A-LEVEL
Reach Beyond the Skies
Aim for Wealth to Win

MOVING & SHAKERS

04 Bright Future for AU5MATIANS
05 Life Long Learning for High Scoring Graduates
06 FIA Students Get Creative for Consumerism & Human Rights Awareness
08 Insights from a Harvard Book Prize Award Winner
09 A Passion for Educating
10 A-Level Largest Achievement Awards Tea
12 Two for Master Teacher Awards
14 Celebrating A-Level Outstanding Results
15 A Great Gatsby Soiree for 20-Year Partnership
16 VU MBA Alumni Shares Tips on Success
17 The Three Tea Siblings @ AUSMAT
19 Keeping in Touch with Khaled Baharesta
24 TYCOONS IN THE MAKING
27 Sunway TES Wins Deloitte Tax Challenge

The Sunway Education Group

Sunway College
No. 2, jalan Universiti
Bandar Sunway
47500 Selangor Darul Ehsan
Malaysia
T: 03-5638 7176
E: info@sunway.edu.my
sunway.edu.my/college

Sunway University
T: 03-7491 8622
E: info@sunway.edu.my
sunway.edu.my/university

Monash University Malaysia
T: 03-5034 6000
E: mum.info@monash.edu
monash.edu.my

Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences
T: 03-5034 6000
E: mum.info@monash.edu
med.monash.edu.my

Sunway International School
T: 03-5045 6870
E: info@sunway.edu.my
sunway.edu.my

Sunway College Johor Bahru
T: 07-359 6888
E: info@sunway.edu.my
sunway.edu.my/jb

Sunway College Kuching
T: 03-451 221 / 573 251 / 573 252
E: info@sk.sunway.edu.my
sk.sunway.edu.my

Sunway TES Centre for Accountancy Excellence
T: 03-7491 8622
E: info@tes.sunway.edu.my
sunway.edu.my/college/sunwaytes

Sunway College Kuching
T: 0802-451 221 / 573 251 / 573 252
E: info@sk.sunway.edu.my
sk.sunway.edu.my

Sunway-TES
E: info@sunway.edu.my
sunway.edu.my/college/sunwaytes

Sunway International Business & Management
T: 03-7491 7023
E: info@abm.com.my
abm.com.my

Sunway Sydney Financial Training Co. Ltd.
T: 03-7491 8622
E: info@sunway.edu.my
sunway.edu.my/college/sft

Sunway Le Cordon Bleu Institute of Culinary Arts
T: 03-5632 1188
E: jwu@sunway.edu.my
jwu.sunway.edu.my

Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asia
T: 03-7491 8622
E: joycet@sunway.edu.my
joycet.sunway.edu.my

The views and opinions expressed or implied in UP2 are those of the authors or contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Sunway Education Group.

Aim for Wealth to Win

Creating the Business Investment Challenge 2014 to mirror New York’s Wall Street, Monash University had 40 pre-university students from Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Indonesia compete to develop stock portfolios with the highest earnings through analysis of the simulated stock market information by the competitors. The talented team of Lee Kwok Vui and Chong Min Yu from the Australian Matriculation (AUSMAT) programme proved to be hungry and tough enough to win the Business Investment Challenge 2014.

Reminiscing on the Challenge, Lee relied on Chong for his support and advice to beat the odds as Lee was still recovering from dengue. With RM3,000 as seed money for the game, the competitors had a mission to grow this amount through buying and selling of stocks plus earnings from the dividends.

According to Chong, the competition was easier as many real world factors were omitted in the game by the organiser. Chong believes the real world is not as easy as the game.

On top of winning the team challenge, Chong won the individual category of this competition. With the highest earnings of RM5.7 million for the competition, Chong mentally prepared himself by perceiving this challenge as a game. This mindset helped Chong to stay calm and analyse the stock market better.

With RM3,000 as seed money for the game, the competitors had a mission to grow this amount through buying and selling of stocks plus earnings from the dividends.

According to Chong, the competition was easier as many real world factors were omitted in the game by the organiser. Chong believes the real world is not as easy as the game.

On top of winning the team challenge, Chong won the individual category of this competition. With the highest earnings of RM5.7 million for the competition, Chong mentally prepared himself by perceiving this challenge as a game. This mindset helped Chong to stay calm and analyse the stock market better.

The winning team comprising Lee and Chong took home a cash prize of RM2,000, with Chong being awarded a partial Monash University Scholarship which gave him a 50% tuition fee waiver.

Winning the Challenge has given these two AUSMAT students the confidence and a clearer perspective to pursue their long term goals to work in finance or business.

Lee and Chong both agree the system of 50% school work and 50% examination based assessments of the AUSMAT programme offer them greater flexibility to explore their interest and talents. Aside from the academic learning, AUSMAT has given them the opportunity to develop their skills necessary for future employment. Citing the AUSMAT Fund raiser, I-Care Day, Lee thinks AUSMAT students learn real world business management trading from such events.

For Chong, Economics in AUSMAT has taught him financial trends and the stock market. This has helped him win the Business Investment Challenge whereas Accounting has given him cost management and cost volume profit theories and Business Management has given him an understanding of marketing the four P’s (Place, Price, Product and Promotion). All this has helped him understand the trading aspect of I-Care Day.

