Run for education
Champs, once again!
The Aces of Sunway
Glowing in the dark

SUNWAY EDUCATION GROUP

SUNWAY COLLEGE

 Owned and governed by the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation
Nurturing the Seeds of Wisdom

SUNWAY 25 years of TRAILBLAZING EDUCATION since 1987
CONTENTS

Cover Story
Run for education 3

Hallmarks
Producing the best 6
Champs, once again! 7
Straight A’s 8
Wonderful facilities 9

Alumni
The Aces of Sunway 14

25th Anniversary
12 25 golden years

Graduation
10 Of mortar board and gown

Sunway Education Group
18 Glowing in the dark
19 Bridging the gap in education inequity
Run the race. Run for elections. Run for your life!

‘Run for Education’? Why does one have to run for education? Is there something educational about running?

asked Steve Thong Jun Nam, a student of the Monash University Foundation Year (MUFY), a pre-university programme offered by Sunway College, why he chooses the theme for the event which he and his team organised as one of the many official events to celebrate Sunway Education Group’s 25th Anniversary.

His answer was: “When I first mooted the idea, our advisor, Mr. Mahesh Biaspal shared some of his thoughts. Together, we came out with the theme, Run for Education. It clearly states our support of education. Our main objective was to collect funds that could be used for orphans to enable them to have extra coaching as their peers.”

The idea of the run as a charity fund-raising, turned into a reality on Sunday April 8. 400 fellow students, staff and members of the public, participated in the inaugural Sunway College Run for Education.

The total distance was about six kilometres, which started at Sunway College campus at 7am when Elizabeth Lee, the Senior Executive Director of Sunway Education Group, sounded the horn. The trail took the participants in and around Bandar Sunway.

Later, after the run was over, Lee told that she was very proud of the Sunway students and staff, who willingly availed themselves on a weekend to be a part of this historic moment. “Being a part of the Run, whether a participant or as part of the organising committee, required a lot of dedication and commitment,” she said. “It is important for all of us to count our blessings and realize that not everyone has the necessary means to afford tuition.”

“This is why we decided to raise funds to help defray the tuition fees for these children,” added Steve.
Charity
The event managed to also raise approximately RM4,000 to support education for young people in orphanages who are sitting for their SPM. “We will be using the proceeds generated from the Run to fund tuition classes for underprivileged children from Homes around the Klang Valley who are preparing for their SPM exams,” said Steve. “Tuition for Mathematics and English subjects will be the main focus of the classes which will be taught to these children over a period of 10 months.”

According to Steve, the Run will become an annual event organised by the MUFY students. “Our objective is to raise funds and contribute towards providing education opportunities for underprivileged children in a sustainable manner,” he said. “We aspire to touch the lives of hundreds of underprivileged children.”

Added Mahesh: “These days with all the exciting development in Information Technology, the television, and other electronic gadgets, it has become increasingly more difficult for teachers to keep the attention of young minds in class; thus many have resorted in getting extra coaching elsewhere. We feel that orphans do not have the advantage; so we hope to give them some support and restore some balance.”

The MUFY organising committee also hopes the Run will help to create awareness among staff and students that they can play an important role in helping underprivileged children with their tuition classes. Steve added: “I would like to thank the participants on behalf of the children and teenagers who will be benefiting from the tuition and hope that this help can really make a difference in their lives.”
Winners
Charity aside, the participants were generally very competitive. They put on their best during the Run. There were winners for the two categories – Men’s and Women’s Open. The top 20 runners of each category also received a medal each.

The Champion in the Women’s category was Marie-Josée Talbot-P, a lecturer of Sunway International School (SIS). She was running alongside friends Virginia Chow (First Runner-up), also a teacher at SIS. Michelle C. Mah was Second Runner-up.

A jubilant Marie-Josée told that together with Terry Reich of SIS, they had organised a running club at SIS. “We thought it was a good opportunity for our students to participate in the race,” she said. “Running for a charity such as this one is a great way to interact with the community and to promote fitness. Everyone’s participation and effort has shown that together we can make a difference!”

