

info kampus



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Isu 41- Julai 2004

15hb Ogos 2004



Konvensyen KMK (m.s. 4)



inside !



Mesej Dr Abg Ridzuan

URDC Research Workshop 1

Konvensyen KMK

American Students at UiTM Sarawak

Our Website launching

HEA Retreat

Kesatria students scale G Kinabalu

Humour in the Classroom

infokampus2000@yahoo.com

MERDEKA! MERDEKA! MERDEKA!

Syukur Alhamdulillah negara kita Malaysia telah mencapai kemerdekaan ke-47 pada tahun ini. Universiti Teknologi MARA Sarawak telah merancang pelbagai aktiviti untuk Festival Kemerdekaan (FESKEM '04) dari 16 Julai 2004 hingga 16 Sept 2004. Di antara aktiviti FESKEM '04 ialah Forum Kemerdekaan, Syarahan Patrotik oleh pahlawan negara PW1(B) Kanang anak Langkau, Pertandingan Pidato Kemerdekaan IPT Kebangsaan dan lain-lain.



Mesej Timb. Pengarah Kampus Prof Madya Dr Abg Ridzuan Abg Awit

Salah satu daripada program yang menampilkan UiTM "universiti bertaraf dunia" ialah UiTM telah dipilih menyertai skim pertukaran mahasiswa antarabangsa. Pada 22 Julai 2004 hingga 9 Ogos 2004 yang lepas, kampus kita telah menerima kunjungan seramai 21 orang mahasiswa dari beberapa universiti di Amerika Syarikat. Mereka tinggal di kolej kediaman bersama pelajar-pelajar kita untuk mengenali dengan lebih dekat adat-resam, budaya dan permainan tradisional rakyat Malaysia. Mereka berkesempatan bersama kontinjen UiTM menyertai Perarakan Bandaraya yang berwarna-warni pada 7 Ogos 2004 sebelum mereka pulang ke tanah air sendiri. Mereka nampaknya amat gembira dengan layanan, keramahan dan kemesraan kita.

Kita telah melangkah ke arah globalisasi dan telah memasuki era dunia tanpa sempadan. Kalau mahasiswa Amerika boleh belajar di kampus kita, tidak mustahil kita juga boleh belajar di kampus mereka, malah di kampus-kampus universiti di merata dunia. Saya percaya mahasiswa UiTM pun tertunggu-tunggu peluang mengikuti skim pertukaran mahasiswa antarabangsa ini untuk mengeratkan lagi hubungan antara dua negara. Tidak kira di mana kita berada, kecemer-

langan mahasiswa di dalam pelbagai aspek akan menjurus ke arah masyarakat dan bangsa yang lebih gemilang. Harapan terhadap tanggungjawab dan peranan mahasiswa sebagai penyebar ilmu dan agen pembangunan masyarakat, mudah-mudahan akan menjadikan negara kita lebih terbilang.

Bersempena perayaan Hari Kebangsaan tahun 2004 ini, marilah kita sama-sama padukan niat, pertingkatkan keazaman, kesungguhan jiwa dan tenaga fizikal untuk berusaha lebih keras ke arah membangunkan universiti ini sebagai universiti yang paling baik dan menjadi pilihan utama para ilmuwan di rantau ini. Setiap orang daripada kita mempunyai peranan dan tanggungjawab masing-masing untuk merealisasikan wawasan bersama. Staf- sama ada daripada kumpulan akademik mahupun bukan akademik dan pelajar - sama ada pelajar diploma, sarjana muda atau sarjana, sepenuh masa mahupun pengajian jarak jauh, tentu sahaja merupakan antara tenaga penting yang mencorakkan kegemilangan UiTM ini.

Berbekalkan ilmu, keazaman, ketaqwaan dan yakin segalanya boleh, kita akan lebih memahami erti kemerdekaan.



The IK committee is deeply grateful to Tenning F. Seling for all her contributions to our campus newsletter. We wish her all the best. We are also happy to announce that Ng Kui Choo has graciously agreed to return to the committee as Ketua Panel Editor.





Research Workshop Programme 2004

Sandra Sim

The Unit of Research, Development and Commercialization (URDC, Cawangan Sarawak) is conducting a programme on Research Methodology which consists of a series of research methodology workshops. Thus far, two have been held (Part 1 - on 17 & 18 July 2004, and Part 2 - on 12 & 13 August 2004).

This series of workshops are managed by Prof. Madya Wee Chong Hui, Dr. Dayang Maryani Awang Hashim (Coordinator of URDC) and two committee members

(Miss Sandra Sim and Miss Angel Helen Puspam). Part 1 of the Research Workshop was conducted by Prof. Madya Dr. Jasmee Jaafar and Prof. Madya Ir Dr. Abdul Rahman Omar, who provided an overview of research and consultancy opportunities in UiTM. Through the guidance of the two facilitators, a few research proposals were initiated during the later part of the second day. Part 2 of the series was conducted by Prof. Madya Dr. Hajah Noraini Ismail who provided useful information on research design, data collection methods, sampling techniques and instrumentation. Dr. Noraini also gave constructive feedback to members of the various research groups to further refine their research proposals.