For Lee, AUSMAT is a fast track programme to an Australian degree. He aims to complete the Bachelor of Business and Commerce of Monash University Malaysia with the 2+1 programme and intends to transfer his final year to Monash Australia. Chong, influenced by his 5 other siblings to join AUSMAT, is keeping his options open. He is looking to complete a degree in Finance in any local or international universities.
MOVERS & SHAKERS

LIFE LONG LEARNING FOR HIGH SCORING GRADUATES

Out of 22 Monash University Foundation Year (MUFY) subjects in the November 2014 examinations, MUFY students in Sunway College were top in 16 subjects worldwide. The highest scorer worldwide, Lee Loong Kuan achieved an overall score of 96.5% and 124 Malaysians were eligible for scholarships to Monash University.

The largest and most established MUFY provider, Sunway College is one of the largest university foundation programmes in Malaysia. With approximately 1,000 students coming from over 40 countries such as Germany, Egypt, Philippines, USA, Japan, South Korea, Kazakhstan, Singapore and Indonesia, MUFY at Sunway College is truly international in its scope of curriculum and recognition.

In his congratulatory speech, Lee Thye Cheong, Director of MUFY advised the graduates to learn not just from textbooks, lectures and tutorials but to learn from challenging situations, friends, mistakes plus the bitter and sweet experiences. He reminded graduates to take a moment to “Consider your journey ahead. Without doubt, you have accomplished a considerable amount of learning but it does not stop here. The learning does not stop when you graduate from university. In fact, Monash University’s motto is “I am still learning”.

Lee encourages graduates to cultivate a deep curiosity and desire to learn as MUFY has empowered them to be equipping lifelong learners. He cautions them not to lose the desire to learn. Acknowledging the hard work and dedication of his academic colleagues, Lee took the opportunity to thank the lecturers for their commitment and belief in their students.

Valedictorian Priyanka Subramaniam summed up her MUFY experience at Sunway with “MUFY has offered us more than just an education. The things we learned and obtained from this amazing journey are far beyond our expectations.

From the MUFY Games, we learnt about sportsmanship and teamwork. From the Sharity Carnival, we know the simple pleasures of life can always come from giving rather than receiving. From the Talent Quest, many showcased their talents and tapped into their hidden potential. Most importantly, we learnt day to day the life lessons of being constantly on our toes, perseverance, strength, the leadership qualities, and so much more.”

Acknowledging the real heroes of the night’s graduation ceremony, Priyanka paid tribute to MUFY’s beloved lecturers who inspired all of them to succeed academically and personally. In her own words, “Thank you for imparting life lessons to us, for telling us what we’re good at, and for encouraging us to be better.”

BRIGHT FUTURE FOR AUSMATIANS

More than just learning in the classroom, AUSMAT at Sunway College prepares students for hands-on experience in teamwork, interpersonal and leadership skills through out-of-class activities. Utilising a multi-level approach to problem solving and critical thinking, AUSMAT enables students to apply the skills acquired for university level studies.

For 2014’s Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) examinations, AUSMAT students were celebrating their remarkable academic achievements and acknowledging the efforts of the AUSMAT Student Council.

Ho Hui Ping, top student in AUSMAT with a 99.85 ATAR score advises current AUSMAT students to set an ATAR goal from the very start and to constantly work towards it with optimism, keeping consistent throughout the academic year and not to take any of the internal tests lightly in spite of the minor weightage as it all adds up at the end of the day. She plans to further her studies in Actuarial Science at Curtin University in Perth.

Receiving three awards on this day, Ho was on stage to receive two Special Certificates of Distinction in Chemistry and English as Additional Language & Dialect (EALD) on top of receiving a Special Course Award for EALD. In receiving the Special Certificate, Ho placed herself in the top 0.5 percentile of candidates for Chemistry and EALD and she came out with top marks for EALD with the Special Course Award. Ho said she aimed for an ATAR of 98 ever since beginning her enrolment in AUSMAT. With the support and encouragement of her parents, this journey became a reality although it was not easy.

For achieving an overall score of above 99 ATAR, Lee Yong Jieh, Chin Shu Wei, Lee Nhat Vi and Ho Hui Ping received the Achievement Award for WACE Top 1%. Some other AUSMAT students received the Achievement Award for WACE Top 5%, with more than half the AUSMAT students in Sunway College having placed themselves in the top 20 percentile of graduating Australian secondary school students. About 98% of these AUSMAT students have qualified for entry into some of the world’s best universities. Two other students who received the Special Course Award for EALD were Choo Xin Er with 97 ATAR and Lee Jun Yi with 87.5 ATAR.

The AUSMAT Student Council members were recognised for their leadership and advisory roles as they had to juggle roles as student ambassadors, academic mentors and AUSMAT event organisers.

President of the AUSMAT Student Council 2014, Stephen Choong je Wei believed all the awardees could not have achieved success without the most important individuals in Sunway, the AUSMAT lecturers. “Not only was essential knowledge shared by the lecturers but they instilled in us a knowledge of life as the lecturers of Sunway AUSMAT taught from their hearts” he said. Choong who will be furthering his studies in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Auckland acknowledged the efforts of the AUSMAT Student Council.

Lee Thye Cheong, Director of MUFY advised the graduates to learn not just from textbooks, lectures and tutorials but to learn from challenging situations, friends, mistakes plus the bitter and sweet experiences. He reminded graduates to take a moment to “Consider your journey ahead. Without doubt, you have accomplished a considerable amount of learning but it does not stop here. The learning does not stop when you graduate from university. In fact, Monash University’s motto is “I am still learning”.

