GRADUATION
The promise of a new journey
The Asia Leadership Youth Camp 2015 was the underlying goal behind the recent Asia Leadership Youth (ALY) Camp held at Sunway International School. Gathering youths from schools and colleges around Malaysia to learn from the fellows of the Asia Leadership Trek (ALT) at the Asia Leadership Institute, Centre for Asia Leadership, this ALY Camp marks the first high school programme for youths and the fourth time Sunway Education Group is playing host to the fellows of the ALT.

Organised in affiliation with scholars of the Asia Centre at Harvard University, the ALT is a programme run under the auspices of the Centre for Asia Leadership Initiatives. This year, the Asia Leadership Institute takes the summer trek through the Philippines, Malaysia, Korea, Nepal, Myanmar, Thailand and Japan in Asia exploring the theme “Policy Priorities for Asia’s Sustainable Growth in the 21st Century”.

At the ALY camp themed ‘Values into Action’, the fellows who hail from the Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Stanford Graduate School of Business and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy conducted workshops, shared inspirational stories and discussed best practices on entrepreneurship, innovation in education and social responsibility. By preparing and empowering young students for leadership challenges, the fellows at the Camp hoped to help them translate their values into meaningful actions. “The theme for the Camp stems from the rationale that every individual must embark on one’s own learning journey that can help him or her examine one’s own values. It is only then that their true character and calling can begin to emerge”, said Samuel Kim, President of the Asia Leadership Trek, Asia Leadership Institute, Centre for Asia Leadership Initiatives.

In addressing the delegates, Dr Elizabeth Lee, Senior Executive Director of the Sunway Education Group and Sunway University, listed commitment, compassion, honesty, integrity, patience and tolerance as some of the most essential values to live by. The camp will hopefully engage all participants in an open and constructive dialogue as to be a good leader, one needs to reinforce the importance of values and put them into action. Dr Elizabeth stated that Sunway aims to provide a conducive environment for youths from different cultural backgrounds to learn about diversity, dialogue, build friendships and lead racial harmony efforts. With this appreciation for diversity and by nurturing cross-cultural exchanges, hopefully this camp would produce youths who would be future advocates and ambassadors.

Delegates were treated to various night activities such as a scavenger hunt on campus and the wild life edu-hunt at Sunway Lagoon, which were aimed at enabling them to learn to communicate and work in teams. The Dialogue in the Dark activity gave delegates a chance to experience sightless communication, learning new ways to exercise and heighten their other senses.

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Student photographer at the ALY Camp, Ryan Lee, who is currently enrolled in the Canadian International Matriculation Programme at Sunway College was glad to be on site to share in the learnings as well as meeting all the interesting people present. Tasked to working on the ‘Throwback Video’ for the camp which was shown at the Awards Ceremony, Ryan learnt how to prepare for the work, respect others’ decisions and appreciate the unique individuals who were at this Camp with him.
THE NEW FACE OF SUNWAY COLLEGE STUDENT COUNCIL

With the changing of guard, the Sunway College Student Action Team (STACT) had more than a new team of representation - it has been rebranded as the Sunway College Student Council (SCC).

In a simple ceremony graced by Dr Elizabeth Lee, Senior Executive Director of Sunway Education Group and Sunway University, the new SCC representatives were reminded of the advantages their roles provided them in honing valuable people skills and preparing them for life. The Student Council is a platform for student participation integral to the development of staff-student relations where they will prove themselves to be a valued source to the management, lecturers and students. “It is good training as you will be dealing with not only the college management, but with your peers where you will represent them and, I trust that you will represent them to the best of your abilities,” she further said in her address.

The newly elected Student Council President Tee Boon Ping was both excited and privileged to be given the opportunity, saying he will do his best in every task and duty. For the coming year, they aim to help Sunway College Student Council be the bridge to link the students and management of Sunway College, and to bring the college students together through joint-initiatives with other student leadership bodies, clubs and societies. With a request to his council members to walk beside him as a friend and work together, Tee currently a first year student in the Victoria University Bachelor of Business programme, believes they will be able to contribute to the campus and serve the students with a common goal in mind.

Incoming Secretary Ryan Lee, currently in the Canadian International Matriculation Programme (CIMP) is the designer behind the SCC’s new logo. The rationale for the design was inspired by nature especially bees and the way they work together for the good of the hive. What began as the four parallelograms evolved into the current logo which resembles a point to the right signifying that the SCC is always moving forward as visionaries.

Together with Tee and Lee, the Sunway College Student Council is made up of 15 students from various pre-university and Victoria University programmes.

