



# MILESTONES & MOMENTUM

## 2024-2025 PROGRESS EDITION

# STRATEGIC REFLECTION

The School of Education has grown in leaps and bounds since our last issue, marking new achievements and expanding our horizons. From welcoming more expert academicians to strengthening our leadership and support teams, each step brings us closer to our mission of shaping the future of education. In this edition you will discover inspiring stories from our students, practical teaching hacks from our lecturers, updates on our growing community and a preview of the initiatives on the horizon. We invite you to explore the pages ahead and celebrate how far we have come, as well as the bright path that lies before us.

### What's Buzzin'?

A Team in Growth, A Mission in Motion

2024 Highlights | Building The Foundations

2025 Progress | Growth in Motion

- Conference, Keynotes & Thought Leadership
- Academic Events & Learning Series
- Partnership & Collaborations
- Student Engagement

Community Engagement & Media

- LearnForward Forum 2025: Driving Equity, Sustainability & Innovation in Education
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- Bite-sized Teaching Hacks
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Celebrating SOE's second batch of Graduates

Community Voices | Share Your Story

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*Message from the Dean*

As we release this third issue of Beyond the Classroom, I am struck by how much the School of Education has accomplished in just twelve months. Last year we launched new programmes, celebrated our first PCHEP graduates and forged partnerships that expanded our reach. This year our team has grown, our students have engaged in research, and our faculty have shared insights at international forums. Alongside these milestones, Sunway University climbed dramatically in global rankings, a testament to our collective commitment to excellence and sustainability. Looking ahead we will deepen collaborations, roll out our Masterclass Series and LearnForward Forum sessions, and welcome a new cohort into our M.Ed (ODL) programme. There is much to celebrate and even more to anticipate. I invite you to read on, reflect on our progress and join us as we continue to shape the future of education.

**Ready to be Inspired?**

*Malissa*

Assoc. Prof. Dr Malissa Maria Mahmud  
Dean, School of Education

Missed the **first ever** School of Education: **Beyond the Classroom** newsletter?

Click [here](#) or scan:



**A Team in Growth, A Mission in Motion**

The School of Education is now stronger than ever. Our team has expanded with expert academicians across diverse fields, supported by Deputy Deans leading key portfolios and a committed administrative team working seamlessly behind the scenes. Together we are united in our mission to take the School to greater heights – delivering quality education, driving innovation and shaping the future of teaching and learning. Below are the people powering this momentum.

**Deputy Deans**



**Prof. Subhan Zein**  
(Research & Sustainability)



**Assoc. Prof. Dr Astri Yulia**  
(Education)



**Assoc. Prof. Dr Majid Ghasemy**  
(Internationalisation)



**Assoc. Prof. Dr Hassan Abuhassna**  
(Employability & Alumni)

**Academics**



**Assoc. Prof. Dr Fadzilah Abd Rahman**



**Dr Ditto Prihadi Kusanto**



**Dr Conie Toh**



**Agnes Albert Mansau**

**Administrators**



**Jennifer Choo**



**Siti Nai'emah**



**Nurulnabilah**



Category	Event Details
<p><b>Programme Launches</b></p>	<p>We introduced online, conventional and research pathways, celebrated our first PCHEP graduating cohort and welcomed the inaugural Master of Education (Open and Distance Learning) orientation in September 2024.</p>
<p><b>Partnerships Initiated</b></p>	<p>Dialogue began with Teach For Malaysia, Universitas Putra Indonesia and Yamaguchi University to explore collaboration opportunities.</p>
<p><b>Public Engagement &amp; Media</b></p>	<p>The School launched SOE Week, garnering strong interest online and appearing in national media. Features in The Edge and The Star addressed educational gaps and critical thinking skills, while faculty joined Astro Awani’s “Consider This”.</p>
<p><b>Thought Leadership &amp; Speaking</b></p>	<p>Our academics shared insights at the Prophetic Values seminar and at the Anthology Symposium on artificial intelligence in education in partnership with the US Embassy.</p>
<p><b>Events &amp; Community Engagement</b></p>	<p>We facilitated teacher engagements with JPN, PPD and KT6, hosted SIS Mini Open Day, organised Sunway Open Days and Postgraduate Open Days and ran mini open days at Sunway International School.</p>
<p><b>Research &amp; Recognition</b></p>	<p>The Future Cities Research Institute–Lancaster project was featured at UNESCO’s Shanghai event, and the School received the Best Administrative Innovation Award and a Silver Award at the International Innovative Competition.</p>
<p><b>Conferences &amp; Committees</b></p>	<p>Our staff contributed to international fora such as the THE Asia Summit, AppliedHE Xchange and The Next Big Quest.</p>



## Conference, Keynotes & Thought Leadership

The first half of 2025 saw our academics share bold ideas at regional and international gatherings. Dean Malissa delivered a keynote at **Future Edu 2025** in Bali, calling for values-driven leadership and inclusive, technology-enabled learning. Our faculty presented at the **International Conference on Information Technology and Education Technology (ITET 2025)** and other forums, exploring artificial intelligence, ethics and sustainable pedagogy. Through these contributions, Sunway University continues to shape conversations about the future of education.