Lee encourages graduates to cultivate a deep curiosity and desire to learn as MUFY has empowered them to be equipping lifelong learners. He cautions them not to lose the desire to learn. Acknowledging the hard work and dedication of his academic colleagues, Lee took the opportunity to thank the lecturers for their commitment and belief in their students.

Valedictorian Priyanka Subramaniam summed up her MUFY experience at Sunway with “MUFY has offered us more than just an education. The things we learned and obtained from this amazing journey are far beyond our expectations.

From the MUFY Games, we learnt about sportsmanship and teamwork. From the Sharity Carnival, we know the simple pleasures of life can always come from giving rather than receiving. From the Talent Quest, many showcased their talents and tapped into their hidden potential. Most importantly, we learnt day to day the life lessons of being constantly on our toes, perseverance, strength, the leadership qualities, and so much more.”

Acknowledging the real heroes of the night’s graduation ceremony, Priyanka paid tribute to MUFY’s beloved lecturers who inspired all of them to succeed academically and personally. In her own words, “Thank you for imparting life lessons to us, for telling us what we’re good at, and for encouraging us to be better.”

AUSMAT students who received the Achievement Award for WACE Top 5%
FA STUDENTS GET CREATIVE FOR CONSUMERISM & HUMAN RIGHTS AWARENESS

Foundation in Arts (FIA) students did a 2-day exhibition on Consumerism and Human Rights Awareness. With 28 groups of FIA students setting up decorated booths on their topic of choice, these students staged mock petitions and invited their peers to learn more about human rights in order to reduce the impact of consumerism for a better world.

From covering topics like recycling used items, privacy rights, children’s educational rights, human trafficking and child labour, these students were exposed to ideas and activities outside of textbook knowledge. One of the FIA students, Khor Han Cen enjoyed the process as FIA has challenged them to think outside the box by working on creative activities like blogs, advertisements, documentaries and presentations.

Having unleashed their creativity, groups like “Trashformers” showcased their handmade recycled products like bracelets made from plastic bags and bangles, vase and decorative accessories made from plastic bottles. Aside from learning new DIY skills, the team members comprising Melissa Jeena Roch, Ann Marie Daphene Phillips, Crystal Lee Guat Er, Ian Kok Kye Xuen, Rubum Raju and Ali Nasser learnt about the impact of consumerism. Melissa asks for help in preserving the environment by reducing waste through recycling unwanted items as it takes a plastic water bottle at least 450 years to decompose or bio-degrade.

Using a different approach to highlight their concept of “Our Future World”, Ma Xiang Long, Lim Mei Qi, Low Chi Lam, Kam Yoke Kwan, Liew Ja Yee and Yong See Kay had visitors stick their heads through a hole in a box to experience dim lights, smoke and dreadful images of garbage and wars. Through this simulation, they hope visitors learn to stop exploiting consumerism and avoid such a bleak future.

Using eye-catching artwork and props for human trafficking representations such as chains to enslave: boxes to cage and transport victims, another FIA group comprising Kenneth Suthan Kee, Ng Weng Tat, Seek Chan Seng, Denny Tan Khanun Shung, Ong Zi Ming and Goh Yi Chyn chose to share that 30 July is the International Day against Human Trafficking and according to the United Nations, Malaysia is recorded as one of the worst 5 countries for human trafficking.

Having researched real life stories and facts from the internet, Tan Vi Chaud, Liew Kok Long, Ling Zun Hoo, Hing Ka Seng and Ng Yi Jiang chose children’s education rights for their exhibit. They learnt that education is important as without education, children cannot get proper jobs and a country does not improve without education.

SUNWAY TES WINS DELLOITE TAX CHALLENGE 2014

Team ONZ comprising Clement Yong Yung Syin, Leong Ching Yip, Ho Chan Wee and Esther Lan Li Ling from Sunway TES, Sunway College Kuala Lumpur made it through the preliminaries, beating five other teams for the final challenge of the annual tax competition. Presenting solutions for tax planning and efficiency, incentive and real property gains tax (RGBT), they were judged based on presentation (70%) and technical knowledge (30%).

Clement Yong was awarded Best Presenter for the Team Category. Taking home a cash prize of RM8,000, these friends are in their last semester, final year of the ACCA programme. For Clement, the biggest team challenge was time management during the final case study. The proposal and presentation slides had to be completed in three hours. “Selecting critical issues and proposing creative ideas was challenging but definitely a good experience”, he said.

For Leong Ching Yip, the most memorable part of the Deloitte Tax Challenge 2014 was the group sit down discussion of solutions and presenting the final solution in front of the judges. Joining Deloitte in January 2015 as a tax assistant, Leong said, “Good teamwork is very important”. Agreeing they work well together, the combination of skills and strengths helped tremendously.

Ho Chan Wee explains, “Working in a team is much better as we had different strengths. Leong participated in last year’s challenge so he has experience, Clement has good slide and presentation skills, Esther is good at digging up information and I am good in tax knowledge. Knowledge is essential to success and soft skills play a key role.”

For Esther Lan, “Winning the grand prize certainly made us feel that if we put our minds to the immediate task, anything is possible!” In preparation for the competition, Team ONZ did mock exercises on past year questions, mock presentations and improved from there.
INSIGHTS FROM A HARVARD BOOK PRIZE AWARD WINNER

For her consistent track record in academic achievement and exceptional contribution plus engagement in community service, Hannah Reshma Jambunathan at 18 years of age was one of the two winners of the Harvard Book Prize Award in 2014 commended at the recent Canadian International Matriculation Programme (CIMP) graduation.