MOVERS & SHAKERS

Palo Alto Bound MUFY Alumna

In all her career and personal choices, Joanne Soo asks these questions of herself – what problems can I solve today?; how can I move, use and expand my assets, skills and aspirations so that I can bring positive impact to the company, society and world today.

A graduate of the Monash University Foundation Year (MUFY) programme at Sunway College in 2004, Joanne completed her Bachelor of Communications degree from Monash University three years later. Hailing from what she called the outskirts of the suburbs, the campus experience at Sunway opened up her mind to greater possibilities through her interaction with students, lecturers and staff from various walks of life. Many of these people she met became her friends, and friends she can call family. Her MUFY experience remains as one of the most fun & exciting times of her academic life.

MUFY introduced Joanne to being an independent student, teaching her the basics of being resourceful. Learning the importance of personal growth, Joanne regards the experience of mixing with international students as a key stepping stone in prepping her for a truly global mindset set, something she cherishes in her current role at work.

At 28, Joanne is poised for a change as she is being posted to Palo Alto, California where the engineering HQ for Groupon is located, as Head of Product Innovations, Global Checkouts. She will oversee the Checkouts customer experience on a global scale, overseeing up to 36 countries, expanding her current regional role in Asia-Pacific.

Joanne Soo began her career in product management in 2006. Her role is to work with the Engineering team to prioritise the development pipeline for products (the website, mobile app, internal/external tools) to provide the best customer experience. Initially part of a start-up group called Youth Asia, which focused on growing businesses related to social technology and the collective power of people, the folks in this organisation were also responsible for the creation of SAYS.com (now Rev Asia).

In August 2010, GroupsMore was created, which was later acquired by Groupon in January 2011. Joanne chose to continue her journey with Groupon Malaysia, resonating with its vision of making otherwise inaccessible or luxurious experiences available and affordable for the everyday customer, while helping small businesses grow and gain new customers. She cherishes her 4-year run here, meeting and working with some of the most amazing, brilliant, intelligent young people in Malaysia and having had the amazing opportunity to travel the world in the role.

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ACKNOWLEDGING THEIR TEACHERS

Great teachers can never tell where their influence stops. The students of the Australian Matriculation (AUSMAT) at Sunway College decided to pay tribute to their dedicated lecturers with an Appreciation Day. This tribute to their lecturers came complete with a Talent Time featuring a line-up of performances by AUSMAT students.

In his speech, William Khoo Swee Keong, President of AUSMAT Student Council attributed the successes of the programme's high achievers to the unwavering commitment by the team of 34 lecturers. On behalf of his fellow students, he conveyed his thanks to the lecturers for their inspiration, dedication and diligence in making a positive impact on their lives. The AUSMAT Student Council members concluded the tribute by presenting the lecturers with their very own ‘stars’.

Vanitha Satchithananadan, Director of AUSMAT at Sunway College took this opportunity to acknowledge her academic team who have nurtured their students well, in particular AUSMAT student mentors who have made a difference in helping their peers. Through the dedication of the academic team, students have performed better than those in Australia, consistently obtaining results which have placed AUSMAT top ten percent of the yearly ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) examinations.

Lecturers and students were entertained with a variety of dance, musical and vocal performances during the Talent Time. The Talent Time was won by duo Calvin Hong and Dexter Wong Xian Yang, who performed Adele's performances during the Talent Time. The Talent Time was won by duo Calvin Hong and Dexter Wong Xian Yang, who performed Adele’s ‘Skyfall’ with Calvin on vocals and Dexter on the keyboard. Coming in second place was the group ‘Square One’, comprising Wong Jia Yi Natalie, Lily Ooi, Loo Yoong Jian and Wong Wern Han. The group performed a medley of mash-up songs, and gave away a pair of movie tickets to their lucky AUSMATian who accurately named all the songs they performed. Third place winner, Shireen Chin Mei Yee thrilled the audience with the song Battling the Typhoon on the guzheng (Chinese harp).

AN INSPIRED THANK YOU

The former student of SMK Seafield finds AUSMAT generally a fun and fast paced programme. “The lecturers here are amazing. For you to fully grasp the subjects, they patiently guide you and teach you,” says eighteen year old William Khoo, who enrolled in the AUSMAT programme in January this year.

He finds the scope of study and the environment most interesting, “The way we are taught during class is different compared to secondary school. Here in AUSMAT, we are taught to think outside the box and apply that to our studies.”

“This year has definitely shaped me to be a more independent and disciplined individual. I owe this to my time here in the AUSMAT programme. I am constantly surrounded by peers who know how to play as hard as they study. This gives me the motivation and drive to do the same. I have learned about my individual flaws and learnt to improve mistakes, taking each failure as a lesson.”