So far, the two workshops 2004 have been well received by participants even though they had to sacrifice their weekends and mid-semester break. Participants are looking forward to the forthcoming the third workshop on 'Data processing using SPSS' to be held on 4 & 5 Sept. 2004, and Part 4 on 'Report Writing' on 1 Dec. 2004. In addition, another workshop, on Qualitative Research will be conducted on 11 & 12 Sept. 2004; and one on 'Advanced Statistical Analysis' will be held on 2 Dec. 2004.

Majority of the participants had positive comments about the research workshops. Among their comments include:

"The workshops are very motivating.

They help me to understand more about research. I also get to know how to improve on my research proposal" (by Pn. Affidah Morni).

"The workshops are good. As I've never done research before, I get something useful out of the workshops. I've learnt about research design, the difference between quantitative and qualitative research, and sampling techniques" (Pn. Noraini Edris).

"Workshops of this nature should be continued. The learning process is enhanced through clear and precise explanation. It is a very interactive programme that provides answers to a lot of queries" (Pn. Anita Hasli).

We hope that URDC Cawangan Sarawak will receive continuous support from IRDC Shah Alam in our efforts to create an active research environment within the UiTM community as a whole.



"Do Not Go On A Wildgoose Chase....."

Mariana Md Som

Dr Paul Lau 's advice " Do not go on a wildgoose chase" was an apt introduction to the motivational session of the Mathematics Clinic. It was referring to the common mistakes students make when trying to find solutions to mathematical problems. Often they engage meaningless was without understanding the problem clearly. According to him weak performance in the subject is attributed to lack of

mathematical skills, metacognitive skills and problem-solving skills.

OM114 is alarmed at the continuous low percentage of achievement in the MAT112 course. We are striving to improve the quality of student learning and achievement in this course. On 24 July 2004 the Education Bureau of OM114 with the cooperation of lecturers from the Department of Quantitative Sciences held a Mathematics Clinic for students of MAT112 with the aim of helping students improve their mathematical problem solving skills.

Dr. Paul Lau and Mr. Hwa explained specific mathematical problem solving strategies essential which could be used for obtaining solutions to mathematical problems. They illustrated the steps involved the process - understanding the problem,

develop a plan, carrying out the plan and looking back.

Later the students were divided in groups and given the opportunity to practice the problem-solving method on some task-specific mathematical problems. Dr Paul Lau, Mr Hwa , PM Puan Rasidah and Mr Kelvin Goh made certain that the students really understood the central ideas.

Apparently the tremendous interest shown by the lecturers of the Quantitative Sciences during the Mathematics Clinic has inspired the students. Last semester OM114 achieved 90% passing rate in MAT112. Can we hope for a 100% passing rate this semester? Yes, if they view mathematics as a process, guided by the problem solving method and pay heed to the advice "Do not go on a wildgoose chase...."

Konvensyen KMK Peringkat UiTM Sarawak

*Dr. Mohamad Ali bin Talib, Penyelaras
KMK UiTM Sarawak 2004*

Pada tahun 2004, aktiviti berkaitan dengan KMK terus berjalan dengan beberapa perancangan baru telah dilakukan untuk menambahbaik aktiviti sedia ada. Antaranya untuk pertama kalinya pada 29 hingga 31 Mac 2003 yang lalu setiap kumpulan KMK telah menghantar wakilnya menghadiri bengkel yang dikendalikan oleh pihak NPC bagi memantapkan lagi pemahaman mereka kepada konsep dan kaedah-kaedah terbaru yang digunakan dalam KMK. Setiap penyelaras kumpulan-kumpulan KMK juga telah dibekalkan dengan salinan cakerapadat mengenai semua projek KMK yang dipersembahkan oleh agensi lain terma-

suk swasta di peringkat kebangsaan pada tahun 2003 sebagai bahan rujukan ke arah peningkatan tahap pencapaian KMK yang lebih tinggi.

Satu Konvensyen KMK Peringkat UiTM Sarawak telahpun diadakan pada 27 Julai 2004 dirasmikan oleh Prof Madya Dr Fatimah Bujang. Konvensyen kali ini telah menyaksikan sebanyak sebelas kumpulan KMK mewakili bahagian dan unit-unit dalaman di UiTM Sarawak. Ia menunjukkan peningkatan sebanyak dua kali ganda berbanding penyertaan tahun lalu.

Beberapa kumpulan baru juga telah ditubuhkan iaitu Unit Ladang (Kombinasi pensyarah DPIM dan kakitangan unit ladang), Bahagian Penyelenggaraan dan satu lagi kumpulan pensyarah. Konvensyen ini telah mencapai objektifnya iaitu untuk memberi peluang kepada semua kumpulan KMK UiTM Sarawak yang ada mempersembahkan projek masing-masing dan sekaligus dapat menilai projek rakan yang lain dan memperbaiki segala kelemahan yang ada. Ia juga bertujuan untuk memilih pemenang untuk mewakili UiTM Sarawak ke Konvensyen KMK peringkat

UiTM Tahun 2004 di samping mewujudkan kesedaran berkaitan aktiviti KMK di kalangan warga kampus UiTM Sarawak.