Having maintained an average academic achievement of 90% and above, Hannah who was previously from SMK Bukit Jali shares with us her formula for success.

Hannah chose Sunway College as Sunway had an internationally recognised reputation, a diverse, multicultural student body and fully equipped services. She took a liking to the subjects CIMP offered and upon speaking to former students, she was keen to begin learning under the teaching staff.

“The assignments handed out are challenging and the teachers here constantly encourage students to think creatively, out of the box and expected us to hand in stellar work, which is the push I needed to do well in my assignments”, she said.

Her experience here has been nothing short of amazing. She has met people from different walks of life and made some great friends. The CIMP teachers have enriched her academic experience with their hands-on teaching methods. The class activities captivated her most as the students were given a variety of assignments, ranging from presentations to posters to class discussions. The activities united the students as a class, helping to foster friendship and stimulate learning.

When she studies, she avoids memorizing the information, instead she tries to understand the information, the context behind it. She does not cram for her studies either, organises her time well, and aims to maintain a good balance between study and leisure.

In volunteer work, she joins charity events organised by CIMP and she reaches out to organisations to volunteer with. On average, she volunteers once a month, most often at old folks’ homes but also give times to the Literacy Project, SPCA, and Zoo Negara. Feeding the bears at Zoo Negara was most exciting for Hannah, a new experience for her to be in such close proximity with wild animals. All her volunteer experiences have been pleasant and the supervisors who guided her have been very patient and friendly. Hannah’s biggest challenge was to try balancing her schedule of studies and volunteer work.

Hannah prefers to work in a team, with her friends, although there are opportunities for individual work. Looking forward to working with other people, especially children, Hannah wishes to further her studies in Psychology.

In her personal statement for the Harvard Book Prize Award nomination, Hannah wrote about her contributions to society and the impact reading has made on her as a person. She advises future nominees for the Harvard Book Prize to do their best, be confident and not to be discouraged if they do not win as being nominated is in itself a triumph.

A PASSION FOR EDUCATING

23-year old Johanan Wong, once a Tan Sri Dr Jeffrey Cheah scholar for MUFY reflects back on his student days in Monash University Foundation Year (MUFY) programme. For Johanan, MUFY was the place where he met lecturers fiercely passionate about the subjects and the students they taught. In the eyes of a student like Johanan, this passion easily translated into drive and determination to deliver exceptional classes; classes where both lecturers and students learn.

In his days as a MUFY student, Johanan was involved in taking care of the welfare of widing students from the Oxford-Cambridge Joint Debate competition at Sunway as a Student Ambassador. Johanan enjoyed the diversity of Sunway and he thinks the Student Centre reflects the many different faces present. A myriad of activities from table tennis to dancing, Johanan remembers fondly the ping-pong games he played against students from China, Africa, and even Mauritius!

MUFY taught Johanan to strive for excellence as the students’ knowledge and mastery of a subject matter was constantly tested through frequent quizzes that contributed to the final exam scores. The lecturers in MUFY encouraged and cared for each student and this dedication to excellence has inspired Johanan to pursue that passion in his job as a teacher.

Stiving to make excellence a habit, Johanan recently joined Teach for Malaysia 2015 as the fourth cohort. Johanan is working to “be the change that you wish to see in this world” and decided to engage in something meaningful while young and full of energy. Teach For Malaysia’s goal is to combat education inequity. Many like-minded people from diverse educational and working backgrounds are hopeful about bringing change to Malaysia, as they stand united behind the belief “One day, all children in Malaysia will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education”.

Currently an active teacher serving in a semi-rural school in Miri, Sarawak as the Secretary of the Humanities Department, Secretary of the Board of Geography teachers, club advisor and School ‘Koperasi’ teacher, Johanan preps lessons for classes ranging from Form 1 to Form 5 in history, geography and civics education.

As the Form 1 class teacher, Johanan has the responsibility of handling paperwork and welfare management. He uses this opportunity to further understand his students and their respective family backgrounds. This current position allows him to be heavily involved in the lives of many school children as many aspire to go places. “Many have dreams but no plans for the future. With no intention to explore their potential talent, these students in Miri would be missing out on the opportunities to be more than what they are”, he explains.

These students are bright but with less exposure to the internet, the English language and world issues, they cannot see beyond the world that is their town so Johanan is working with Teach for Malaysia to provide them with access to these opportunities.

Although the Malaysian government has the Malaysia Education Blueprint to update the education system, Johanan believes change is possible only if each person owns the problem and does whatever it takes to contribute to the change they want to see in the nation.
A bi-annual event, this afternoon tea for 200 straight As high achievers had a newly created A-Level song and dance performance. With straight As being achieved in almost every Cambridge A-level examinations in recent years and with the November 2014 students achieving a 100% pass rate with 64% obtaining straight As, the attendees at this Achievement Awards included 35 Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) Outstanding Cambridge Learner Award (OCLA) winners.

For their excellent performance in the June 2014 examination series, 30 winners received Top in the World, 4 Top in Malaysia and 1 for Best Across Three Cambridge International A-Levels Awards. Offers from Cambridge have been received by Ng Chien Xen, Tan Ze Kai, Cheah Jun Siang, Danial Syafiq, Ler Song Lim, Wong Eu Jin and Thye Chua Hwei whereas How Si Yu has received an offer from Oxford. Except for Ng Chien Xen and Tan Ze Kai who have completed their A-Level, the others are preparing for the upcoming A2 examinations after achieving straight As in the AS level.