Elected President of the AUSMAT Student Council in February, William paid tribute to his teachers at the recent AUSMAT Teaching Appreciation Day. His inspiring speech for the day:

“I have met many educators in the past and I’m sure I will be meeting many more in the future. However, imagine 20 years from now, when we’re all grown up and we look back at our youthful days - what or who has impacted us the most and we find amidst all people that we ought to say “thank you” to but we didn’t, are our teachers.

I admit, when I was growing up, I hated teachers. They were the most impossible people to get along with. It was probably because I was a rebellious kid and I was never right when arguing with a teacher.

My respect for teachers began to grow when my mother became a teacher herself. Being a teacher, my mother was constantly reading to enhance her knowledge to make sure she taught her students the right thing. She stayed up late to finish her marking without the slightest complaint of physical fatigue and mental exhaustion. She inspired her students to do better and knew they would eventually become young individuals who are able to make a difference in this world.

Teachers are amazing for they are able to give us a sense of hope and ignite our imagination. For many years, I have observed how teachers teach. I have witnessed the best and the worst. Truly, the AUSMAT lecturers are some of the best. Their dedication, diligence as well as the impact they have on each and every one of us are both exemplary and exceptional. Great teachers can never tell where their influence stops. AUSMAT lecturers are exactly that. And I strongly believe the high achievements we see on the classroom walls are a testament to the unwavering commitment of an amazing team of 34 lecturers who are sitting right in front of us today.

About a year ago, my chemistry tuition teacher Madam Lum said to me “All the best in your future, William. The next time I see you, you’ll be well on your way to becoming a doctor. I believe in you.” These inspirational words cling as tightly to me as the Whis I wear to college. Little did I know that I would have the privilege of meeting even more Madam Lums and Mister Lums in AUSMAT.

So on this special day to appreciate our beloved lecturers, I would like to take this opportunity to say to our AUSMAT lecturers, thank you. To the lecturers who inspire us everyday, we say thank you. To the lecturers who take us for granted every time we walk in to class, we say thank you. To the lecturers who teach us with a smile even though they have had a rough day, we say thank you. These thank yous may seem small and insignificant, but they come from the bottom of our most grateful hearts. Thank you for listening. And above all, thank you for teaching.
A MAXIS SCHOLAR ON LONDON CALLING

Being back home for the holidays often means a much needed break from the hectic pace of university life but 20-year-old Justin Fong Zhen Hou took on a 2-week internship at Maxis for a taste of the business world. Back for his annual summer break, Justin is completing his 3-year BSc (Hons) Accounting & Finance at London School of Economics (LSE) as a Maxis Scholarship for Excellence Award holder who covers living allowance, accommodation and school fees.

Prior to his UK journey, Justin received a scholarship to attend the A-Level programme at Sunway College which helped prepare him for LSE. The schedule of classes was similar to a university's timetable which differed from the high school format, and he also learned to become better at studying independently. He appreciated the people he met here, the classmates and lecturers, and is especially grateful to Ms Amy Khoo, who was dedicated, supportive and treated their students like friends.

Growing up with his parents and their accountant friends, Justin has always aspired to become a chartered accountant thereby making his choice of study an obvious one. With the programme at LSE, he is excited with the possibility to secure an overall first class degree classification in the second year itself. With challenges such as deduction of marks in exams and new experience, Justin finds time to remain active outside of class. He is currently Project Director in the LSESU Malaysia Club tasked to plan events for the society, having participated in the MACFIS-ICAEW Business Challenge 2015, as a part of the winning team.

For Justin, the LSE experience so far has been great in allowing him to experience many different things. From meticulously reading a housing agreement three times over with future housemates to spontaneously buying tickets to visit Paris to deciding to pick up French, and enrolling in a French language course at LSE. Being in London makes it easier to attend music concerts and Justin has so far watched Les Miserable, Wicked and Billy Elliot. Being back home for the holidays often means a much needed break from the hectic pace of university life but 20-year-old Justin Fong Zhen Hou took on a 2-week internship at Maxis for a taste of the business world. Back for his annual summer break, Justin is completing his 3-year BSc (Hons) Accounting & Finance at London School of Economics (LSE) as a Maxis Scholarship for Excellence Award holder who covers living allowance, accommodation and school fees.

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ADDRESSING INFINITE POSSIBILITIES AT VU CONVOCATION

When valedictorian Chow Shiat Hui addressed her fellow 300 graduates at the Victoria University (VU) Sunway 2015 Convocation held at the Sunway Resort Hotel and Spa, she stressed “If it doesn’t challenge you, it really doesn’t change you.”