Marie-Josée also said that she hopes in future Run for Education races, everyone will participate to support the worthy cause. “Running is fun and good for your health,” she explained. “You have to persevere and try to push your limit. It is important to keep a pace that is good for you. Don’t start too fast if you want to make sure you finish the race.”

In the Men’s category, Certified Accounting Technician (CAT) student, Jason Loh Chwan Chyin was the Champion, followed closely by Marvin Madhavan as First Runner-up and Jeremy Chin Ee Wai as Second Runner-up.

Chwan Chyin said, based on his GPS watch, the distance logged was 5.96km with a timing of 22:58mins. “A few days before the event, my knee was injured,” he said. “Therefore, I did not expect to win the title. I feel very fortunate to complete and win this meaningful race with the support of my family and friends.”

For future participants Chwan Chyin said: “Never underestimate your ability. With persistence and determination, everyone can make it to the top.”

This year is Sunway Education Group’s 25th Anniversary and the Sunway College Run for Education is one of several events to be held throughout the year to celebrate the Group’s 25 years in Education, shaping Malaysia’s Education landscape. Sunway College is the first educational institution under the Sunway Education Group, established in 1987 by Chairman of the Sunway Group, Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah, AO. For this event, the official T-shirt supplier, Microsports Enterprise sponsored the trophies, refreshments and first aid for the Run.
International students were among the top few graduands of the Victoria University (VU) graduation ceremony, held at the Sunway Pyramid Convention Centre recently.

Hailing from the Maldives, Aishath Adam was the top student from a batch of 383 graduands who received the VU degree from its Chancellor, George Pappas.

She had consistently achieved outstanding results during her 3-year Bachelor of Business (Accounting/Banking and Finance) degree, scoring a total of 20 High Distinctions, three Distinctions and one credit in total. Overall, she scored an average of 85.88% in her course.

Aishath was also awarded with the CPA Australia Book Prize 2012 for being the best Final Year accounting student in her cohort. Aishath is currently employed as a Project Manager with the Bank of Maldives.

Her compatriot, Fathimath Jawza, 45, achieved the highest mark across all VU campuses worldwide, in four subjects – Financial Accounting, Financial Institutions & Monetary Theory, Corporate Law and Advanced Management Accounting. She also scored 19 High Distinctions and four Distinctions and achieving 85.88% average in her course.

A mature student, Fathimath took leave from her job as a manager in the Currency Section of the Maldives Monetary Authority to pursue her Bachelor of Business (Accounting/Banking & Finance majors) under a Government of Maldives sponsorship.

"Although my degree was challenging, VU Sunway provided me with a good foundation and a very up-to-date coaching from its excellent and enthusiastic lecturers," she said.

Another model student, whom VU lecturers described as a joy to teach was George Elias from Tanzania, who is currently pursuing a Masters degree under a scholarship at an international branch campus university in Malaysia. He scored the highest mark across all VU campuses worldwide for Financial Accounting and Auditing.

"He was very humble, polite and very helpful to his course mates," said one of his lecturers. "He also had perfect attendance at all lectures and tutorials."

Both Fathimath and George were also recipients of the Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah Scholastic Award. Meanwhile, the top Malaysian was Bryan Tan Yeang Chih who achieved 10 High Distinctions and four Distinctions.

Another graduand was Mohamed Munthif Ahmed, also from the Maldives, who despite having to cope with a hearing disability, is an all-rounder and do well in studies and sports. He had represented Sunway College in table tennis, and together with his team, emerged as champion in the MAPCU Table Tennis Tournament in 2011.

In her occasional address, the Deputy High Commissioner of Australia in Malaysia, H.E Jane Duke quoted a figure, where she said Australia had graduated over 300,000 students from Malaysia since the 1960s. "With technology developing at such a rapid pace, the skills learnt in university are in great demand," she said.
Sunway-TES ACCA students have once again emerged as the Champion in the ‘CFA Malaysia Investment Research Challenge 2012’ held recently.

