

# BLAZE

THE SUNWAY UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE



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## SUNWAY'S LAST STRAW

**S**unway Education Group launched #TheLastStraw campaign recently to drive awareness for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs). The campaign seeks to address UNSDG Number 14 - Life Below Water, and has committed to stop selling water in single use plastic bottles on campus from July 13 onwards.

Students and staff worked with Sunway campus vendors to voice their support for this initiative and protect the world's oceans from plastic pollution as part of the Sunway Education Group Smart Sustainable Campus Committee's efforts. Additional water dispensers have been placed on campus grounds.

Plastic containers, bottles, cups, cutlery, and straws are such indispensable part of modern life that plastic is now the number one source of pollution in our oceans. The urgency to reduce this unsustainable dynamic cannot be overstated as the likelihood of having more plastic than fish in the ocean is becoming a reality.

At the launch of the campaign, Acting Ambassador of the Sunway Education Group Smart Sustainable Campus Committee, Senior Executive Director of Sunway Education Group and Sunway University Dr Elizabeth Lee encouraged all to do their bit to reduce ocean litter through simple gestures like saying NO to plastic straws, switching to metal or biodegradable straws, or using your own mugs or reusable tumblers.

Aquaria KLCC General Manager Daryl Foong explained the importance of marine conservation and how #The LastStraw campaign is about initiating positive change with a simple act of saying NO to all single use plastics.

With each member of the community playing a role in reducing the use of plastics and adopting more effective recycling, the Sunway Education Group Smart Sustainable Campus Committee hopes to assist the world in achieving its target of preventing and significantly reducing marine pollution by year 2025 whilst championing sustainability for future generations. **B**



# MONICA FOONG SUI OI

## HAVING THE HEART TO CARE

*Monica Foong, Head of Nursing at the School of Healthcare and Medical Sciences, believes one must have the heart to care in this profession*

by **Chua Ern Teck**

**F**oong was going through curtain colours with a contractor on the phone when I arrived to see her for our appointment. The department is in the midst of completing a new mock operating theatre and a new mock intensive care unit to expand its Post Basic programmes. She decided on sky blue coloured curtains before switching off her smartphone to begin our interview.

"I want to have more specialised courses and programmes," Foong said. "That's where the ICU and OT will come in." Besides training nurses with specialisations, Foong is also working to increase her department's capacity to offer the Diploma in Nursing, which is the first programme launched by Sunway University in 2008.

Sunway University works very closely with Sunway Medical Centre which offers more than 100 scholarships a year to deserving students to pursue the Diploma in Nursing. The University currently accepts up to 60 students per year, but Foong is working with the Ministry of Education to double this.

"In order to do that, we must have the staffing, lab resources, and clinical placements, because nursing is not only training in simulated wards," Foong said. "You must have the real environment for students."

### **PATH TO NURSING**

Foong hails from the small town of Batu Gajah, where she attended the local convent school. Her father was a winchman and mother was a housewife.

"My paternal grandmother never believed in education," said Foong, who is the eldest among eight siblings. "Even though we come from a very poor background, thankfully my father never believed that."

How Foong embarked on a career in nursing is a combination of childhood ambition, circumstances and family influences. She also has extended family members working in various capacities in the healthcare profession, including medicine, pharmacy, midwifery and nursing. "So growing up, I fell in love with the idea of being a nurse and I love to read books related to healthcare, doctors and nurses," Foong said.

Foong was trained at Assunta Hospital, where she said she learnt to be a caring and compassionate person. "Practically every nursing school now is headed by an Assuntarian," Foong said. "At Sunway Medical Centre, many of their nurses in management positions are also Assuntarians." Foong's mission is to emulate her alma mater's legendary reputation, where the mere mention of Sunway University will land its students a nursing job anywhere they go.

In the mid-1980s, having been registered with the United Kingdom Central Council for Nursing and Midwifery (UKCC) and more than five years of working experience under her belt, she went to the UK with her husband, who was studying for a MBA, to work as a registered nurse and pursue her studies in Midwifery. Upon her return to Malaysia, Foong worked at various private hospitals, gaining management experience while getting exposure to all facets of the nursing profession.

Foong came to the School of Healthcare and Medical Sciences at the recommendation of Sunway Medical Centre Managing Director Mr Lau Beng Long. "There are quite a few things we can do to make the school even better and bring nursing to a different direction," Foong said. Prior to her current posting, she was a talent recruiter at Sunway Medical Centre.







## COMING TO WORK AT SUNWAY UNIVERSITY

As head of department, Foong balances administrative duties with the academic demands of her role, which includes everything from attending staff meetings and getting programme accreditations to evaluating clinical instructors and developing research collaborations.

A typical day for Foong begins at 8:30am with the daily ritual of corporate employment - going through messages. "From there on, it never seems to stop," said Foong, who wears a fitbit and achieves her 10,000 steps every day by walking to work. "It takes 10 minutes each way, so the car is only for weekends," Foong said. "It's very, very underutilised."

Sunway Medical Centre is commencing a huge expansion plan in the coming years, with five to six hospitals in the pipeline. This includes facilities at Sunway Velocity Cheras, Kota Damansara, Tambun, Ipoh, Penang and Iskandar City, Johor (which will be twice the size of Sunway City). "As far as Sunway Healthcare Group is concerned, the sky's the limit. In order to support that, nurses need to be well trained."

At the moment, the nursing school is training nurses to meet the needs of the healthcare sector and Sunway Medical Centre, which offers full scholarships for qualified candidates. 90 percent of student nurses at Sunway University had their education sponsored by Sunway Medical Centre. Going forward, Foong wants the department to also offer programmes at the degree and masters levels. "I want Sunway University to be known as the premier training provider for healthcare education and training recognised both locally and internationally."

Throughout our conversation, Foong repeatedly emphasised the great demand for nurses globally. A nurse with five years of working experience, armed with a degree and specialised training, can confidently walk across the causeway. Singapore is ever ready to poach our best and brightest, and offer them jobs.

The Middle East is another place Foong cites young nurses can easily command five-figure salaries. Even though some stay back for personal reasons or family commitments, Foong concedes that the attrition rate is an issue and local hospitals have to work harder to retain talents. One other challenge in the nursing profession is it has been seen as being predominantly female. According to Foong, parents have not been supportive of sons venturing into the nursing profession in the past, but this is slowly changing, because the opportunities for career advancement is so great and diverse. The current cohort of 59 nursing students in the diploma programme includes eight male students.

## A NURSE AND A TEACHER

Foong treks and camps to relax, but admits that she hasn't done much of both with her husband since taking on this role. "We used to go out to Kuala Kubu Bharu and camp there with our children when they were much younger," said Foong, who had also trekked the Jomsom and Annapurna trails in Nepal. "Each time we go, we would spend about two weeks."

Even though her son tells her that working late every day is taxing on her health, retirement is not on Foong's horizon anytime soon. "I have colleagues who are in their 70s, and they can go on and on, for as long as you don't lose your marbles."