Warmly recounting the three years spent with her fellow consenmates, Shiat Hui said “We were like an army battling our wars together and watching out for each other. We have learned about leadership, teamwork, friendship and responsibility – skills and qualities which will pave the way for a future of infinite possibilities.”

Gracing the occasion from VU Melbourne were Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Peter Dawkins; Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Engagement and Commercial, Professor Duncan Bentley; Academic Registrar and Executive Director, Student Services, Teresa Tia; Director, International Development, Rhys Williams; Director of Learning and Teaching, Brendon McCarthy. Representing Sunway were Puan Sri Datin Seri Dr Susan Cheah; Chief Executive, Dr Khatijah Khalid; Executive Director, Teo Ee Sing; Principal, Sunway College Johor, Hor Poh Choo; Head, Victoria University MBA, Dr Hendry Ng; and Head, Australian University Programme, Greeta Hermalata De Silva.

In addressing the graduands who came from Sunway College Kuala Lumpur, Sunway College Johor Bahru, Singapore, Hanoi and Hong Kong, Vice Chancellor, Professor Peter Dawkins described Victoria University as a university of opportunity, developing the graduands’ skills for success in life, with strong industrial and commercial links and innovative ways of teaching. He urged the graduands to remain involved in the Victoria University community.

The Occasional Address was delivered by a Ph.D from Victoria University, Melbourne, Dr Garry Kuan. A sports psychologist, Dr Kuan’s doctorate was on how music and imagery could enhance athletic ability. He stressed “Always follow your passion, live as if you were to die tomorrow and learn as if you were to live forever” and finally, “Treat others just as how you wish others to treat you; be generous and connected.”

An important and moving moment arrived when the Vice-Chancellor requested the graduands to turn around to acknowledge the sacrifices their parents have made for them. This acknowledgement met with a big round of applause.

In concluding the ceremony, Professor Duncan Bentley read the Charge to the new graduates, reminding them of their responsibility to uphold excellence in the way they use their knowledge and skills to help their community and the world at large.

The graduates on their journey with Victoria University (VU)

**Malaysia**

Tey Chee Hua is now working as a personal banker in United Overseas Bank. He was impressed by the leadership nurturing environment provided by helpful and resourceful staff and lecturers, a community that facilitated his self-development into an all-rounder. His participation and prizes won in the Maybank Go Ahead Challenge and CIMB ASEAN Stock Challenge implanted a strong innate in him to explore more of the outside world and built up his self-esteem and confidence for conquering future challenges.

Vincent Tan Tein Jun, ex-committee member of the Victoria University Business Club (VUBC), says learning up with lectures in organizing events taught him invaluable skills to apply in ever-changing situations. The courses on Professional Development were extraordinary and particularly enhanced his soft skills, teamwork and research skills.

Chia Yee Lee is now a management trainee with Wipro Unza (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd. For Yee Lee, VU provided a good foundation for her to apply the leadership skills learnt from the Professional Development units. She fondly remembers how Mr Tee’s Sh Poh’s stories livened up Business Statistics lectures and how Mr Jason’s endless videos piqued interest in his subjects. The lecturers were never hesitant with providing help and played key roles in shaping her learning and helping her achieve three academic awards while her classmates were always generous with their help.

Cheah Jia Ling is now working as a Sales/Administration Executive with Buena Vista Columbia Tiberar (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd. For Jia Ling, VUBC is a place where great friendships are formed. She enjoyed the sense of togetherness with the VUBC members and values the experience of participating in the HELP-Queensland University of Technology (HELP-QUANT) case competition in which she and her team-mates emerged as champion.

Malar Viakanathan, is now with the Finance Department of Swift Haulage Sdn Bhd. Her convocation, attended by her mother and brother, is an especially poignant occasion for her family as the day after was the first anniversary of her father’s passing. For Malar, the professional-based standards in Accounting/Banking and Finance enabled her to combine theoretical knowledge with new practical skills for a professionally rewarding career. VU at Sunway offered her remarkable learning opportunities in a variety of settings, provided her first-class tutor support and the chance to build friendships with people from so many cultures and backgrounds.

**From Overseas**

**Emad Uddin** from Pakistan is now an accountant with Amaq Trading Company back in his home country. He says studying at VU at Sunway was one of the best things he had done. Among his memorable experiences were the assignment of interviewing a manager for Management and Organisational Behaviour, and the field assignments for Professional Development 1 and 2. Working with good group mates was a great opportunity to get to know people from different countries and this in turn enhanced his teamwork skills.