The team, comprising Lee Yen Peng (captain), Chooi Wai Kin, Muthayee a/p Valliyappan, Chuang Vi Kie, and Ling Sze Hsien, beat 13 other teams from private and public universities and colleges, who participated in the investment research challenge (IRC).

In the finals, they beat the teams from HELP University, Taylor’s University, and Universiti Sains Malaysia, with their investment findings on Top Glove, the world’s largest rubber glove manufacturer. They were invited to make a verbal presentation of their report to a panel of judges, based on their financial analysis of the public-listed company on Bursa Malaysia.

Besides taking home with them a cash prize of RM5,000, the team represented Malaysia at the Asia Pacific Regional Final of the Global IRC 2012 in Hong Kong. The team also won Sunway-TES a cash prize of RM5,000. Their trip to Hong Kong was sponsored by the CFA Institute.

Sunway College’s Executive Director, Teo Ee Sing said that the achievement by the ACCA team is something to be celebrated. “This is, in fact, the second consecutive year that Sunway-TES has won this challenge organised by CFA Institute,” he said.

From left: Chooi Wai Kin, Muthayee a/p Valliyappan, Chuang Vi Kie, Teo Ee Sing, Ling Sze Hsien and Lee Yen Peng
Ham Yow Wai received an Outstanding Cambridge Learner Award in November last year for achieving Top in Malaysia for Mathematics AS level in his June 2011 A-Level examinations.

An exhilarated Tham who recently achieved all As in his A-Levels said he is planning to apply to Ivy League universities to study Mechanical Engineering. “It’s either MIT or Caltech,” he said.

Thanking his lecturers, Tham said he felt personally touched by the commitment they had demonstrated. “I had a lot of fun meeting great people throughout my programme,” he said. “The lecturers helped all of us tremendously.”

His fellow classmate, Fariz Iskandar Faizal Khoo has secured a place to read Mechanical Engineering at Imperial College.

Another top scorer, Yew Sheng Qian, who plans to study Medicine in IMU said he simply loved the Sunway A-Level programme. “The mentor-mentee system is great as it is nice to get attention from lecturers,” he said. “The teaching here is different from the Malaysian secondary school style of teaching.”

The three students were among a group of ten students who scored straight As after sitting the November 2011 A-Level examinations. They have applied to study in various top universities in the US, UK, Australia, Singapore and locally to study Engineering, Medicine, Pharmacy, Optometry and Accounting.
Compared to 25 years ago, Sunway students are now enjoying state-of-the-art facilities.

In what is today, Sunway's newly-renovated Information Technology Learning Labs costing RM900,000, the personal computers here are of the latest models, with the average computer no more than 20 months old. The contemporary and comfortable ambience that these laboratories provide also creates conducive learning environment for students doing their assignments.

**Wonderful facilities**

The personal computers are linked to a multifunctional Fuji Xerox printer for students to easily navigate to print, scan or copy. Other personal computers in the laboratory continue to be available for students to use for assignments and daily learning.

A virtual desktop with all the latest software comes with every PC start-up. A more accessible disabled-friendly personal computer is also available for students who are physically disabled.

Each IT learning lab is also equipped with a smart board. This makes learning more interactive in classroom session between lecturers and students, ensuring that learning is fun, relevant and real. The smart boards have short-throw projectors for clearer viewing.

All of this is part of Sunway’s efforts to provide the best and latest technologies for hassle-free use that support students’ academic success.
Three top scorers, among 74 Foundation in Arts (FIA) students who received the Tan Sri Dato Seri (Dr) Jeffrey Cheah Continuing Scholarship, have chosen to pursue their undergraduate studies at Sunway University.

Janardhni a/p Ravi, who scored an average of 88.55 percent, and her fellow student, Sam Zhen Yang (86.9 percent) have both enrolled for the Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Accounting and Finance at Sunway University.

Janardhni, who hails from SMK Seri Aman, said the results were least expected. "I may be one of the top ten students, but never the top student. I guess because of the way teaching is being conducted, I became a lot motivated in my studies," she said. "When I graduate, I hope to become a financial analyst."