"It has always been my dream to be a nurse, a teacher, or a nurse and teacher," Foong said. "I'm lucky and blessed in the sense that I get to do both."

"To be able to share in the joy of couples bringing a life to this world, or hold somebody's hand and say a last farewell before he or she goes, you become a friend to the family," said Foong, who is also a registered midwife in Malaysia. "It is not just a job, and if I am given a second chance, I'll still be a nurse."





Respondents with a group of Koreans in Hanbok



Meeting with respondents



Yen with a local merchant

# WHAT'S WRONG WITH K-DRAMAS

The Korean wave emerged during the late 1990s, when Korean dramas were exported to Vietnam and, subsequently, China, Indonesia, Thailand, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan and Malaysia. Nowadays, Korean restaurants are commonplace, K-pop songs are available on most music platforms, and Sunway students can be found watching K-dramas at the foyer! So, what's wrong with K-drama?

Dr Teh Pek Yen from the School of Hospitality researched how K-drama affected tourism in South Korea since 2010 for her PhD, looking particularly to the distinct travelling patterns of Malaysians who visited Korea. In a 2017 collaboration with Dr Sean Kim, Associate Professor at Edith Cowan University, she examined the challenges female Muslim tourists face in Korea, and how K-drama is used as an educational tool to cope with these challenges.

Dr Teh embarked on a 20-day field trip to Seoul, where she conducted interviews with 30 female Muslim tourists from Malaysia. She travelled with some of these respondents to observe their behaviours - from making food choices and locating prayer rooms to the excitement of being at filming locations to coping with the language barrier.

Throughout the field trip, she met tour guides, local merchants and hostel owners to further understand the challenges of Muslim tourists vacationing in a non-Muslim country. The study found that K-drama does not only serve as an entertainment that attracts tourists to Korea. In fact, along the process of watching K-dramas, audiences gradually become attached to Korea.

Dr Teh and Dr Kim found that drama is an educational platform to transmit knowledge and prepare potential tourists to cope with the challenges before they travel. So, what's wrong with K-drama? Nothing! It contributes to the tourism industry as well as a person's knowledge of another country. Going forward, Dr Teh would like to continue looking at this issue from the hosts' perspective, especially on their readiness to receive Muslim tourists.

# EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

## SOUTHEAST ASIAN CONFERENCE ON CRYSTAL ENGINEERING



Sunway University Vice-Chancellor, Professor Graeme Wilkinson launching the SEACCE-2

The second Southeast Asian Conference on Crystal Engineering (SEACCE-2) was held at Sunway University from 6 - 8 August, following the inaugural 2016 meet in Colombo. The conference brought together 200 practitioners from ASEAN including China and India to share knowledge, experience and to establish research collaborations in the general fields of coordination polymers and co-crystal technology for pharmaceutical applications. The conference provided an opportunity for participants to gain insights into the chemical, materials and pharmaceutical sciences frontiers. Students were thrilled to hear from "big names" in the region. The scientific programme evolved to crystal engineering topics in Metal-Organic Frameworks and co-crystals, fundamental and applications, and a more general crystallographic topics including weak interactions in biological systems and results of structure determinations.

## GOOGLE I/O EXTENDED KUALA LUMPUR by Bryson C.Y

Google I/O Extended Kuala Lumpur is an extension of the annual developer conference that brings together technology developers from around the globe annually for talks, hands-on learning with Google's experts, and a first look at Google's latest products. This year - for the very first time - the conference was held at Sunway University. It was co-organised by the Sunway Tech Club (STC) and the Google Developers Group Kuala Lumpur (GDGKL). More than 400 people turned up for the event. There were various engaging talks on coding, cloud platform and machine learning applications. Among the highlights was the lucky draw, where Google products, a developer kit and a year's worth of subscription of software for developers were up for grabs.



## SUNWAY DEBATE OPEN 2018 by Chee Gee Ren



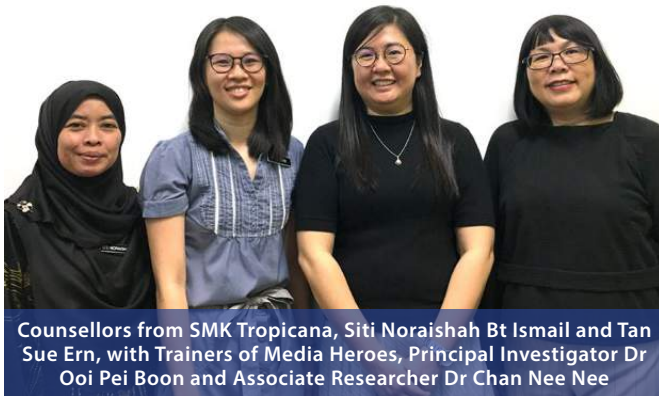
Team "Sunway DE"

The Sunway Debate Open 2018 (SUNDO) is an open debate tournament in the British Parliamentary style organised by the Sunway Debate Club (SUNDEC). This was the second tournament of the year but marked the beginning of the British Parliamentary debating season at Sunway. Participants came from all levels of experience, from beginners debating in their first tournament to the crème de la crème of the seasoned debaters. The eclectic mix of people, totalling around 60 teams of two, made the tournament competitive and interesting. Will Tan and Dzul Iskandar from SUNDEC were the conveners of the tournament. The adjudication core included esteemed names such as Leeroy Ting, Sara Abdul Rahim and Muayyad Khairulmaini. In the novice finals, three local teams and one from Sriwijaya University, Indonesia, debated the social rating system. Team "Sunway DE" claimed the title with Edmund Kong named as best speaker for the round. In the open final, top four teams debated on morality of pursuing excessive wealth. Team "Mr. CA, I don't feel too good" from Singapore emerged as the winner of SUNDO, with the best speaker for the round going to Arthur Lee. Amrit Agastia was named the best speaker of the tournament, while Sara Shafek was the best novice speaker.



# CYBERBULLYING IN SCHOOLS

*Sunway, Free University Berlin and Digi collaborate to address cyberbullying*  
by **Dr Ooi Pei Boon & Dr Chan Nee Nee**



Counsellors from SMK Tropicana, Siti Noraishah Bt Ismail and Tan Sue Ern, with Trainers of Media Heroes, Principal Investigator Dr Ooi Pei Boon and Associate Researcher Dr Chan Nee Nee



Participants taking part in identifying the cyberbullying cases presented and debating over its severity on students as a whole

**S**unway University is working together with Free University of Berlin (FUB) and Digi to address the prevalence of cyberbullying in Malaysia. Researchers from the German university designed a cyberbullying prevention programme, Media Heroes, where initial studies have proven to be effective in reducing cyberbullying among secondary school teenagers. The programme includes group discussions, role playing, self-reflection and case studies on definitions, causes and consequences of cyberbullying.