**Sofi Uddin**, Emad’s brother is now the Sales Coordinator in C1, a company in Jeddah. For Sofi, the three years in VU passed very fast. Although there were ups and downs, he had memorable times in VU with his group writing projects, presenting presentations, rehearing and creating an enjoyable work environment for themselves.

**Jerry Andraean Laismana** from Indonesia particularly remembers Ms Irene Teoh, the VU Depute Head and Mr Andrianto Saputra from the International Office. When Jerry first arrived in Malaysia, he was not adapting well to the new surroundings. Ms Irene Teoh introduced him to the VUBC members who made him feel part of the VU family, while Mr Andrianto Saputra provided invaluable advice on studying at VU in Sunway.

**Ainur Yermagambetova** from Kazakhstan, is now working locally in Malaysia with Mindvalley, as an Affiliate Launch Manager. Ainur especially values the Professional Development courses as she believes it groomed her very well into a professional. “It was amazing to pitch an idea that could potentially be a real, viable business plan, to a board of representatives from various industries”
IN PURSUIT OF A GREAT FUTURE

“Follow your passion, stay true to yourself and never follow someone else’s path for FIA taught us to go confidently in the direction of our dreams...” These words were delivered in her message to fellow graduates by Shanifah Aliah Syed Alwi Ahabshi, valedictorian of the Sunway College Foundation in Arts (FIA) at their 15th Graduation Ceremony.

208 students celebrated this milestone in their academic pursuit with 15 graduates receiving the Vice-Chancellor Subject Award for their consistent academic performance in selected subjects. Top student Ng Ching Wenn was awarded the Tan Sri Dato’ Sri Dr Jefferly Cheah Continuing Scholarship which will cover full tuition fees for her studies in BSc (Honours) Accounting and Finance at Sunway University. Together with Ng, a total of 114 of students received scholarships for studies in various programmes in psychology, business, computing, communication, hospitality or the Victoria University degree programme.

Ng attributes her achievements to her lectures and friends, for the FIA programme has helped her gain diverse experiences ranging from movie editing to advertisements, and even planning a wedding as part of her class assignments. The former student of SMK Tengku Ampuan Rahimah, Klang has strengthened her communication and presentation skills, finding herself better at approaching people and starting conversations. Ng who achieved an aggregate of 91.45% received the Vice-Chancellor’s Subject Award for 3 subjects: Mathematics, Introduction to Accounting Techniques and Accounting Processes and Reports.

Similarly, valedictorian Shanifah Aliah thanked the lecturers for always being fun, encouraging and being there. She described her time in FIA as not just about learning facts but socialising, developing opinions, juggling projects and activities with academics – finding laughter in situations that don’t seem funny at the moment. “For the last 11 months, my mind hasn’t had a chance to rest. Every subject provided me with new information and perspective, from the “soft skills” of team building and change management to the “number crunching” skills of statistics,” Sharifah added. She plans to further her studies in International Relations at the University of Nottingham.

Reminding the graduates that learning never stops, Dr Elizabeth Lee, Senior Executive Director of Sunway Education Group and Sunway University, urged them to not be afraid to try new things and make mistakes, for those who never make mistakes are those who never by anything new. She advised that mistakes and failures are guideposts in their learning journey; to learn from them and not carry them into the future.

Similarly, valedictorian Sharifah Aliah thanked the lecturers for always being fun, encouraging and being there. She described her time in FIA as not just about learning facts but socialising, developing opinions, juggling projects and activities with academics – finding laughter in situations that don’t seem funny at the moment. “For the last 11 months, my mind hasn’t had a chance to rest. Every subject provided me with new information and perspective, from the “soft skills” of team building and change management to the “number crunching” skills of statistics,” Sharifah added. She plans to further her studies in International Relations at the University of Nottingham.

Alvin Pung Zheng Xiong and Ragvendrn Rajan were proud recipients of the Certificate of Appreciation for their various contributions. For 19-year-old Alvin Pung, the FIA Student Committee President, his involvement in various events such as Teachers’ Day and Talent Night helped tremendously in improving his communication skills.

Celebrating close to 400 of the Monash University Foundation Year (MUFY) students graduating in a recent ceremony, this community currently has over 10,000 students who have chosen the MUFY pathway to a world class university education. MUFY Subject Award Winners and the Monash Entrance Scholarships recipients were also present to receive their awards during the graduation ceremony.

In his address to the graduands, Lee Thye Cheong, Director of the MUFY programme at Sunway College congratulated them on their hard work. “This graduation marks the successful conclusion of a year’s amount of hard work. The finish line isn’t for the fairhearted, it is a reward for the daring, determined and disciplined. Your presence here this evening is an impressive demonstration of all these qualities.”