Meanwhile, Au Yong Choon Mun, who scored 86.65%, said he decided to pursue his ACCA programme in the April 2012 intake.

Seven others received their Certificates of Appreciation for organising various extracurricular activities throughout their course.

The students were among a batch of 129 FIA students who recently celebrated their graduation.
Director of Pre-University Studies, Cheng Mien Wee, expressed how much she appreciated the students. “We are proud of you,” she said. “You have touched our lives in ways you may never know and we hope we have touched yours too.”

Director of the FIA Programme, Ruma Lopes said that the students had done a fantastic job. “To the parents, thank you for trusting us with your children’s education,” she said. “They have complained endlessly about too much work being given, but they have proven themselves to be ready for their university studies. Most of them have decided to continue with Sunway University.”

She added that the programme would not have been possible without her vibrant team of lecturers and staff who brought out the enthusiasm to learn in each student.

Urging her students to look forward to their university education, she said: “Go forward and enjoy your lives. Sunway’s FIA isn’t as easy as you thought but you can now enjoy the fruit of your hard work.”

Also present at the graduation were Professor Robert Bignall, Vice-Chancellor of Sunway University; Professor Pua Eng Chong, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Professor David Ngo Chek Ling Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Higher Degrees), Sunway University; Dr. Khatijah Khalid, Chief Executive of Sunway College; Cheng Mien Wee, Director of Pre-University Studies; Mrs Ruma Lopes, Director of the FIA Programme, Sunway College.
For someone born in 1988, she would have completed her undergraduate studies and by now, probably started working. This is how long Lee Siok Ping has worked with the Sunway Education Group. Twenty-five years seems to be a long time for most people, but for Lee, who is currently Director of Student Services, time has passed by so quickly.

In fact, she had never dreamt of being in the same job for that many years. “The only thing I wanted was just to be an awesome educator,” she said. “My philosophy and dream has always focused on building people and shaping leaders.”

What has kept her on the job for a quarter of a century is her dream, which is aligned with that of the founder of Sunway Education Group, Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah. “I saw Sunway College being placed first under a Trust and then under a Foundation. This unique position of the institution is aligned with my own desire to give back to the community,” she said. “Work becomes more meaningful when we can engage with the team to make a difference in a more tangible manner. In particular was the Jeffrey Cheah Community Scholarship, which has been most gratifying, especially when you get to see children from orphanages being helped.”

Touching Stories

Jagadesan Chandra Mohann, whose father had passed away and mother was suffering from cancer, is a student whom Lee had helped. “Despite the family circumstances, he graduated 3 years ago with a first class honours in Bachelor in Information Technology,” said Lee. “Without the Jeffrey Cheah Community Scholarship, Jagadesan would be probably living a different life.”

Another recipient of the Jeffrey Cheah Community Scholarship, Candy Lee who came from a single parent environment and raised by her grandmother, is now doing very well, working with a local bank. “She faced challenges during her course of study, but with the encouragement that she got from the student services, and the extra coaching given, she graduated a few years ago,” added Lee. “Recently, she sent me a short message to say that she has been promoted to a managerial position.”

There were also cases of some students who were experiencing a lot of pressure in life when they were teenagers. “They were somewhat more rebellious and stubborn, but over time, some of them regretted their actions. Instead, they sent us ‘Thank you’ cards to tell us how much they appreciated our efforts to help them. This is indeed very satisfying,” elaborated Lee.

There were also disappointments in her role as a counsellor. “Usually, the parents are the ones in self-denial,” she said. “They would not admit that their children have emotional or psychological problems. We had one case, where eventually, after seeking help from the psychiatrists, we had to ask the parents to take the son home. It was not easy, but for the well-being of their son, we had to do it.”

In her area of work, Lee said she was tested by some of the students who were a bit more challenging. “They were at different stages of their lives,” Lee recollected. “It is understandable. And at a later part of their lives, some of them have come back and said, ‘Thank you to us.'”