A workshop was held in April with school counsellors from 11 secondary schools. The two-day “train the trainer” experiential workshop was designed based on the “Theory of Planned Behaviour.” Twenty three secondary school counsellors were trained by Madita Elise Siddique from FUB and the Sunway University team comprising of Principal Investigator Dr Ooi Pei Boon, Associate Prof Dr Teh Phoey Lee, Lecturer Priyadharshini Ahrumugam and Associate Researcher Dr Chan Nee Nee.

This interdisciplinary project aims to reach out to 1,000 students in the Klang Valley this year. It was designed to be interactive and thought-provoking. Students are challenged to think critically and to practise empathy during interactive activities. They also learned about the legal consequences of cyberbullying.

“Research and innovation are critical for solving challenges in the educational sector”, said Dr Herbert Scheithauer, Professor of Developmental Psychology and Clinical Psychology at FUB. “We are expecting a productive collaboration with colleagues from

Sunway University with regards to research in cyberbullying, cultural adaptation and implementation of the preventive intervention program Media Heroes in Malaysian schools.”

“Digi has been championing internet safety for the past seven years and we have seen how cyberbullying evolves over time adapting to the advancements in technology”, said Philip Ling, Head of Sustainability, Digi Telecommunications Sdn Bhd. “The partnership with Sunway University is timely as together we seek to unpack the complexities behind cyberbullying.”

“With the training given, I am more equipped to guide my students to understand cyberbullying. With the awareness of cyberbullying, it empowers students to identify if ever they are in such a situation and to take necessary actions. The school plans to include cyberbullying awareness in the programmes organised by the counselling unit and raise the issue of cyberbullying in meetings to create more awareness among teachers”, said Tan Su Ern, counsellor at SMK Tropicana.

“The seminar presented on cyberbullying is incredibly important. It is obvious that Sunway and FUB really care about this topic and want to spread the word about how to prevent cyberbullying and to help us on research-based best practices to be shared with our IISM(S)-Gombak students and other Malaysian students”, said Abd Fatah Salehuddin, counsellor at International Islamic School Malaysia.



MBA Graduates

# 879 CELEBRATE AT SUNWAY UNIVERSITY GRADUATION CEREMONY



Chai Jin Yie with his proud parents

In July, 879 Sunway University graduates took to the stage to receive their scrolls. Chai Jin Yie, who graduated with a BSc (Hons) in Culinary Management, is the first valedictorian from the School of Hospitality. Celebrating the momentous occasion with Chai were his proud parents Chai Thiam Yew and Yap Kwee Hong.

“When I’m lost, my pillars of support have always been my parents. A Hakka man from Ipoh and a Hokkien lady from Kuala Selangor gave me good advice that I keep very close to my heart: ‘Son, just do what you love, love what you do. There will be tough times, but they are not here to stay. Just keep working hard, we always believe in you,’” Chai said. These were the words he remembers whenever he felt discouraged and teased for choosing to be a chef.



Beatrice Chin and her elated parents

Also celebrating the occasion with family and friends was Jeffrey Cheah Foundation (JCF) Community scholar Sio Joo Xing who graduated with the Diploma in Information Technology. Sio will be continuing his degree programme at Sunway University starting August. Amongst the graduates for the session were Beatrice Chin Hui Yi who graduated with the Diploma in Nursing and Tan Siu Yong who graduated with a BSc (Hons) Medical Biotechnology. Tan was gifted with a special vegetable and fruit hamper from his friends. Chai and Beatrice also received the Jeffrey Cheah Scholastic Award.





Tan Siu Yong with his friends

In total, 21 graduates with outstanding results were awarded the Jeffrey Cheah Scholastic Award. The recipients from various disciplines under the Sunway University Business School, School of Arts, School of Hospitality, School of Mathematical Sciences, and School of Science and Technology received a RM2,000 cheque and certificate each.

"Today is a day that has filled me with a lot of conflict. A part of me is absolutely elated by the end of exam seasons and no more brain-cracking assignments but the thought that I will not be coming back to see the familiar faces of my lecturers and friends makes today bittersweet. I guess parting is only sad because what we are saying goodbye to, holds a special place in our hearts. In the words of Piglet from Winnie the Pooh: 'How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard,'" said Avryl Ooi Wan Cheen, valedictorian from the Sunway University Business School. Avryl graduated with the BSc (Hons) in Accounting and Finance.

Attending the ceremony to celebrate Avryl's milestone were her mother and sisters. Amongst the graduates for the second session were Chow Shenn Kuan who graduated with a BSc (Hons) Business Studies and Tan Wei Chee with a BSc (Hons) in Accounting and Finance.

Professor Andrew Atherton, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Lancaster University was present to deliver the Occasional Address and confer the University of Lancaster scrolls to the graduating students from the Communication, Computing, Information Systems, Psychology, Biological Sciences and Business disciplines for the dual honours degree programmes, validated by Lancaster University. Also present at the ceremony were Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Jeffrey Cheah AO, Chancellor of Sunway University; Tan Sri Datuk Seri Razman M Hashim, Tan Sri Dato' Dr Ramon Navaratnam, Professor Tan Sri Dato' Dr Lin See-Yan, Dato' Sri Idris Jala, Pro-Chancellors of Sunway University; and Professor Graeme Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor and Chair, Academic Senate of Sunway University. **B**

"When I'm lost, my pillars of support have always been my parents. A Hakka man from Ipoh and a Hokkien lady from Kuala Selangor gave me good advice that I keep very close to my heart: 'Son, just do what you love, love what you do. There will be tough times, but they are not here to stay. Just keep working hard, we always believe in you,'"

CHAI JIN YIE  
BSC (HONS) IN CULINARY MANAGEMENT



Avryl Ooi with her family members



JCF Community Scholar, Sio Joo Xing with family members and friends



Professor Graeme Wilkinson and Dr Elizabeth Lee with Chef Alan Orreal, Vice Chairman for Global Development of Young Chef Committee, Chef Dale Lyman of Worldchefs and Chef Arief Khalid of Professional Culinaire Association of Malaysia with participants of the Bill Gallagher Young Chefs Forum and Sunway University School of Hospitality students

# SUNWAY UNIVERSITY HOSTS BILL GALLAGHER YOUNG CHEFS

"I know all of you would want to do well in life and make a name for yourselves. But do try to give or contribute a little of your time - it could be as simple as helping out at a soup kitchen or volunteer to help pack dry meals for those in need - it takes but a little effort and a bit of your time to help make a difference in someone's life".

**Dr Elizabeth Lee**  
Senior Executive Director

One hundred participants selected across the globe for the Bill Gallagher Young Chefs Forum gathered at Sunway University to immerse themselves in the challenges of feeding a hungry world. Recognised by the Worldchefs Education Committee for quality of culinary education, Sunway University capitalised on the forum as a platform to work towards ZERO HUNGER, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (UNSDG) Number 2.