Valedictorian Celine Lee Shyn Yee remarked the graduation is a memorable occasion for the MUFY students as they leave with even more remarkable memories. On behalf of fellow graduands, she paid tribute to all their MUFY lecturers, and expressed their gratitude for the endless support from their ‘Fantasy FOUR’ superheroes in this programme.

“The heroes are Mr Lee also known as Mr Fantastic, the leader of the team, pragmatic in dealing with the everyday things in college; and never failing to stop and ask about the students’ well-being; Human Torch also known as Ms Edith, strict and fiery outwardly, but is a caring person; Ms Helen also known as Invisible Woman who ensures everything runs smoothly, and knows it all; and last but not least, Mr Hakim known as the Thing. Bended to possessing super strength by making sure everyone have enrolled for their classes, backed up their ID passwords, and making sure everything runs smoothly. Celine acknowledged the amazing foundation of MUFY, the lecturers, who go out of their way for the students, nurturing and giving them the ability to finish, and to finish well.

In her welcoming remarks, Dr Elizabeth Lee, Senior Executive Director of the Sunway Education Group and Sunway University reminded the graduates that MUFY marks the end of one phase of their lives and the promise of new beginnings. “Go out there and explore new possibilities as you pursue further studies. Going to university is a massive opportunity and if you haven’t learned that in college, then you will in university. Stand on your own two feet, for the time to take that step into independence, responsibility and the intentional pursuit of knowledge and essential skills has arrived to take you further in life.”

With the learning environment of MUFY at Sunway College similar to that of Monash University, this programme has helped the students maintain an excellent academic track record of success with the assistance of dedicated and experienced lecturers. These elements have helped students achieve results which have often surpassed those from other MUFY providers. Offering a flexible modular system of study that enables students to take options that match their individual capability and needs, MUFY provides a vibrant learning community which ensures a successful progression of MUFY graduates from Sunway College into degree programmes at Monash University and other well-regarded universities worldwide.
THE WIZARDS OF MATH & LOGIC AT SUNWAY COLLEGE A-LEVELS CHALLENGE

In the search for the 2015 Sunway College Cambridge GCE A-Level Math and Logic National champions, 456 participants from secondary schools in the Klang Valley, Selangor, Penang, Perak, Kedah, Johor and Malacca were tested on their ability to think mathematically and laterally.

“Math is more than just a textbook question, it can be applied or illustrated with real-world examples. Most importantly math can be fun! This is exactly what we are hoping to achieve here - to make your learning fun. Learning becomes more effective when you are part of it and when you are enjoying it”, said Dr Elizabeth Lee, Senior Executive Director of Sunway Education Group and Sunway University in addressing the participants.

Beginning as top teams at the state level, and after two rounds of competition, Tan Soon Wei and Takeda Shigenori of Chong Hwa Independent High School, Kuala Lumpur emerged as National Champions of the 9th Sunway College A-Levels Math & Logic Challenge. Their winnings included a full scholarship each to pursue the A-Level Programme at Sunway College or RM36,000 bursary each to study either the BSc (Hons) in Actuarial Studies, BSc (Hons) Financial Analysis or BSc (Hons) Financial Economics at Sunway University, a Certificate of Commendation, an individual trophy each, the Challenge trophy and a cash prize of RM800 for their school.

First runner-ups, Yeap Heng Yii and Hong Jong Yi of Chong Hwa Independent High School, Kuala Lumpur were awarded a bursary of RM16,000 each to pursue the A-Level Programme at Sunway College or RM36,000 bursary each to study either the BSc (Hons) in Actuarial Studies, BSc (Hons) Financial Analysis or BSc (Hons) Financial Economics at Sunway University and RM4500 for their school. The second runner-up team comprised of Theam Wing Chun and Teoh Yen Fu of SMJK Sin Min, Sungai Petani, Kedah won RM12,000 bursary each to pursue the A-Level programme at Sunway College or RM24,000 bursary each to study either the BSc (Hons) in Actuarial Studies, BSc (Hons) Financial Analysis or BSc (Hons) Financial Economics at Sunway University and a cash prize of RM5000 for their school.

The top 3 teams from the states of Kedah, Penang, Perak, Malacca, Johor and Selangor were also given prizes with a clean sweep for the state of Kedah coming from SMJK Sin Min, Sungai Petani. Prizes were also awarded to 20 students who achieved top highest individual scores for the first round of competition.