Being in student services also meant that she had the opportunity to build friendships with some of the students. “I used to have a student who came to see me for career counselling. She went on to do psychology in Australia, now, she has migrated to Perth, Australia,” said Lee. “My family and I visited her about ten years ago. We had fun together. I remember one Saturday afternoon, in Perth, we decided to go out and buy hair dye. We started to dye each other’s hair. It was fun!”

Through the years, she has reconnected with a few students from the early days using Facebook and other social media.

Lee Siok Ping with her family

Building a team with an effective partnering relationship in mind - focusing not just on results (KFRAs/KPIs) but behaviours (with character, values, person’s quality, integrity) towards a culture of ‘People Helping People’, such as the peer counselling conference which takes place on 10-11 May

Building People

In her capacity as Director of Student Services, Lee is involved with the development of student leaders. “There was one particular team of students who were voted into the Student Council. They felt so inadequate, but with some coaching, training and encouragement, they were transformed to become good leaders,” said Lee.

This was the most satisfying thing for Lee to see students becoming successful in life especially as a result of the hard work done by her department.

Forums are organised from time to time to equip, enhance and empower the students before they enter into the workforce. The Student Services has engagement with over 650 companies which have become partners with Sunway Education Group.
Awesome Alumni

Sunway has also produced a number of awesome alumni, who have enriched Lee’s career. Some of them were early bloomers while others became successful later in life.

Since the alumni office officially started four years ago, Sunway has engaged her alumni in many ways. The list of alumni who return is endless. Among others, alumni like George Ang, a successful entrepreneur, and a group who co-authored a book together, Benson Wong, Rodney Toh, Lenny Chiah and Steven Shim, have been coming back to give talks to the students. “When we invite our alumni back to give talks, we want them to make an impact in the lives of the students. We want our alumni to tell our current students all the hard work that they have gone through, not just the the success stories,” Lee said.

There are also other alumni she takes pride in such as Jacintha Tagal who graduated from Harvard university and has chosen to devote her life to teaching children in a high needs school, and Joshua Lee, who left a lucrative advertising career to build a place for children to grow through art. Lee believes that Jacintha and Joshua serve as mentors to the younger generation by living their lives as a shining example. “We want our students to achieve great things in life beyond just the academic achievements. Their stories become an inspiration to the young graduates.”

In conjunction with the 25th Anniversary celebrations this year, Lee said she hopes to catch up with the alumni when they come back to be a part of this year’s grand celebrations. All the activities will be announced on the Sunway website.

In Retrospect

Winding the clock backwards, Lee remembers how she had joined Sunway as a student counsellor. After graduating from a local university with a Bachelor of Psychology (Honours), she first taught at a private institution. When the opportunity came to take up the post, she decided to join Sunway as a Student Counsellor in February 1988. With only 200 students back then, she was the only employee in the entire department. “We had to multitask by helping students find housing,” she said. “I even did some marketing by going to Sabah and Sarawak. It was challenging.”

In the early days of Sunway, the students were a different lot. “They had a lot of challenges as students,” she recalled. “The student numbers were small then but we helped them in practical ways. We were all closely knit. I even sat on their motorbike to go and have teh tarik with them.”

Today, her department has grown to 22 staff, to serve a population of 11,000 students in the areas of Student Development and Sports, Counselling, Career Services, Scholarships, Alumni office, and other support services such Sunway Originals (Sunway merchandise and gift items) and Student Centre. “What I always am very proud of is that about one-third of our department are former students of Sunway,” she said.

Looking back, she said that the 25 years has been a wonderful, exciting journey. “It’s very fulfilling to see how the institution has grown,” she said. “The growth has been in phases and modes and very purposeful. I feel privileged to have grown with the college which is now a university.”

The mother of two teenagers, Rebekah, 17 and Rachel, 15, said she treats the undergraduate students like her own children. “With my two daughters, I have become their friends. This is what we call mutual respect, because from young, my husband and I have been inculcating in them the fundamental values in life.