Ng Chien Xen, the former President of the Sunway debating club has secured a place at Homerton College, Cambridge to study Economics after achieving straight A* in Further Mathematics, Mathematics, Economics and Physics. This aspiring young economist with dreams to diminish world poverty chose Sunway for the safe and conducive learning environment. Ng believes the academically rigorous, challenging and competitive study environment at Sunway College has pushed him to work hard together with similarly driven friends to gain good results for entry into top universities.

Tan Ze Kai is particularly grateful for the A-Level mentor-mentee system for he gained an approachable mentor who welcomed his questions during and after class. In fact, his mentor, Kingsley Row, the Senior Lecturer for A-Level Physics provided notes and video recordings of Tan’s missed classes to him during Tan’s participation in the International Chemistry Olympiad 2014 competition.

Kingsley Row was his referee in all his university applications. Tan, with straight A* in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics aspires to continue his studies in Chemical Engineering but has yet to decide on his university of choice. Tan has received offers from Emmanuel College, Cambridge, Imperial College London, University College London, Manchester, Nottingham, and is expecting a potential offer from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Among those present at this Awards appreciation were Ng Kim Huat, Senior Schools Development Manager, Cambridge International Examinations, Dr Elizabeth Lee, Senior Executive Director, Sunway Education Group and Sunway University, Dr Khadijah Khalid, Chief Executive Officer, Sunway College; Cheng Mien Wee, Executive Director of Sunway International School and Director of Pre-University Studies, and Carol Wong, Director of A-Level.

Lim Hoi Sin and How Geok Chin, the proud parents of Lim Jin Chyuan, a straight A’s scorer in Physics, Chemistry, Economics and Mathematics, were pleased to have entrusted their son with Sunway. How believes her hardworking son had the well rounded support he needed from his diligent lecturers.
TWO FOR MASTER TEACHER AWARDS

YONG YAU

Having taught Further Mathematics for 40 years at various levels including Pre-University, Master Teacher Yong Yau is of the opinion Further Mathematics is more difficult and challenging than Mathematics. Yong personally prepares his own notes and assignments to ensure his students gain a deep understanding of the topics.

As a lecturer in Further Mathematics, he believes in the need to develop confidence and skills in answering students’ questions, focusing intensely on the subject matter and have an effective pedagogy. Beyond that, developing relationships and interacting with students is something Yong enjoys very much. He keeps in touch with many former students and greatly values hearing of their progress, education wise and in their professional lives.

He helped nurture 20 Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) Top in the World/Top in Malaysia award winners including 7 from 2014 June CIE Exam. Yong Yau knows he has lit many fires, with the help of his high performing team of Mathematics and Further Mathematics lecturers in consistently producing CIE award winners in every CIE examination.

William Butler Yeats wrote that education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire. Yong is proud to be a member of the team that has lit many fires, with the help of his high performing team of Mathematics and Further Mathematics lecturers in consistently producing CIE award winners in every CIE examination.

Yong believes educators have the opportunity to make a huge impact on students, and the job of teaching can be made easier through cooperation among teachers within the department. By considering the perspectives of others and building on ideas together, effective teaming leads to better results for both teachers and students.

The most memorable moment for Mr. Yong Yau was when his students wrote: “This is to certify that Mr Yong is the world’s most brilliant teacher, you are fantastic, funny, very nice, cool, smart and great.”

YONG YAU

CHONG KOK FOO

Having taught Chemistry for 53 years, Master Teacher Chong Kok Foo developed a liking for Chemistry while at University of Malaysia for he had Chemistry lecturers like Professor Dr. Augustine Ong who taught Organic Chemistry. From his personal experience as a student, Chong believes a teacher should try his best to teach a subject in an interesting manner, sprucing up the topics with anecdotes and demonstrating that what is studied is relevant to everyday life.

Chong feels he has an important role in helping his students achieve their ambitions, for those who wish to pursue tertiary studies in Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Biochemistry have to achieve excellent A-Level grades in Chemistry for entry into these courses.

Having been with Sunway for 19 years, Chong has taught many, including the children of former students from Sunway College. He often receives requests from former students who ask him to guide their children in Chemistry as they, the parents enjoyed studying Chemistry with him.

He fondly remembers working in a dusty environment in July 1996 when the College was under construction and the A-Level was a fledgling programme. The college grew rapidly into the great educational institution today due to the clear vision and mission of the Founder Tan Sri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah and the tireless efforts of our Senior Executive Director, Dr. Elizabeth Lee.

Chong is proud to have played a part in the progress and development of the College, especially in the A-Level programme which has gained the reputation of producing excellent results every year. Highlights for him include students who express their appreciation for his dedication and hard work in helping them achieve their grades, when student Pan Jia Ahn won the Outstanding Cambridge Learners Award for Top in Malaysia for Chemistry and when he received the Sunway College Master Teacher Award.

As a lecturer, his daily challenge is to deliver his teaching in a manner that the average and weaker student can understand what is taught and to have recalcitrant students meet their parents’ expectations.

To Chong, teaching is very exciting because young people come to him full of hopes and aspirations to acquire the knowledge and skills they need to excel in their studies before proceeding further. He tries to impart knowledge and inculcate good moral and ethical values in his students, so they become useful citizens. Teaching the young helps keep him feel young.