Through this competition, Sunway College hopes to be a catalyst in helping to promote excellence in mathematics amongst secondary school students in the country.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

When told she was chosen as the valedictorian for her Foundation in Arts (FA) programme graduating class, Sharifah Aliah binti Syed Alhabshi described her feelings as happy, grateful and feeling exceptionally joyful.

Hailing from Subang Jaya and formerly from SMK USJ 12, Sharifah’s journey with RA at Sunway College began as one of self-discovery. Being allowed to choose her academic electives provided a platform for her to explore her preferences. For Sharifah, RA enabled her to reinvent herself and become happier, more fulfilled, interesting and knowledgeable as the RA syllabus is planned to better a person.

Challenging times were not lacking as Sharifah learned about the trials of working together in a group, pushing herself to improve and work around difficult situations. Her time in RA has also helped her to work on time management, keeping organised and prioritising, pushing herself to progress.

Yet some of her most memorable experiences with RA include entering a debate competition with some friends as a first-semester student, and being judged by a knowledgeable professional from a prestigious law firm. Sharifah and her classmates had their share of fun, organising a movie pajama party in conjunction with Psychology week. Having everyone dressed up in pajamas helped us in RA to de-stress, while enjoying a movie and relaxing with friends.

With all the learning taking place, Sharifah managed to find time for part-time work in her final semester with classes in the morning and her working the afternoon shift at the Boost Juicebar for at least 3 hours. Whenever possible, she tries to catch up on reading with her most recent being a young adult love story ‘Eleanor & Park’. Sharifah believes in the need to be kind to one another which motivates her to support the Soup Kitchen Pertiwi and Kechara. For her, volunteering is about not the packet of food but it shows the caring, and that we are brave enough to step outside of our comfort zone for a positive change, helping to build character, to be kinder, patient and giving.

The next chapter for Sharifah lies in pursuing Politics, History & International Relations at University of Nottingham, for a positive change, helping to build character, to be kinder, patient and giving. For her, volunteering is about not the packet of food but it shows the caring, and that we are brave enough to step outside of our comfort zone for a positive change, helping to build character, to be kinder, patient and giving.

Sharifah’s word of advice is that it’s okay to not know everything because it can lead to new discoveries about our own selves along the way. Start off with carving out your own path as each person needs to define himself or herself but the achievement begins with taking responsibility for moving forward in life.
The Sunway Education Group welcomed a new batch of scholars to the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation (JCF) Community Scholarship at a recent gathering in Sunway University. This gathering of new, existing and graduated scholars was to help the new community scholars to get to know each other. The annual get-together also serves as an opportunity for seniors to share and encourage the juniors in their educational journey at Sunway.

In her welcome speech, Dr. Elizabeth Lee, Senior Executive Director of Sunway Education Group and Sunway University, touched on the many advantages that comes with a good education, such as better finances and employment, security, more opportunities to connect with, and contribute to the community, culminating in greater satisfaction with life.

“This scholarship is our way of saying we have faith in you and we believe in you. And with that, you should never lose faith in your own potential. We would like to encourage and support you, and motivate you in your journey to reach your full potential and aspiration,” she continued in her message to the new scholars.

For the benefit of their peers who are in need, a cheque of RM20,000 was given to JCF from Sunway students of the LEAP Employability Training Programme and EXPLORER, a self-development programme for Pre-University students. On hand to contribute back to their alma mater were Sunway alumni Dato’ Adrian Ooi and his wife, Adelaine Ooi with a RM5,000 contribution in support of the Community Scholars while other contributors included alumni K’H Chan and Alex Ooi.

Present to share their experiences as community scholars were Joey Ooi, currently pursuing the Diploma in Graphic and Multimedia and two trainees currently at BDO Malaysia, Angela Pranthaman, studying for BSc (Hons) Business Management and ex-scholar Bryan Chung of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) programme.

Each year, the JCF Community Scholarships are awarded to budding potentials from welfare homes and disadvantaged backgrounds for them to pursue studies at Sunway University and Sunway College. Since 2002, through the JCF Community Scholarships alone, Sunway has provided higher education to 144 scholars amounting to RM6.5 million. Synchronous with the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation (JCF), the Community Scholarship is a highly valued social transformer to encourage and support students, motivating them in their journey to reach their full potential and aspiration. The JCF is the first-of-its-kind in Malaysia within the field of private higher education, modelled along the lines of Harvard University, one of the oldest and most eminent universities in the world.

Despite the challenges of learning to juggle time between assignments, group projects and extra-curricular activities, Lim is grateful for the competent and knowledgeable CIMP lecturers who were extremely passionate about bringing out the best in their students.