“Likewise, for the students, I also like to see that they do not only perform well in their studies, but that they become responsible leaders in society. They have to take the responsibility of learning and developing to become a valuable asset to the country. One should work towards a leadership role. At the same time, although it is important to work hard, having a work-life balance and fun is equally crucial.
When Adrian Ooi was studying at Sunway College 25 years ago, he did not know that he would marry a fellow alumnus by the name of Adelaine Teoh, and later produce four children – Aaron, Alvin, Amanda and Alden.

The Aces of Sunway

Two of their aces are now with their dad’s alma mater as a second generation of Sunwayians. The eldest, Aaron, 16, is currently doing his CIMP programme at Sunway, while Alvin, 15, is doing Level 9 at Sunway International School. Amanda, 10, is in Standard Four, while Alden, 7, has just entered Standard One.

For Adrian and his wife, placing their children at Sunway was a means to express their confidence in the education standard at his alma mater. “In those days, when I enrolled at Sunway College, it was because I had confidence in the Sungei Way (now, Sunway) Group back then,” Adrian said. “Now, it is because Sunway has reached a certain standard that has enabled us to have confidence in the quality of education it provides.”

Adrian’s loyalty to Sunway goes back to 25 years ago. When Adrian finished school, Malaysia was going through a financial crisis in 1984-87. When Sunway College officially started on 25 July 1987, Adrian was enrolled as a student to do his Bachelor of Business (Accounting and minoring in law) twinning degree with Curtin University.

“We were truly the pioneer batch of students that literally rode through the storm of our country’s financial crisis,” he laughed. “That has made us a lot stronger as individuals. I came from a poor family background, and this had also motivated me to study harder, which resulted in me getting the Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah scholarships then.”

Humble beginnings

In the first year, there were only about 200 students for all three twinning degree courses with Curtin University, Western Michigan University and Leicester University. “Everyone knew each other in the college,” he quipped. “We had very dedicated lecturers such as Mrs Lim Tiew Ming, Ms Bibi and Mr Tee. All three of them, together with Ms Lee Siok Ping, the counsellor, were very close with the students and we treated each other like another family member.”

Fast forward, Adrian said today, the Sunway that he used to know has developed into a reputable university of choice not only in Malaysia, but also in Singapore, Indonesia and Thailand. “This is the feedback that I have received from people in these countries, where I travel often to, to do business,” he said. “The facilities are much better and there are more choices at all levels. Of course, you cannot compare with it 25 years ago, when we had the personal touch we enjoyed as a smaller community of students.”

His role as a father

As a father, Adrian believes he has to set a good example for his children. “I have always advised my kids to have the right priorities in life – that is to put God first, followed by their family commitments, before their business or career. That has to be the order in life,” he said.

“I have also taught them to be bold and diligent in working towards their dreams. They learn never to give up. Failure is after all a stepping stone to our future success. We must be bold enough to walk through the unchartered territory and experience new things in life. This is my motto in life, and it is the same advice I wish to leave with the younger generation of Sunway students.”

Admitting that the young people these days lack a respect for the elders, Adrian said that he wants his own children to grow up learning to be humble at all times even when success is at their doorstep. “This is because the glory ultimately belongs to God, who has a purpose for each one of us. Through self-discovery and our growing-up process, we realise our utmost potential,” he said. “We must never let the failures in life knock us down and our response when that happens is to get up and try again!”
A mother and a wife
Adelaine, who also graduated with a Bachelor of Business (Finance) from Sunway’s twinning programme with Curtin University, said:

“The quality of education is guaranteed by a team of dedicated lecturers, excellent facilities and conducive environment to study,” “Of course they will have Aunty Lim, Aunty Siok Ping and Uncle Tee to watch over them from time to time. I want them to experience the most enjoyable and memorable phase of their life, like we did when we were at Sunway!”

This is the mother’s heart for the children they love. “As parents, we have close relationships with all our kids and we try to understand their strengths and weaknesses, and also their personality traits,” she said. “We had a thorough discussion with each of them before deciding and advising them on the course to pursue. Ultimately, we let their results dictate what course they should pursue. For instance, Aaron aspires to be a businessman, so we advised him to take either Accounting or Law, which will serve him well in his field of work in future.”