## Academic Events & Learning Series

To build internal capacity, we organised a series of hands-on workshops. **A Practical Guide to Crafting a Winning Research Proposal** on 28 February 2025 introduced structured planning and funding strategies. On 9 April, we co-facilitated a workshop with Form 6 teachers on critical thinking and assessment, and on 29 April a seminar helped participants enhance their research profiles. Two May sessions -one on research methodologies and proposal writing (28 May) and another research foundations and artificial intelligence (30 May) - rounded out the series.

These events provided concrete tools and reflective spaces for students, academics and partner educators.



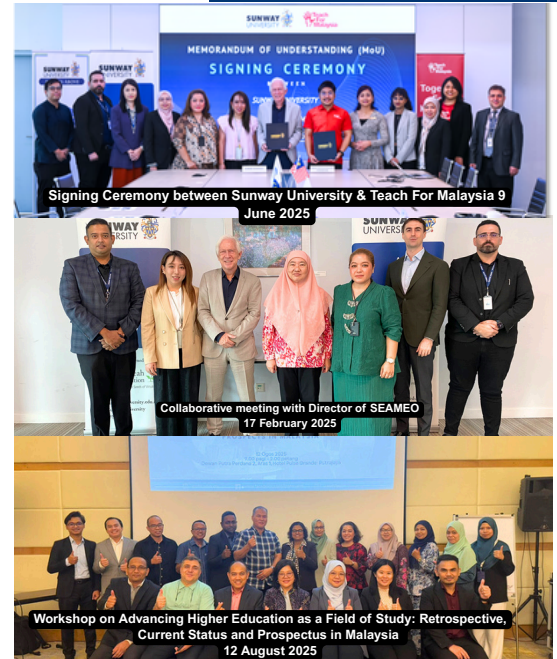
**MEET  
PRESTIGIOUS  
KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT  
FUTURE EDU 2025**

**DR. MALISSA  
MARIA MAHMUD**



### Partnership & Collaborations

On 9 June 2025 the School signed a Memorandum of Understanding with **Teach For Malaysia**, pledging to advance educational equity and teacher development. A meeting with the Director of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation (SEAMEO) on 17 February opened doors to joint regional initiatives, while ongoing dialogues with Universitas Putra Indonesia and the workshop on **Advancing Higher Education as a Field of Study: Retrospective, Current Status and Prospectus in Malaysia** on 12 August 2025 explore student exchanges and collaborative research. These partnerships create pathways for shared learning, community impact and global engagement.



### Student Engagement

Students remain at the heart of our mission. On 9 April, we collaborated with Form 6 teachers and Pre-University academics, giving our learners the chance to facilitate discussions and co-design engaging lessons. This experience not only strengthened their communication and leadership skills but also built stronger links between secondary and tertiary education. Later in the month, we hosted another engagement with Pre-U academics, reinforcing this bridge and opening space for shared dialogue on preparing students for higher studies.

On 26 May, master's students from **Universitas Negeri Gorontalo** joined special class where participants exchanged insights on their respective educational contexts. The session encouraged reflection on both local and global perspectives, widening horizons and building cross-cultural understanding.

The **Empowering Educators for Tomorrow** workshop on 26 July, which brought students and teachers together to explore innovative practices, leadership development, and the effective use of technology in classrooms. The workshop highlighted the value of collaborative learning, where students and educators learn alongside one another. Through these initiatives, the School continues to strengthen its learning community—encouraging students to take ownership of their professional growth .

## LearnForward Forum 2025: Driving Equity, Sustainability & Innovation in Education

To mark the mid-year point we launched the LearnForward Forum 2025 in June. The inaugural session, themed Driving Equity, Sustainability & Innovation in Education, brought together academics, student leaders and invited speakers to explore how education systems can close learning gaps, embed sustainability into teaching practices and embrace innovation to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving world.

Lively exchanges among panelists and participants highlighted the need for inclusive policies, collaborative action and creative solutions to ensure education remains relevant and accessible for all.

We invite you to stay connected with us through our social media platforms, where we will be sharing updates on upcoming LearnForward Forum sessions and how you can take part. Follow along to make sure you don't miss the chance to join future conversations shaping the future of education.



## School of Education launches *Masterclass Series* to empower education professionals



Responding to the fast-changing education landscape, the school is rolling out a **Masterclass Series**. Each session, led by distinguished experts, helps educators, academic leaders and aspiring scholars navigate contemporary challenges. Early episodes cover Curriculum Leadership Today (July 2025) and Is a Doctorate Right for Me? (August), with upcoming sessions on Educator–Scholar: Bridging Practice and Research and Designing Learning for the Digital Age.

Every topic offers practical strategies, fresh perspectives and opportunities for professional growth while creating a space for reflection, skill-building and networking.