The event, organised by Sunway University's School of Hospitality under the coordination of Chef Lee Han Ying had participants exploring different cuisines and feeding the planet in a sustainable manner. "The idea of the meal packing came from our colleagues at Sunway Group Brand Marketing and Communications", said Chef Soon Pau Voon, Teaching Fellow at Sunway University's School of Hospitality, who was also appointed the Vice President of Special Projects for Professional Culinaire Association (PCA) of Malaysia, the host nation's association for the 38th Worldchefs Congress 2018.

"Participants from the Bill Gallagher Young Chefs Forum were invited to Sunway University for the meal packing event and we decided to incorporate a Malay Heritage Cuisine Cooking Class for international participants to experience our local cooking techniques, food ingredients, taste and flavours", Chef Soon said.



"We are delighted to have all of you here at our Sunway campus today and hope that you will have a fruitful experience with us", said Vice-Chancellor of Sunway University Professor Graeme Wilkinson in his welcome address. "Aside from learning to cook some of our Malay cuisine, and also learn a little bit about the culture, I hope you will come to understand the importance and the need of giving back to society."

An exciting programme designed for young chefs under 25 years of age, the Bill Gallagher Young Chefs Forum provides talented chefs an opportunity to build their network and learn how to further develop their culinary skills inside and outside the kitchen. The group of young chefs had the opportunity to learn how to serve Asia on a Plate through the Malay Heritage Cooking Class conducted by four chefs from Sunway University's School of Hospitality.

The four chefs comprising Chef Patrick Siau Chi Yin, Chef Nur Amirah Haji Mazlan, Chef Yee Suet Rene and Chef Ng Wan Che introduced the culture and cooking traditions of Malay Heritage Cuisine by demonstrating how to prepare dishes like *Nasi Kerabu*, *Ulam*, *Keropok Ikan*, *Rendang Kambing*, *Kuih Ketayap* and *Ondeh-Ondeh*. Twenty diploma students from the School of Hospitality assisted the four chefs by preparing the necessary ingredients and interacting with the Bill Gallagher Young Chefs during the Malay Heritage Cooking Class.

Having taken a leading role in advancing the 17 UNSDGs through the establishment of the Jeffrey Sachs Center on Sustainable Development in Sunway University in December 2016, this year's Bill Gallagher Young Chefs satellite event was another occasion for Sunway University to push forward UNSDG number 2, ZERO HUNGER.

With the assistance of 250 Sunway University School of Hospitality students, the 100 young chefs packed a total of 100,000 dehydrated meals for the most impoverished communities in Cambodia. Comprising rice, soy, vegetables, permitted flavouring and 21 essential vitamins and minerals which are highly nutritious, each pre-packed meal provided by Rise Against Hunger Malaysia can serve six individuals.

On hand to provide their support for the meal packing event were Mr Tiki Keh, President of Rise Against Hunger Malaysia and Ms Jane Poh, Senior General Manager of Group Brand Marketing and Communications, Sunway Group.

Senior Executive Director of Sunway University and Sunway Education Group Dr Elizabeth Lee was delighted to see the commitment and the effort put in by the students and lecturers of Sunway University School of Hospitality to make this satellite event a memorable one for the Bill Gallagher Young Chefs. "I know all of you would want to do well in life and make a name for yourselves", Dr Lee said. "But do try to give or contribute a little of your time - it could be as simple as helping out at a soup kitchen or volunteer to help pack dry meals for those in need - it takes but a little effort and a bit of your time to help make a difference in someone's life". **B**



Sunway University School of Hospitality students packing meals



Chef Patrick Siau briefing the participants



Chefs cooking the Rendang Kambing



Participants with the packed meals

# RESEARCH ON ASEAN HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY



Professor Glenda Crosling

**D**r Graeme Atherton and Professor Glenda Crosling from the Centre for Higher Education Research (CHER) at Sunway University, and Associate Professor Munir Shuib of the National Higher Education Research Institute (IPPTN) at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) recently concluded their research into 'The Shape of Global Higher Education Policy: Understanding the ASEAN region'. The research was funded by the British Council. They were ably assisted in the project by research consultant Siti Norbaya Binti Azizan.

The research looked into ASEAN higher education, the higher education policy in ten ASEAN countries, and how it supports international engagement. The three researchers bring together the emerging profile of CHER and Sunway University and the vast experience of IPPTN, and its work connecting ASEAN higher education with the global agenda.

Dr Graeme Atherton, the project co-ordinator has extensive experience producing higher education policy reports in the international context. He holds visiting professorships at three different universities including Sunway University where he is an Adjunct Professor of CHER.

Professor Glenda Crosling is Head of CHER and Chair of a Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) expert panel. As Chair of the MQA panel, she has led the team which produced national quality assurance guidelines for Malaysia. She is a Member of the Global Higher Education Network which is co-ordinated through Universiti Sains Malaysia.

Associate Professor Munir Shuib has been serving as the Deputy Director at IPPTN since 2013, and as IPPTN's Associate Research Fellow since 2001. He has participated and led various policy oriented research in higher education including graduate unemployment, leadership, assessment, academic profession, and research development in Malaysia as well as in ASEAN countries. He also sits on the Malaysia Global Reach Committee (Community Cluster), under the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia.

Dr Graeme Atherton, Professor Glenda Crosling, Associate Professor Munir Shuib and Siti Norbaya Binti Azizan recently presented the report and outcome of their collaborative investigation and analysis at 'The Going Global' conference held in Kuala Lumpur convened by the British Council. The findings indicate that the ASEAN countries investigated are well motivated to develop internationalisation in their higher education systems, and that it can be propelled through academic capacity building and further collaboration across the region on quality assurance. Both of these initiatives are underpinned by data driven research as the basis for future policy developments.

Professor Crosling commented that the outcomes of the project present a strong view of Malaysia in terms of higher education internationalisation, when compared with the other ASEAN countries in the study. The

findings indicate that in the areas of internationalisation investigated, Malaysia's efforts are achieving success. Malaysia is well placed to take a strong role in higher education internationalisation in the ASEAN region. Sunway University and CHER are keen to build on the deep understandings of internationalisation at the national and ASEAN levels developed through the project, and are keen to extend it by way of data collection, analysis and dissemination, in order to further Malaysia's contribution in this area.

In their research, the team took a mixed methodological approach, engaged with country experts and consulted with representatives of the British Council. They also used the British Council Global Gauge, an interactive online tool made up of 37 qualitative indicators. The research is built on two previous reports produced by the British Council in the Shape of Global Higher Education series.

The research concentrated on three areas: Openness - government-level commitment to internationalisation; environment enabling international mobility of students, researchers, academic programmes and university research; Quality assurance and recognition - a regulatory environment to facilitate the international mobility of students, education providers and academic programmes; and Access and sustainability - promoting student or academic mobility and international research collaboration; consideration of possible unintended consequences of internationalisation.