While managing an average score of 95 in his CIMP subjects, Lim led an active schedule outside of the classroom, helping to co-found the Sunway College Model United Nations (SUNMUN) and organised its inaugural three-day conference. In addition, he served as vice president for the CIMP student council, helped tutor Mathematics and English, and was a member of the CIMP Poetry Club. Lim also did some emceeing and moderating work for a few events held at Sunway College, most notably, moderating a discussion session with the CEO of The Star Media Group, Dato’ Sri Wong Chun Wai, as well as emceeing an orchestral recital by the Sunway University Ensemble.

Academics aside, the time spent in CIMP has changed Lim more than any other period in his life. The programme provided an anchor and outlet as he worked to overcome self-esteem issues and challenges with time management. For Lim, the best way to get over his own problems was to try to help other people get over theirs. For future students, he urges them to work hard as effort is rewarded in CIMP, to ask questions when not knowing the answer, remembering to have fun with friends, take part in club activities, because that’s where some of the best memories are made within CIMP.
A Chat with VUMBA Melbournean Tyson Murphy

Tyson Murphy with Kavitha Ambigabadi, Dr Hendry Ng and Wan Iyani of the VUMBA Department of Sunway College

Trailblazing as the first Australian to embark on an exchange with the Victoria University MBA (VUMBA) programme, 37-year old Tyson Murphy from Melbourne is not new to Malaysia. Having been to Penang once for a conference, this 7-week programme is the longest he has stayed thus far in Malaysia. Currently in his final semester at Melbourne’s Flinders Campus for an 18-month, 12-course MBA programme, Tyson took on this challenge in Malaysia to better his career prospects and embrace a cultural exchange experience.

Tyson enjoys meeting new people and has had a very welcoming and hospitable experience on the Sunway campus. Despite finding the local accent challenging at times, he has made many new friends by engaging in active listening. Picking Malaysia for his last subject was out of the desire to do something different and the opportunity to engage in a new cultural and learning experience. All it took to make up his mind was a visiting meet and greet with Dr Hendry Ng, Head of VUMBA.

Tyson has enjoyed being able to immerse himself in the Malaysian culture – from its people, lifestyle and amazing food to its diversity. Whilst here, Tyson visited Malacca with VUMBA for a weekend, thoroughly enjoying the heritage and food offerings.

Once his programme ends, Tyson will be returning to work with the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO), a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) that advocates on behalf of aboriginal Victorians for better health and overall outcomes compared to non-aboriginals. Tyson’s VACCHO role involves developing a social enterprise arm to support the sustainability of the organisation and its membership base. It involves developing commercial business activities such as cultural awareness training and other means (business activities) to generate additional streams of income that can be channelled back into the organisation and community.

Tyson’s challenge at Sunway was to give a guest lecture for the VUMBA class. He presented a lecture entitled ‘Linking Work and Organisation to Strategy: Connecting Internal & External Constructs’. His presentation was a conceptual framework linking work and organisation related content to the broader organisational strategy priorities.

For his time here in Malaysia, Tyson thanks Dr Hendry Ng for his kind hospitality, cultural wisdom and insights, and for making him feel welcome. Tyson would also like to thank Leslie Lim Xian Loong, President of the VUMBA Club; Cheryl Cheam Shu Yan and Ang Yee Ching; Rehnu Marimuthu, a CIMP lecturer currently taking VUMBA; and Kavitha Ambigabadi and Wan Iyani of the VUMBA Department in Sunway College KL. Finally, Tyson extends a big thank you to all his classmates for their warm welcome and making his study exchange such an enjoyable experience.
SUNWAY CIMP
NURTURING YOUR POTENTIAL

“The diversity in culture, character and talents in Sunway CIMP definitely added colour to my pre-university experience. It was the right choice for me.”

Cherlyn Tong Ka Lyn
Biotechnology
Imperial College London, UK
Former student of Sekolah Sri Bestari, KL

Australian Matriculation (AUSMAT)
- JPT/BBP(K)/R/010/3/0122/A8757/04/18

Cambridge GCE A-Level (A-Level)
- JPT/BBP(K)/R/010/3/0055/A7670/10/16

Canadian International Matriculation Programme (CIMP)
- JPT/BBP(K)/R/010/3/0056/A7535/07/16

Monash University Foundation Year (MUFY)
- JPT/BBP(K)/R/010/3/0266/A5694/10/19

Sunway Foundation Programme (FIA, FIST)
- JPT/BBP(U)/R/210/8/10001/A6381/09/15
- JPT/BBP(K)/N/010/3/0270/J44687/05/19

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