Adelaine is currently the Commissioner/Director of a listed company in Indonesia. Her work is not too hectic and does not take up much of her time as they only have between four to six meetings in a year. “I am not involved in the daily operations of the said company and thus, there is not too much of a time commitment required,” she said.

For parents with growing children, Adelaine said that she would strongly advise both parents to be involved in counselling their children on their career prospects. “Always plan few years ahead and constantly have discussions with them on their career path,” she said. “Visit colleges/universities one year ahead to enquire on each college/university requirement. Focus on each of your child’s strength and likings, and translate that into their field of study. A student will have higher chances of doing well in the field which he or she likes.”

Feedback
When asked what they think about Sunway, both Aaron and Alvin gave their own opinions.

Aaron Ooi: “When I first entered Sunway, it was a whole new environment and I was of course nervous and scared. But the teachers and students in CIMP were very friendly and within a few weeks, I felt right at home.

“When I came to CIMP, I expected the lessons to be held in lectures (where the teachers would give speeches to the students) but instead I find an interactive relationship between the teacher and student. The facilities at Sunway make for a very conducive environment for studying. I was fortunate to have also gone through an American Christian-based home school learning system, which allowed me to study and complete my course two years ahead of my time. As a result, I am now studying pre-University course just before reaching the age of 16.”

Alvin Ooi: “SIS is fun. The teachers are very friendly and kind. Most of the teachers will apologise to us when they know they are wrong, unlike in other schools, the teachers are always right. I also like the way teaching is conducted, as we don’t just study textbooks but use other sources of information, like the computer, presentations and events. I also look forward to the new SIS building to be completed by this June 2012, as the current premise is too small for the growing population of the students.”

(Adrian is currently the Finance Director cum CFO for an Indonesian publicly listed company, PT Inovisi Infrakom Tbk. He also holds the position of Chief Corporate Finance Officer for Global Capital Ltd, an investment firm based in Singapore and Indonesia, managing an investment portfolio of USD2.0 billion. Adelaine is a Commissioner/Director of a publicly-listed company in Indonesia, with a market capitalisation of USD1.3 billion).
Our Awesome 25th Anniversary Celebrations

www.sunway.edu.my
The Sunway Education Group which has its origins in 1986 with the establishment of Sunway College, is a financially self-sustaining entity synonymous with quality education and scholarship founded by the Chairman of the Sunway Group, Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah, AO. In a span of just 25 years, the Group has grown phenomenally to twelve institutions located in Malaysia and overseas. Among the institutions are Sunway University, Sunway College, Monash University Sunway campus, the Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences and the Sunway International School.

Owned and governed by the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation, the Sunway Education Group is the only group of private education institutions held under a special purpose not-for-profit foundation in Malaysia. This transfer of equity ownership was valued at RM700 million in 2010. To the Founder of the Sunway Group, education extends far beyond the business realm and the success of the Sunway Education Group in contributing to education means much more than rankings and enrolment numbers. Over the years, the Sunway Education Group under the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation, has given generously in the form of scholarships and awards to society and accorded more than 11,000 deserving students, access to education which they otherwise would have been denied.

Guided by the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation’s principles of Quality Education, Giving to Society and A Vision in Perpetuity, the Sunway Education Group is proud to be in a position to give generously to society through education which it views as a vital vehicle that enriches and improves lives.

The Sunway Education Group institutions and services are:-

**Sunway University**
Tel: 603-7491 8622
info@sunway.edu.my
sunway.edu.my/university

**Sunway International School**
Tel: 603-7491 8622
infosis@sunway.edu.my
www.sis.sunway.edu.my

**Monash University Sunway campus**
Tel: 603-5514 6000
info@monash.edu.my
www.monash.edu.my

**Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences**
Tel: 603-5514 6000
info@monash.edu.my
www.monash.edu.my

**Sunway International Business & Management**
Tel: 603-7493 7023
info@sibm.com.my
www.sibm.com.my

**Shanghai Sunway Financial Training Co. Ltd**
Tel: 603-7491 8622
info@sunway-tes.cn

**Sunway College**
Tel: 603-5638 7176
info@sunway.edu.my
sunway.edu.my/college

**Sunway College Johor Bahru**
Tel: 607-359 6880
infojb@sunway.edu.my
www.sunway.edu.my/jb

**Sunway College Ipoh**
Tel: 605-545 4398
infoipoh@sunway.edu.my
www.sunway.edu.my/ipoh

**Sunway College Kuching**
Tel: (6082) 232 780/236 666
info@swck.edu.my
www.sunwaycollegekuching.edu.my

**Sunway-TES**
Tel: 603-7491 8622
info@sunway.edu.my
www.sunway.edu.my

**Sunway Le Cordon Bleu Institute of Culinary Arts**
Tel: 603-5632 1188
yuuwmingh@sunway.edu.my

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**Contents**

**Glowing in the dark** 18

**Bridging the gap of education inequity** 19
With nothing more than clip-on lights to illuminate their music sheets and donning glow stick bangles on their wrists for more visibility, the recital was performed with much gusto.

Glowing in the dark

As chief musician, Karen Lock described it, the colourful glow sticks and music “lent a great atmosphere to the event.” Even the baton used by Rockie Siew, the ensemble’s leader and conductor, was joined to a glow stick.

Describing the recital which was performed at Sunway University, Siew said: “Being in the dark helped the audience focus on the music and that gave everyone a chance to connect and enjoy the recital even more.”

Reminding and celebrating Earth Hour was the theme of the recital by 27 students and alumni, who formed the Sunway University Ensemble. Their one-hour performance, which was done “live” on March 31 between 8.30 pm to 9.30 pm, mesmerised the audience of 300 people, where half of them also signed the “Earth Hour pledge to live green” form. This was the first time for some of them to experience Earth Hour.

Donations collected during the recital were channelled to the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation, a non-profit organisation that gives back to society through scholarships for the deserving.

Yoo Ai Lee, a final year Bachelor of Business student (Victoria University twinning programme) and a musician said even though one may be rich and can afford to pay for excess usage of water and electricity, money cannot buy everything. “It is important that our youths learn to reduce wastage and help to preserve the environment, especially when we see Mother Earth deteriorating,” she said. “We have to think of our future.”
In a rare move, Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah personally conducted a class in SMK Puchong, Petaling Perdana during the “Teach for Malaysia Week” on April 19.

According to the Sunway Group founder and chairman, it was a great opportunity to create greater awareness in Malaysia on the importance of education and equip the future generation with valuable skill sets.

“I am humbled and honoured to be able to share my experiences with a very different audience that I am used to and hope that I am able to inspire them in one way or another,” he said.

“Giving back to society through providing quality education to deserving Malaysian students is my personal vision and I am happy to learn that Teach for Malaysia’s vision mirrors that. I hope that JCF’s support will go a long way towards supporting Teach for Malaysia’s mission to end education inequity.”

Earlier, Tan Sri Cheah also witnessed a recent signing ceremony marking the corporate partnership between the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation and Teach for Malaysia, which was held at the newly completed Graduate Centre at Sunway University. The agreement was signed between Tan Sri Dato’ Dr Ramon Navaratnam (Trustee of JCF) and Dato’ Noor Rezan Bapoo (trustee of TFM).

Also present were Dzameer Zulkifli (co-founder of TFM), Tan Sri Rainer Althoff, (Trustee of JCF), Sarena Cheah (Executive Director of Strategy and Corporate Development Sunway Group), members of Sunway Group and Sunway Education Group’s senior management team, and nine Jeffrey Cheah Foundation scholars of Sunway University and Monash University, Sunway campus.

As a corporate sponsor, JCF contributed RM150,000 towards TFM, to assist the organisation in achieving its mission to reduce education inequity between rural and urban schools. This Bronze sponsorship entails financial support and non-financial support to TFM.