The Centre for Higher Education Research (CHER) set up in 2015 has organised a series of high level conferences and seminars looking at key areas of higher education (HE) in the ASEAN region during the last 2 years. The Centre launched a global conference on HE access and equity described in 2017 and since then has been developing its portfolio of work in Malaysia, ASEAN countries and beyond. **B**



# UP AND COMING DIGITAL MARKETERS

Following its first successful Digital Marketplace Exhibition last year, the Sunway University Business School (SUBS) and Sunway University Marketing Society co-organised a second exhibition this year. 20 teams had to sell their products or services online through the e-commerce platform, Shopee and present their ideas to visitors and a panel of judges. The judges comprised industry professionals such as RHB Banking Group Digital and Technology Senior Recruitment Specialist Norzarina Ahmad, ACE Pacific Group Regional Sales Director May Yau, DearDarling Malaysia Director Chloe Jiey and Shopee Mobile Malaysia Sdn Bhd Event Management (Marketing) Associate Jonathan Choo Siang Yung.



TEAM COCA-COLA

Third-year students of BSc (Hons) Marketing programme, Nicholas Wong, Chye Yee Ying and Goh Yit Chin chose to feature Coca-Cola. They were required to present their marketing plan and execute changes based on different scenarios which mirrors real world marketing challenges. The vision was to create a green brand which will be well accepted by consumers. The solution was to introduce a colourless Coke can packaging which creates less emissions of carbon gas during packaging.



TEAM SNEAK IN

Choosing to sell high-end authentic luxury shoes on the Shopee platform, Team Sneak In shared that the assignment and exhibition were a great opportunity for them to learn beyond textbooks, and at the same time, gain insight knowledge on setting up an online business and hands-on experience at an actual exhibition. Members of Sneak In comprised local and international students from Bangladesh, Japan, Mauritius and South Africa. They are Sheikh Atif Mahmood, Kazuhide Hamada, and Conor Matthew Man from BSc (Hons) Business Management and Leong Pui Si and Matthieu Ducasse from BSc (Hons) Business Studies. **B**



TEAM MW

Team MW, which comprised students from BSc (Hons) Business Management and BSc (Hons) Business Studies programmes, saw Kelvin Lye, Lai Chin Mun, Poong Khia Ern and Juzailah Izzati Jazdi reselling men's boxers as gifts online. They explained that they do not just resell the product, but focused on the design of the product packaging as a gift concept to others. Sharing his experience from the exhibition and the E-Commerce subject, Kelvin said he learnt the prowess of starting an online business, including setting up an online platform, running the business via credit and transaction security. It has provided him the confidence to set up an online business in the future.

“Through this Exhibition, our students will have the capacity to present on an ad hoc basis and learn to be quick on their feet, be professional and adaptive as any questions can be raised by anyone during the exhibition.”

**Dr Derek Ong**  
Senior Lecturer  
SUBS Department of Marketing

# CAE SUMMER AWARDS

The Centre for American Education (CAE) Sunway University celebrates the achievements of its students from the American Degree Transfer Program (ADTP) in academics and sports and acknowledges those who have completed their first half of ADTP programme at Sunway University. In 2018, 57 students are opting for transfer to the university of their choice including universities in the USA, Canada, UK and South Korea with 20 of them continuing the second half of their degree abroad on scholarship from their respective universities.

**SARAH EUNICE STEPHEN**



Awarded the Presidential Transfer Award and International Student Grant worth USD\$18,000 per annum from Drake University USA, Sarah Eunice Stephen is looking forward to the transfer for Fall 2018. Grateful for the financial aid provided by the scholarship, this former SMK Seafield student will major in Actuarial Science.

**HARIZ MOHAMMAD ORYZA ANANDA**



One of the recipients of the CAE Outstanding Sports Award 2018 was Mohammad Hariz Mohammad Oryza Ananda. Having participated in the 2017 SEA Games and being a former Malaysia ice hockey team member, 18-year old Hariz was surprised to receive this acknowledgment from CAE. Hariz shares that juggling studies with sports practice can be stressful but his love for what he does has helped him to cope.

**AIDA NUREEN TAQIAH**



Valedictorian and former 2-term President of the CAE Student Committee Aida Nureen Taqiah Amirul Bahri received the Haenicke Scholarship worth USD\$5,000 per annum from Western Michigan University, USA. Majoring in Environmental and Sustainability Studies, she shares that ADTP at Sunway University has helped her ease the transition for her in WMU due to a similar programme structure with both universities.

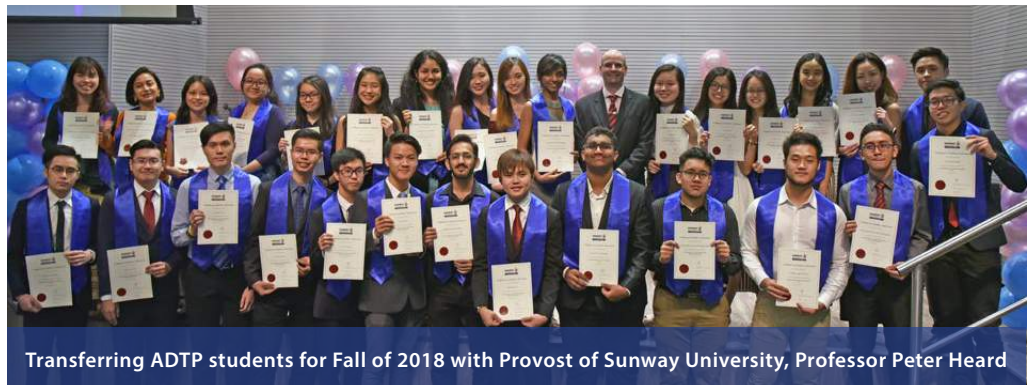
**LIEW SHAN KHAI**



Liew Shan Khai, recipient of the Haenicke Scholarship from WMU, receives USD\$16,000 per annum from this merit-based scholarship. Shan Khai intends to continue pursuing a degree majoring in chemical engineering whilst at WMU. Deciding to pursue the ADTP at Sunway University, Shan Khai believes the programme has closer ties with universities in the USA and can provide a cost effective and faster route to obtaining a degree along with more scholarship options for students like him. **B**

"ADTP students are informed of scholarship opportunities through the University Life class, Sunway advisors and visiting university representatives. They are motivated to do their best to give the students better and more opportunities in securing scholarships and helping them achieve their goals."

DR SIM TZE YING  
HEAD OF CAE



Transferring ADTP students for Fall of 2018 with Provost of Sunway University, Professor Peter Heard





Dr Elizabeth Lee, Aryudin Proehoeman, Tan Ying Ying, Tan Mei Yan and Rachel Wong, David Chong

**S**unway University has achieved yet another milestone as the 2nd Runner-up for HSBC Business Case Competition 2018. The competition is an annual event sponsored by HSBC and is designed to provide a platform for undergraduates to apply their practical business knowledge and skills to real-life business scenarios. 23 public and private universities participated in the competition.

Our preparations started in early March 2018 and the first stage of the competition was scheduled for 12th April 2018, i.e. approximately five weeks to prepare, learn, practise and excel in conducting a real-world business case studies. Each university is allowed one team of four students. Despite the short time frame, we managed to put together a formidable Sunway University team with commendable skills in communications vis-à-vis presentations, teamwork, strong cognitive capabilities and speed reading.

However, it was realised that during the case presentation exercises and trial runs, the team needed to enhance their understanding and applications of business strategy in the real

# HSBC BUSINESS CASE COMPETITION

by *David Chong*

world. A crash course in business strategy (strategic analysis and implementation) was undertaken. At this juncture, the team was very determined to learn just about everything in the business domain and conducted four to six case studies every week!

Taking into consideration the concurrent lectures, tutorials and course-work the students have to attend to, it was really a stressful period for the team members. It was at these exasperating moments that the team was more than eager to win and the never give up attitude culminated in the steeped learning curve on all the main business issues such as Finance, Risk Mitigation, Corporate Finance, HRM, Management, Marketing Strategies, Operations Management, Supply Chain, Macro-Economics, CSR, E-commerce, Business Strategies. Beyond that we also partake in building confidence for case presentation.

In the following month, the team constantly evolve with strong synergies among themselves conquering each win at a time and emerged as the 2nd Runner-up.



"We arrived at Hotel Istana during the Final Round and we all went silent, preparing our minds, in our own way. Mei Yan and I had our earphones plugged in listening to music to calm the storm before we entered the trenches. Rachel and Ying Ying, read notes in silence trying to squeeze in the few bits of extra knowledge, going over, again and again the best way to present everything they have learnt... We came in third, in that competition. All of us felt disheartened, for a while, then a renewed confidence emerged, when we saw how much of a treasure the skills were." - Aryudin Proehoeman

"The secret here, I would say, is finding the right people. We helped each other learn by exchanging feedback with one another, and constantly looking for areas of improvement. We spent so much time together, that we were comfortable with any constructive criticism. We wanted to win. And as a result of this, we became better versions of ourselves." - Tan Ying Ying



"Suffice to say that these three weeks have been exceedingly fulfilling and I'm grateful to have supportive teammates. I learnt how to analyse in depth and solve problems. Furthermore, I learnt how to overcome my fear of speaking in public." - Rachel Wong



"It was challenging, enlightening and rewarding. The entire journey was filled with equipping myself with relevant knowledge and skills for the competition. What I have gained from this competition did not ebb after the competition ended, instead it was carried forward and applied in real life. There were some regrets here and there, but still, the whole journey was enjoyable and memorable." - Tan Mei Yan





Professor Ho Chee Kit (2nd row, 2nd from left) and Tan Sri Dr Jeffrey Cheah AO (front row, left) with speakers, participants and guests at the Conference.

# 4TH ISM INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CONFERENCE

In collaboration with Institut Statistik Malaysia (ISM), Sunway University School of Mathematical Sciences is proud to play host to the 4th ISM International Statistical Conference (ISM-IV) over a 2-day period from 1 August 2018. There were 50 presenters at this international forum and ISM-IV acted as a platform for both academics and professionals from various industries to gain a better grasp of the role statistics has to play in advancing science and innovation.

Packed with useful information on applied, computational and circular statistics, mathematical modelling plus applications of statistics to the insurance industry and the use of statistics in monitoring sustainable development, this two-day conference had three keynote sessions and six parallel sessions chaired and conducted by researchers and academia from Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, India, Iran, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and the US.

“There is no denying that mathematicians and statisticians play an important role to help unlock the governing patterns and behaviour of the continuous supply of data and information captured throughout the entire history of our existence and in the process helped us realise that there is so much we actually do not know,” said Professor Ho Chee Kit, Chairman of ISM-IV and Dean, School of Mathematical Sciences at Sunway University. He thanked ISM, Bank Negara Malaysia and all sponsors for their support in bringing the conference to fruition.

Among the keynote speakers at the ISM-IV on August 1 were Emeritus Professor of Statistics at Macquarie University, Professor Dr Don McNeil who spoke on ‘Can

Remote Sensing Data Analysis Open Machine Learning Black Boxes?’ and Honorary Professor at the Institute of Mathematical Sciences, University of Malaya, Professor Dr Ong Seng Huat who shared about ‘Mixture Modelling: Some Recent Developments’.

With a special focus dedicated to sustainable development on August 2, the ISM-IV shared the latest updates on the development and use of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicators in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. With four featured presentations on Statistics for Sustainable Development, this was then followed by a keynote from Tan Sri Dr Jeffrey Cheah AO, Founding Trustee, Jeffrey Cheah Foundation and Chancellor of Sunway University.

Through the establishment of Sunway’s fully integrated green and smart townships throughout Malaysia, the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation (the largest education focused social enterprise), the Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asia (the first public policy think tank in a private university) and the setting up of the Jeffrey Sachs Center on Sustainable Development in 2016 to curate on the world’s best curriculum, academic and executive programmes on sustainable development, Tan Sri Dr Jeffrey Cheah AO continues to champion sustainability at the corporate, social and individual levels.

In his speech at ISM-IV, he hopes the knowledge gathered from the ISM-IV will enable the participants to help further drive the development of the 2030 Sustainable Development agenda and help advance Malaysia’s transformation. **B**



# DESSERT SHOWCASE



**S**econd year students of the BSc (Hons) in Culinary Management under the School of Hospitality at Sunway University presented a 'Desserts Showcase' as part of their Advanced Pastry final project. 15 students were separated into four teams and were given 14 weeks to plan, test and, present their sweet treats. They were judged based on five criteria; concept, sculpture, product, colours and flavour.

Some of the notable treats were Berry Christmas, slices of vanilla Bavarian cream with raspberry mousse, ladies finger and almond crunchy with a mirror glaze finish; Strawberry Choux Pastry, filled with layers of zesty fruit confit, crispy almond croquette, pistachio buttercream and fluffy rosewater pastry cream; Jolly Tart, tart with orange triple sec filling, mango coulis and mint gel, almonds and alcohol; and Peppermint Ganache Truffle, a dark chocolate truffle with peppermint filling.

"We had to find our own recipes, try them out and design original pieces for the showcase," said Soon Si Yin. Pang Jun Yong shared that "it was a learning experience in mass production where ingredients were prepared in advance and then customised." Chong Pei Qi said that her team brainstormed and changed their ideas a few times, taking up to 20 hours to finalise their idea for the main sculpture. It took them one week to construct the actual dessert sculpture whereas Bryan Chung Bi Ming and his team took three days to construct their chocolate sculpture.

According to Patrick Siau, Head Chef and Teaching Fellow for the School of Hospitality, this project enables students first-hand experience on product conceptualisation to marketing the product. Students get the opportunity to create their ideas while exploring business opportunities within a guided platform.