Konvensyen ini telah dihakimi oleh tiga orang penilai iaitu Tuan Haji Abdullah bin Kassim (Pengurus NPC Wilayah Sarawak), Lt. Kol Ismail Ariffin (Markas 1 Divisyen Infantry Malaysia) dan saudara Yusri bin Samawi (Pengerusi Audit Dalaman, Unit kualiti, UiTMCS). Ia juga turut dihadiri oleh beberapa ahli jawatankuasa KMK dari Pustaka Negeri Sarawak dan Pasukan KMK dari Angkatan Tentera Malaysia yang sama-sama ingin mempelajari pengendalian Konvensyen KMK oleh pihak urusetia KMK UiTM Sarawak.

Dua wakil telah dipilih untuk mewakili UiTM Sarawak dalam Konvensyen KMK Peringkat UiTM yang akan diadakan di Perak pada 03 hingga 05 September 2004. Mereka adalah Kumpulan QP dari Bah. HEP mewakili kategori pengurusan dan Kumpulan RODA Q dari Bah. Pentadbiran bagi kategori teknikal. Keputusan keseluruhan akan diumumkan pada Hari Kualiti UiTM Sarawak yang akan diadakan pada bulan Januari 2005.

Senarai kumpulan-kumpulan yang bertanding adalah seperti berikut :

Bil	Bahagian/ Unit	Nama Kumpulan	Kategori
1	Bahagian Hal Ehwal Pelajar	QP - Tajuk : Kesukaran Menyedia Laporan Kesihatan	Pengurusan
2	Bahagian Hal Ehwal Akademik	HEA - Tajuk :Perkhidmatan Kaunter Yang Kurang Memuaskan	Pengurusan
3	Bahagian Perpustakaan	KIT3P - Tajuk: Pengurusan Suratkhbar Tidak Memuaskan	Teknikal
4	Makmal/ IT	SMART - Tajuk : E-Borang Amali di Makmal	Pengurusan
5	Pengurusan Ladang	BELIAN - Tajuk: Masalah Serangga Haiwan Perosak Ke atas Buah Nangka	Teknikal
6	Pentadbiran	RODA Q - Tajuk : Talian Telefon Jenis C Boleh Dijadikan Jenis A Tanpa Melalui Jurutelefon	Teknikal
7	Pensyarah	DISCOVERY - Tajuk: Improvement of Lecturer Teaching Method	Pengurusan
8	Pensyarah	V8 - Tajuk: Penyelarasan Kerja Penyelenggaraan Lanskap UiTMCS	Pengurusan
9	Pensyarah	PERINTIS - Tajuk : Kelewatan Penghantaran Surat/Memo/Courier	Pengurusan
10	Bahagian Penyelenggaraan	ES (Evolving Saviour) - Tajuk: Ke Arah Pengurusan Lampu Jalan Yang Cekap	Pengurusan
11	Bahagian Kewangan	PESONA - Tajuk: Mengatasi Masalah Penandaan Harta Benda dan Inventori UITM	Pengurusan

Announcement: Program Pimpin dan Kepimpinan.

This program organised by students of MKT 310 (Public Relations)DBS 5 will be held on 4 and 5 September in our campus for part 1 and 2 DBS students and the current DBS Club committee. The purpose of the program is part of our efforts to train and develop leadership qualities among our DBS students. - AJK Publicity (Marilyn, Mary Grace and Faridah)

Accounting Program File

Mohd Shah Mahat

10 July: This was a special day for 20 DIA students and one B.Acc student. They received their Dean's List Award from YB Abdul Karim Hamzah at the Grand Continental, Kuching. Best students were Jerry Arickson Kuta (S1), Doren Fadli (S2), Siiryati Dewan@Abdul Rahman, (S3) and Monn Jucy (S4). Other recipients were: Sarimah Ahmad (ANC) Margerat Changat & Noraziah Jaimin (TS)

Rachel Pundun from B.Acc said " Believe that you can do all the impossible, be focused in everything you do, keep striving to do the BEST in everything no matter what it takes and never give up"

13 July: Students carried out a classroom cleaning activity under the supervision of Mr. Haja Muhaideen Mohamed Yoosuf the 5's Coordinator for the B.Acc and DIA. *Managing the environment is everyone's responsibility.*

15-16 July: Nine Accounting lecturers were involved as Management Representative and Internal Auditors in the recent 9001:2000 Compliance Audit for UiTM Sarawak.

14 July: Six Accounting lecturers attended a talk by Prof. Jim Graham from the University of Central London.

18 July- A film show 'Pontianak Harum' was organized by the B.Acc Student Association to raise fund for the association. A total of 350 students attended the show.

19 July: A career talk was organised for 150 DIA and B.Acc students at Dewan Kuliah 1 entitled 'Go for Global Recognized

Professional Qualifications After Your Diploma and Degree'. The speakers were a group of professional led by Assoc. Prof. Faridah Ahmad (UiTM), Miss Cindy (CPA-Australia), