district of Baling, Kedah. Believed to have risen from the earth some 450 years ago, the mountain is said to be one of the oldest formation of its kind on the country. It stands opposite of two other tall rock formations, Gunung Baling and Gunung Besar.

The expedition team, led by RCMP Kembara Kita Club advisor Syahidatul Akmar Safian, involved 15 staff and 12 students. They had all trained hard for several weeks to face the challenging task looking to conquer the peak of Gunung Pulai – a popular escape spot for thrill-seekers.

Participants had assembled at the start point at 4am and after a 30-minute briefing by three guides on safety matters they began the journey in the early hours of the morning.

The most arduous part of the hike, said Syahidatul, was getting past steep, slippery and narrow trails. Everywhere they looked, there were rolling hills.

It was only at 7.30am that the team reached the peak of Gunong Pulai. There was ample time to rest, breakfast and shared the experience with other hikers. The view was certainly breathtaking!

As Muhammad Aiman Hafiz, a member of the Student Representative Council, said: “For all the hard work we had put it, it was worth the effort, sweat and energy. The view from the top was spectacular. We spent almost an hour on the summit while waiting for team members to have breakfast and take pictures.”

However, before making the descend, several hikers had uploaded on Facebook the beauty of Gunong Pulai and its lush forest – a grim reminder that preservation of forest from destruction is the responsibility of every Malaysian.

Programme Director, Nurul Asyiqin Roslan, who is pursuing a Diploma in Nursing, said the joint collaboration and expedition was one way of enhancing leadership qualities and engaging a strong bond with students from other courses and institutions who shared the same interest.
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Hotline: 1800 888 177  +6011 5965 6805  marketing@unikl.edu.my  www.unikl.edu.my