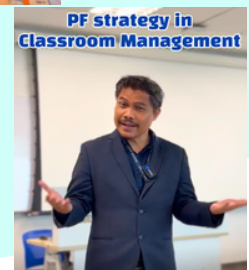
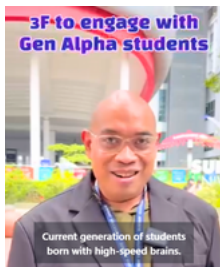
Know your purpose. It will carry you through your hard days.  
- Dr Conie Toh (2025, LearnForward Forum)

### Bite-Sized *Teaching Hacks* from Our Experts

Our passion goes beyond teaching – we are committed to inspiring and equipping the next generation of educators. Through our **Teaching Hacks** video series on social media, lecturers share quick tips on pedagogy and classroom management. Recent episodes have explored how to engage Generation Alpha students, make lessons more inclusive, revitalise classes with a three-minute creativity challenge, integrate AI with effective pedagogy, use the COPS strategy for students to self-edit their work, overcome afternoon slumps and apply positive-feedback strategies in classroom management.

Each concise video is easy to apply whether you are a new teacher or a seasoned educator seeking a fresh approach. We invite you to watch, gain new insights and be part of a community passionate about teaching.

If you're reading this online, click on the thumbnails to launch the videos on LinkedIn.

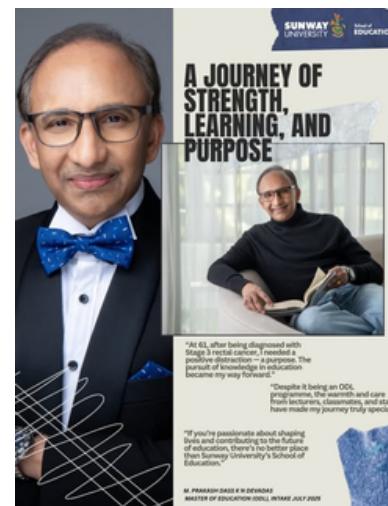


### Inspiring Journeys of *Lifelong Learning*

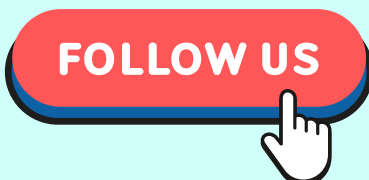


Students in our programmes are driven by a shared passion for learning and making a difference. Many return to study while balancing careers, families and community roles. Through our **Inspiring Journeys of Lifelong Learning** series we are sharing their stories – from a corporate trainer pursuing a master's degree to a parent returning to complete a doctorate.

Each profile highlights resilience, purpose and ambition, showing how lifelong learning transforms lives and communities.



Discover what motivates our learners and let their experiences spark your own aspirations. Their journeys remind us that education is not just about knowledge, but about growth, resilience, and purpose.



Follow us on **Facebook, LinkedIn & Instagram**: where inspiration, ideas, and events come to life!



# Celebrating SOE's second batch of Graduates

Your hard work, passion, and perseverance have shaped a brighter future in education!

## Community Voices: Share Your Story



We welcomed curated contributions from SOE faculty, alumni, students and partners in the area of Research, Teaching Innovations, students/alumni achievements and partnership impacts for our next newsletter. Kindly sent in your articles to [sitinaiemahn@sunway.edu.my](mailto:sitinaiemahn@sunway.edu.my) by **31 October 2025**.

## What's Next Q3-Q4: 2025 Preview

The remainder of the year promises further momentum. Upcoming LearnForward Forum sessions will delve into digital equity (July), inclusive assessment (September) and responsible artificial intelligence (October), providing practical insights from practitioners and policymakers. The Masterclass Series continues with topics on curriculum leadership (August) and educator–scholar practice (September), culminating in a session on designing learning for the digital age in November.

This September marks the inaugural intake of the Doctor of Education (Mixed Mode), and we are excited to welcome our very first cohort of students into the programme. Alongside this milestone, new intakes for the M.Ed (ODL) and M.Ed (Taught) programmes will also commence, continuing our commitment to nurturing postgraduate learners on their academic journey.

As the September intake will be the final one for 2025, it is also the best time to take advantage of the inaugural Bursary for the Master of Education (Conventional) and Doctor of Education, which is available until 31 December 2025. We encourage all prospective students to seize this opportunity and enrol this September. Beyond admissions, we look forward to welcoming our new cohort through orientation events, deepening regional collaborations via joint research, running exchange programmes with partner universities, and supporting teachers across Malaysia through outreach projects. Follow us on social media for updates—we look forward to your active participation!

**SUNWAY UNIVERSITY** School of Education

**DON'T MISS THE FINAL INTAKE FOR 2025**

**PROGRAMMED OFFERED:**

- MASTER OF EDUCATION (TAUGHT)
- MASTER OF EDUCATION (ONLINE)
- MASTER OF EDUCATION (RESEARCH)
- DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EDUCATION
- DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

**BURSARY / SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE FOR SELECTED PROGRAMMES**

**INTAKES**  
JANUARY, MARCH, MAY, JULY, SEPTEMBER

**MORE INFORMATION :**  
03 - 7491 8622 EXT 7425  
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SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, SUNWAY UNIVERSITY

**REGISTER NOW!**

**Contact Us!**  
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### Contact Us!

Interested in knowing more about our Programmes?



[enquiry\\_soe@sunway.edu.my](mailto:enquiry_soe@sunway.edu.my)



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