He keeps fit both physically and mentally by practicing the ancient Chinese art of qigong and meditation. Having practiced qigong for 40 years, he recommends mental and physical activities every day to prevent minds from stagnating and put off diseases like Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s and dementia.
CELEBRATING A-LEVEL OUTSTANDING RESULTS

The Cambridge GCE A-Level Programme has been offered at Sunway College since 1994. One of three centres with the elite status of a Fellowship Centre, Sunway College produces excellent results regularly in the biannual examinations.

At the Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards (OCLA) ceremony, 35 students were awarded certificates for their excellent performance in the June 2014 Cambridge examination, with 100% pass rates for Sunway College A-Level. 30 students received Top in the World, 4 Top in Malaysia and 1 Best across Three Cambridge International A Levels awards.

Top in the World for Mathematics at AS Level, Cheong Meng Chuan was not expecting this award. He believes hard work is the key to be top in the world as he kept pushing himself to complete all the past year exam papers, at least three times per paper. Thanking both his Mathematics lecturers, Ms Wong Sock Leng and Mr Lee Choo Siik for their sincere guidance and care, Cheong chose Sunway for its excellent reputation and hopes to continue his studies in accounting in Singapore, Hong Kong or Australia after getting his A2 results in January. His proud father, Cheong Kah Hoe is very happy and proud of his son for being very hardworking and brilliant in Mathematics. Cheong intends to fully support his son in his future endeavours.

Teng Wai Li received Top in the World for Mathematics A Level. Having also received Best Across Three Cambridge International A Levels, he is happy and surprised to receive this unique and special award. Grateful to his lecturers, Ms Amy Khoo and Mr Lee Lip Seong for their support, he thanks them for “Being generous and gracious to this boy from Malaya, by making him feel he belonged and occasionally treating him to meals.”

Currently pursuing a 4-year undergraduate programme at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Teng is studying Quantitative Finance and Risk Management as a scholar of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government Scholarship which covers full tuition. The intensive study environment in Hong Kong keeps Teng competitive. Covering his living expenses in Hong Kong, his proud and happy parents Teng Sin Kee and Gan Siew Lay were glad to have chosen Scholarship which covers full tuition. The intensive study environment in Hong Kong keeps Teng competitive. Covering his living expenses in Hong Kong, his proud and happy parents Teng Sin Kee and Gan Siew Lay were glad to have chosen Sunway College for the safe and conducive study environment plus having helpful and dedicated teachers.

Sunway College Johor Bahru was represented by 3 students, with 2 receiving Top in the World and 1 Top in Malaysia awards. All the award winners received their certificates from Abd Halim bin Ismail, Director of Private Education Division, Ministry of Education, Malaysia and Dr Ben Schmidt, Regional Director (Asia Pacific) Cambridge International Examinations. Ng Kim Huat, Senior Schools Development Manager, Malaysia for Cambridge International Examinations was also present at the ceremony.

Teng Wai Li (second from left) with his parents and sister

A GREAT GATSBY SOIREE FOR 20-YEAR PARTNERSHIP

At a grand gala dinner, Sunway College celebrated 20 years of partnership with Victoria University (VU) of Australia. Alumni of VU, Tan Sri Dr effey Cheah, AO, Founder and Chairman of Sunway Group and Sunway College together with his wife, Puan Sri Dr Susan Cheah, member of the board of directors of Sunway Education Group were present at the Sunway Lagoon Resort & Spa for this soiree.

In attendance were more than 300 current students, alumni, staff, invited guests and key personalities from both Sunway and VU. This was also a night of appreciation for those who had walked this 20-year journey with Sunway College and VU.

Tan Sri Dr effey Cheah was instrumental in setting up this partnership in 1987. Sunway College is one of the education pioneers in twinning programmes. The VU Bachelor of Business degree is the longest standing twinning programme in Malaysia.

Commending VU for contributions to the past 20 years of growth of the 27-year old Sunway Education Group, Dr Lee Weng Keng, Chief Executive Officer of the Education and Healthcare Division of Sunway Group, added the Malaysian Government endorsed Sunway Education Group’s “3+4” degree programmes in 1999 as these programmes gave students the chance to obtain a highly-accredited foreign university degree locally, while foregoing the high cost of living overseas.

The first Malaysian VU graduation ceremony was held in 2001. In 2004, the VU MBA programme, a postgraduate programme was launched. Combined with the undergraduate programme, VU seeks to nurture graduates into successful alumni in various work industries. Today, VU has more than 2,200 VU Bachelor of Business graduates and more than 400 VU MBA graduates compared to 40 enrolled students in 1994.

Professor Duncan Bentley, VU Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Engagement & Commercial), attributed the success of VU Malaysia to the shared vision of Tan Sri Dr effey Cheah, Dr Elizabeth Lee, Senior Executive Director of Sunway Education Group and Sunway University, and Professor Jarlath Ronayne, VU Foundation Vice-Chancellor, in providing an international education for young Malaysians.

“Sunway-VU stellar achievements are the result of a driven and dedicated team of people working together across borders. Sunway-VU has overcome challenges and innovated in response to markets and evolving regulations. The alumni and students stand testament to the power of education to transform lives. As we look back on our journey, we remember the people: our classmates, our teachers, leaders and mentors and not the buildings nor the programmes,” said Professor Bentley.

Professor Bentley expressed his hope Sunway College and VU will continue to work together for the next 80 years to make it a centenary of partnership as VU Australia is holding its upcoming centennial celebrations in 2016.
Vilsonm Wong Yoong Chiang, a VU MBA graduate who is currently DCO member of the Malaysian Australian Alumni Council (MAAC), Secretary for Victoria University Alumni Malaysia Chapter, IT Committee Member for the Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Malaysia (ACCCIM), a panelist for Australian University Programme (AUP) Industry Advisory Board in Sunway University, Mentor for Sunway University Mentoring Programme, Guest Speaker for Sunway LEAP Programme and Victoria University Professional Development Group is here to share his takeaways from completing the Victoria University (VU) MBA programme.

Prior to his enrollment, Vilsonm was working in a MNC and responsible for the market development and partner recruitment for Southeast Asia. When Vilsonm joined the MBA programme in 2007, he brushed up on his leadership and communications skills by serving as the VUMBA Club President from 2007 to 2008. He served then as the Executive Director, Host Country Organising Committee for the Harvard Project for Asian and International Relations in 2008 and upon his graduation in 2009, he was Valedictorian.

In the 18-month programme, Vilsonm had learnt from different perspectives on how to build, operate, grow a business and deal with the internal and external factors aside from learning from the experiences shared by his dedicated lecturers and industry peers.

After completing his VU MBA programme, Vilsonm is now an IT entrepreneur working on a few IT start-ups. Vilsonm was the winner for the Digital Malaysia Corporate Accelerator Program II in 2014, a tourism-related information search mobile app that provides real-time recommendations and suggestions with local insights to Chinese outbound tourists.

His team also created SPOTBOX, a social location-based app, which enable users to save/recall/share memories/stories & leave/retrieve messages at a spot. This platform would enable Malaysia brand owners to build and own their communities.

THE THREE TEO SIBLINGS @ AUSMAT

The eldest of three Teo siblings, Teo Shu Wen completed AUSMAT then pursued the Bachelor of Business and Commerce majoring in Accounting and Banking & Finance at Monash University Malaysia. During her study, she believes the life lessons learnt during her time at Sunway has contributed greatly to her current work life. The Individual and group class assignments taught her to think critically and out of the box. These assignments instilled in her independence and this aided her in preparing for the big world outside of studies.

Having heard good things about the quality education and lecturers at Sunway College from Shu Wen, her parents, Teo Woon Kong and Wong Siew Fun cultivated the AUSMAT programme taught their children to think critically. Their confidence in AUSMAT grew when Shu Wen gained good results in her examinations and confirmed her lecturers were helpful and very concerned about the students.

Shu Wen, the eldest of the Teo siblings is now a Senior Tax Consultant in Singapore and remembers fondly the time she continuously supported and participated in the 30-Hour Famine organised by World Vision Malaysia while she was at AUSMAT. Her parents have given Shu Wen the guidance whenever she needed their advice and she believes she is where she is today as a result of their support.

Shu Wen’s positive experience influenced her younger siblings, Jun Ming and Shu Mei to take up the AUSMAT programme. Jun Ming received the Tan Sri Dr Jeffrey Cheah Entrance Scholarship for AUSMAT and continued to pursue the BSc (Hons) Accounting & Finance at Sunway University with a Tan Sri Dr Jeffrey Cheah Continuing Scholarship.

Jun Ming is currently pursuing professional papers in ACCA at Sunway YES as he likes the 50% exam based and 50% coursework programme. Aside from academics, Jun Ming actively supports World Animal Protection and the World Wide Fund for Nature. During weekends, Jun Ming helps to teach underprivileged kids at SMK Puchong. For Jun Ming, he looks up to his parents for they have provided all the three siblings with a good education. His parents have given of their time, nurtured them through good and hard times, and he believes he is where he is today because of their sacrifices.

The youngest Teo sibling at 18-years old, Shu Mei has just recently completed the AUSMAT programme. Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics were her favourite subjects and she enjoyed the fact that the classroom setting is at par with international learning standards. With interactive learning incorporated into AUSMAT, it was easy for Shu Mei to communicate with the lectures during consultation and the student mentors were most helpful.

Shu Mei, an avid horror movie buff supports the World Wide Fund for Nature as she thinks that people should be concerned about the environment for Mother Earth is sick and the sickness is getting more serious with time. She starts her BSc (Hons) Actuarial Studies at Sunway University this year. Nick Vujicic serves to inspire her with “The challenges in our lives are there to strengthen our convictions. They are not there to run us over.” She believes that life will provide her with challenges which can be overcome if she stays positive.

When the Teo family of five were asked whether they would recommend Sunway to their friends and family, they all happily replied YES.
The CIMP at Sunway has earned the distinction of being one of the largest OSDD schools in the world and one of the most diverse, with students coming from more than 70 countries, including Australia, Kenya, Japan, Korea, China, Kazakhstan, Indonesia, as well as Middle Eastern countries. Delivering a rigorous academic programme leading to university studies along with the opportunity to grow socially and culturally through involvement in many of the extra-curricular activities offered, CIMP celebrated 178 students graduating with the OSDD, an internationally recognised qualification.

Gracing the event on this special day, Her Excellency Judith St. George, High Commissioner for Canada saw 80 students obtain the Honour Roll status, with 23 graduates obtaining a CGPA of 90 percent and above plus another 57 students obtaining 80 percent and above in their results. As these 178 graduates join the thousands of CIMP graduates preceding them and who have continued their education in over 140 universities worldwide, this CIMP graduation included a nominee for 2014-2015 Governor General’s Medal for Academic Achievement and the Tan Sri Dr Jeffrey Cheah Scholastic Award plus 2 Harvard Prize Book Award winners.

The nominee was none other than the valiant Maharaja Dorothi Cheng Chia Huey. For their consistent back record in academic achievements and exceptional contributions and engagement in community service, both Hannah Redhma Jambunathan and Gates Tan Qi Ee were selected as the Harvard Prize Book Award winners after going through a stringent selection process.

Asides from academic achievements, the CIMP ceremony recognised the students’ efforts in community service. The “Outstanding Community Service” Award was presented for the first time to Dhassri Vynodhanandny who completed 240 hours of community service. A total of 66 graduates were acknowledged for their community service efforts, with 56 receiving the Gold Award for contributing more than 50 hours of community service. A total of 66 graduates were acknowledged for their community service efforts, with 56 receiving the Gold Award for contributing more than 50 hours of community service.

Sunway’s CIMP students have been actively contributing to society via various fundraising projects. The Business Leadership students raised RM2,756 through the sale of Terry Fox T-shirts. In time management and communication skills. Extra-curricular activities helped Khaled with peer interaction as his peers came from a variety of cultural backgrounds.

As these 178 graduates join the thousands of CIMP graduates preceding them and who have continued their education in over 140 universities worldwide, this CIMP graduation included a nominee for 2014-2015 Governor General’s Medal for Academic Achievement and the Tan Sri Dr Jeffrey Cheah Scholastic Award plus 2 Harvard Prize Book Award winners.

Sunway’s CIMP students have been actively contributing to society via various fundraising projects. The Business Leadership students raised RM2,756 through the sale of food products. The funds were channelled to the Pintar Foundation and Refuge for Refugees. In support of cancer research in Malaysia, CIMP students helped raise RM44,080 in funds through the sale of Terry Fox T-shirts.

Appraising the students for their community service contributions, Dr Elizabeth Lee, Senior Executive Director of Sunway Sunway Education Group and University hopes the time they have committed has allowed the students to reflect on the difference they can make in society, gain a greater understanding of their role in the community, as well as the impact of their contributions towards those in need.

Dr Lee believes community service provides a critical link, an opportunity to apply academic learning to real human needs and to make use of the knowledge gained into thinking beyond the situation. She hopes it has provided the students more opportunities to integrate and elaborate on the knowledge gained from their experience, helping them to increase the likelihood of transferring theoretical knowledge to actual practice.

Admitting he misses the coffee from the vending machine, Khaled shares that the coffee is a reminder of the time he spent with his friends, staying back in the study area, doing homework, studying and just hanging out while doing his ACCA.

He joined Sunway College based on the recommendations of his cousins who studied at Sunway TES. They told him ACCA is a professional course that is good for future career prospects. English proved to be a challenge for Khaled but he persevered; only to discover the exams were a challenge.

During his time at Sunway College, Khaled received a lot of support from his lecturers, his mentors. Two lecturers, Chandrika Menon and Geethanchali Ramasamy taught him not just about studies but about life in general, inspiring him to work and study hard. He still keeps in touch with his lecturers and he comes back to visit Malaysia once a year.

During his student days, Khaled was President of the Arab Society and in charge of Public Relations in the ACCA Club. As President of the Arab Society, he organised 2 Cultural Nights with the support of his team which was a good experience in time management and communication skills. Extra-curricular activities helped Khaled with peer interaction as his peers came from a variety of cultural backgrounds.

Khaled loves Malaysia for her people, the rich multi-ethnic and multi-cultural diversity. His favourite places include Langkawi, Perhentian island, Malacca, Penang, Genting and Cameron Highlands. A fan of Akon and Shah Rukh Khan, his hobbies include football, swimming and taekwondo.

When asked for his best advice to give to international students, Khaled encourages them to join extra-curricular activities or clubs and “Widen your social circle as you are here to learn. So get to know people of other races, from different cultures and share your culture with them.” In the long run, Khaled believes the experience will help when one goes out to work.
TRACK RECORD OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

“The flexibility of being able to choose my own subjects allowed me to personalise my Sunway AUSMAT learning experience according to my needs & interests. My advice? Work hard, play hard & it’ll all be worth it!”

Fong Sook Yin
Industrial Design
National University of Singapore, Singapore
Former student of SMK Taman Sea, Petaling Jaya

Australian Matriculation (AUSMAT)
Cambridge GCE A-Level (A-Level)
Canadian International Matriculation Programme (CIMP)
Monash University Foundation Year (MUFY)
Sunway Foundation Programme (FIA, FIST)

AUSMAT
over 60% students achieved ATAR 80 and above

A-LEVEL
100% pass rate

CIMP
50% Ontario Scholar Award recipients

MUFY
100% graduates qualified to enter Monash University

SUNWAY FIA
75% graduates qualified for Tan Sri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah Continuing Scholarship

Scholarships awarded in excess of RM 165 million
Jeffrey Cheah Foundation

SUNWAY COLLEGE (K265-01W1)
A member of the Sunway Education Group
T. (03) 5638 7176 E. info@sunway.edu.my W. sunway.edu.my/college

OWNED AND GOVERNED BY THE JEFFREY CHEAH FOUNDATION (BOU0946-7)