Karen Lui (centre) with the organising committee

# DINNER FOR A GOOD CAUSE

**T**he Royal Masquerade Night was a charity dinner hosted by first-year students of the BSc (Hons) International Hospitality Management. All proceeds from the dinner were donated to World Vision towards the 30-Hour Famine Fund. The dinner was part of the Intermediate Restaurant Operations subject with the objective to increase awareness on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal Number 2 'Zero Hunger'. World Vision was chosen by the students to be the beneficiary as it is an international non-profit organisation focusing on eradicating poverty and injustice.

The skeletal team of 17 students, took 10 weeks to plan and execute the dinner while juggling several roles except playing chef. A four-course meal featuring European cuisine was prepared by Patrick Siau, Head Chef and Teaching Fellow for the School of Hospitality and his team of chefs.

"This small team of students are made up of Japanese, Kazakhstani, Mauritian, Bhutanese, Indonesian, Vietnamese and Malaysians. Trust, respect and excellent communication were essential components of this team. They demonstrated great leadership, teamwork and social skills. A successful event doesn't happen all by itself. It needs planning, dedication and a joint effort to achieve something worthwhile", said Karen Lui, Teaching Fellow at the School of Hospitality and teacher advisor to the students.

Adeline Wok Li Anne, Corporate Engagement Senior Executive together with Adrian Teh, Events Executive at World Vision were in attendance. Adeline thanked the organising committee for having chosen World Vision as the beneficiary and expressed that she was encouraged and grateful to the students for having chosen to raise funds for a good cause. She also said the students were doing a great job in their efforts to raise awareness on famine. **B**

# STEVEN KUA: MORE THAN PLAYING CHEF

*Steven Kua graduated with a Diploma in Culinary Arts and BSc (Hons) in Culinary Management in 2016. He shares with us how he chose his career from wanting to be a chef to designing kitchen for chefs*

## PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

I was born in a family that owns and runs a traditional Chinese cuisine restaurant. At the age of 13, as a little chef in my family restaurant, I always dreamt of making a breakthrough. When I was pursuing my Diploma in Culinary Arts, I've always challenged myself to think of methods to incorporate international cuisine with local cuisine and recreate dishes that are unique and able to make them into a new fusion. However, after pursuing my degree, I realised that there is so much more that I can achieve and explore. Culinary is not just about cooking as a chef. There is a lot more to it that can be done besides becoming a chef. From my experience and knowledge gained from my course, I believe it is essential for a chef to have a functional kitchen space to work in. So why not consult and create the ideal space with the right equipment to meet every chef's needs instead? That is how I chose to start my career in a foodservice equipment company.

## WHAT DO YOU DO DURING YOUR FREE TIME?

During my free time, I always reflect on what I have achieved up until today. It is important to constantly reflect on my actions in order to learn from my mistakes and improvise to progress forward in life. I always have the passion towards food and cooking grew in me ever since I was little. Having started at a young age in a food service industry, I could never forget the satisfaction I felt being able to cook and serve dishes that could put smiles on my customers' face. The feeling of satisfaction is just indescribable and seeing them as satisfied as I am, indulging in the food I've prepared, encourages and motivates me to continue cooking for them. Thus, during my free time, I always look forward to ways and plans to venture into the culinary world to continue spreading happiness through food.

## ANY FOND MEMORIES DURING YOUR JOURNEY AS A STUDENT?

I am a morning person, so I always enjoyed waking up early in the morning to attend lectures at Sunway University. Starting early makes my day very productive, it helps me to think of more ideas and achieve more as the saying goes "the early bird catches the worm". And unlike other students from other courses, during our leisure time, we had to go to the kitchen to prepare the ingredients for our evening practical class. This trained me to be more disciplined and focussed on my studies. I do believe great success requires greater sacrifices. Although my schedule was busy, I did not mind it at all as I was keen to learn and be able to perform at my best which is also an added advantage for my future. There were many things that I had to learn including implementation of various culinary applications which require skills and technique. Cooking is an art and all art requires skills and techniques. Overall, having great course mates and supportive lecturers brought this whole learning experience for me at Sunway University to a whole new level. It was a really great and awe-inspiring adventure.

## HOW AND IN WHAT WAY HAS YOUR JOURNEY AT SUNWAY IMPACTED YOUR LIFE AND FUTURE?

Sunway University definitely gave me a different perspective of the culinary industry. Before I enrolled for the culinary course, I had the perception that culinary is only about cooking and a place where chefs are born. However, while pursuing the programme, I learnt that there is more that this field has to offer. For instance, you can venture into food research and development or be a restaurant operation advisor, training chef or kitchen consultant (just like me!). There are so many options out



there that can be explored. There is more than meets the eye. In terms of life, Sunway University shaped me to become a better person. It shaped my mind to live life without boundaries. I learnt to become a resourceful, innovative, responsible and an independent person. All in all, I gained a new perspective on my life with a clearer vision and direction to reach my ultimate goal in the culinary world.

#### **IF YOU HAD TO PICK ONE MOMENT THAT WAS THE TRUE START OF YOUR SUNWAY JOURNEY, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**

That moment would be when I had my first competition at Sunway University called New Zealand Kiwi. I am thankful for the opportunity I was given to compete and represent Sunway University. I had to undergo much training for self-improvement and think of ways to elevate my dish to outshine others during the competition. Although it was a stressful period, I was glad to have my mentor, Chef Patrick who was always approachable and supportive of me. I am proud of myself that I had managed to pull through the competition to cook under all the spotlights and pressure. It was definitely a true start of my Sunway journey and a great learning experience which has brought me to where I am today.

#### **TELL US ABOUT YOUR CAREER**

Before joining Crafs, I worked at Pullman Kuala Lumpur Bangsar, Dorinku, Serendipity Events, Sunway Resort Hotel & Spa, Four Point Puchong, mainly as a banquet chef, handling events, managing accounts payable and receivable. When I joined Crafs in 2016, I was assigned to be responsible for numerous reputable and huge projects for Genting Production Kitchen, St. Regis Hotel, Sunway Pyramid Convention Centre, SPICE Convention Centre and currently W Hotel KL and Four Seasons Hotel KL. I've learnt and gained various skills and experience such as kitchen setup, design, understanding the function of equipments, installation and manufacturing which are essential to meet the standard requirements.

#### **WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR ACHIEVEMENT AT WORK?**

I was promoted twice within a year as I had managed to complete projects for the clients in time with satisfactory results.

#### **WHAT HAVE BEEN THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES IN YOUR CAREER?**

I would say the biggest challenge for me is in understanding mechanical and electrical (M&E), architectural drawings and managing job coordination on site.

#### **WHAT SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE DO YOU THINK YOUNG PEOPLE NOWADAYS SHOULD DEVELOP?**

They should learn to accept things that are out of their comfort zone and be willing to learn the hard way in order to excel in life. They should also try their best at tasks assigned to them instead of complaining.

#### **WHAT MESSAGE DO YOU HAVE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF SUNWAYIANS?**

You have made the right choice to further your studies. So, do yourself a favour, learn and absorb as much knowledge and experience from your mentors. Also, do utilise the facilities at the university to the max. The library at Sunway University has loads of books on cooking and kitchen management that are difficult to purchase outside. Take this opportunity to indulge into all that Sunway has to offer.

#### **FAVORITE QUOTE OR LIFE MOTTO:**

"Great success requires greater sacrifices"







# NG YEN LING

## BSC (HONS) BUSINESS MANAGEMENT LENO MARKETING

Sunway University Business School paved the path to my career with the wide array of subjects offered in the course. It allowed me to understand the working world with subjects like Marketing Strategies, Product Development, and Business Ethics. The lecturers have industry experience and we were taught from the beginning to gain experience in different fields to understand the business world with a 360° view.

My working life stemmed as early as being a helper at my mother's hawker stall to being a part-time employee at AEON Stores. With the experience, I was able to meet people from all walks of life and it has helped me to appreciate and to be able to cater to the different needs of the customers.

Today, I am grateful to be working at LENO Marketing. They are a "family store" which provides a range of products to meet to the needs of a family. My responsibilities are to support and coordinate with the sales department and franchisee and prepare them for events and meetings. I started as an intern and it is my first proper full-time job which sets my vision to understand the reality of the working world.

The best part of my work at LENO is the team I work with. They are generous in knowledge sharing and constantly motivates me to do better. My happiest moment at work is when I am able to satisfy the customers' needs and being praised by my manager. The fact that I am able to complete the task, overcome the challenges and meet the requirements expected really satisfies me. Especially when my superior recognises my performance, it feels like the biggest achievement for me at work.

My advice to young graduates is to be prepared to work in a fast-paced environment. You must be able to handle stress, meet deadlines, accept criticism, adaptable to different environments and having the ability to communicate well with people is an added advantage. Although paper qualifications are important, do go out and grab as many job opportunities as possible because most companies look for candidates with work experience.

"You must be able to handle stress, tight deadlines, accept criticism, adaptable in different environments and having the ability to communicate well with people is an added advantage. Although paper qualifications are important, go out and grab as many job opportunities as possible because most companies look for candidates with work experience."



# LOW CHIA MEI

**BSC (HONS) PSYCHOLOGY  
ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE AND SPECIAL  
EDUCATIONAL NEEDS (EAL/SEN) TEACHER, TENBY  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**

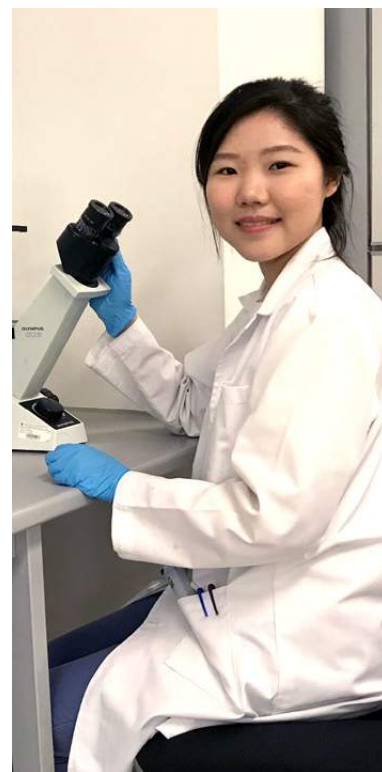
I started my bachelor's degree in Psychology in March 2013 after completing one year of Sunway Foundation in Arts. At that time, I just knew that whatever I wanted to do in the future would be related to psychology. Psychology is truly a fascinating field and is involved in many industries, from medical to business, and anything related to cognitive processes and behaviour. In 2015, I had the amazing opportunity to undergo a six-month internship as an assistant language teacher (ALT) in Japan! I did my internship at Ikubunkan Global High School, and even had a chance to join the students for their summer camp, which was amazing! This was one of the most amazing experiences in my life, which I would never have had the chance to undergo if not for the University. Currently, I am an English as an Additional Language and Special Educational Needs (EAL/SEN) teacher at Tenby International School. I thank my lucky stars that my degree steered me into this career, which truly rewards me with much satisfaction and pride. In the future, I hope to, one day realise my dream of becoming a therapist. Mental health is something that is often taken for granted these days, especially for children. I wish to explore creative and colourful ways to help others lead a happier lifestyle, such as through play, art and pets.



# SU KAR YAN

**BSC (HONS) MEDICAL BIOTECHNOLOGY  
RESEARCH ASSISTANT  
MONASH UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA**

I have always wanted to pursue a career in biological sciences. BSc (Hons) Medical Biotechnology has allowed me to build a solid foundation and has led me to the career I wanted. The facilities and equipment available at Sunway University have made my learning experience very fulfilling. Acquiring the laboratory skills and understanding how scientific research works were not easy but this programme has broadened my knowledge in the field of medical biotechnology. For example, I got to learn about scientific advancement and how we can utilise these technologies to improve the quality of human health. My favourite subject was Medical Microbiology and Human Molecular Genetics. Microbiology lab practical classes taught by Dr. Jactty Chew was always enriching. I've also realised that many things might not work out according to plan just like how the experiments do not always give the expected results. I also had the opportunity to intern at the National Cancer Institute Malaysia where I was involved in their research projects and contributed to the research presented at the Asian Breast Cancer Consortium meeting in the Global Breast Cancer Conference 2017. My advice to future students for this programme is to work hard but do not forget to enjoy your time at the university. Passion is indispensable for one to be always motivated at work. So find out what interests you and you will be able to do great work with it!



# The Master in Sustainable Development Management

JPT/BPP(U) (N/345/7/1075/PA9793) 04/23

The world is in desperate need of pioneers who have the knowledge and skills to transform business as usual and lead us on a more sustainable path. At Sunway University, the Jeffrey Sachs Center on Sustainable Development was set up to tackle the sustainability agenda through education, training, research and policy advisory. As the Southeast Asian base for the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, the Center is a hub of research and policy practice, delivering world-class programs to train students, practitioners and policy leaders on sustainable initiatives while working in collaboration with industry, agencies, government bodies and universities worldwide.

In its aim to equip passionate, ambitious people from multidisciplinary backgrounds and who are concerned about the environment, the Center now offers the Master in Sustainable Development Management to empower individuals and organisations to develop innovative solutions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in actionable ways in their specific sectors or areas of work.

The 18-month Master in Sustainable Development Management will expose students to the scientific, technological, economic, and business understandings of the challenges to sustainable development, as well as provide them with in-depth knowledge of specific subject areas, such as climate change, urban sustainability, energy, water, infrastructure, biodiversity, land-use, waste management and corporate responsibility.

Designed for both working professionals and recent graduates, the programme will be delivered through classroom sessions; virtual tutorials and e-modules; research projects; and individual and group assignments.

For their research project, students are encouraged to do a research project on topics that address current and pressing sustainability challenges.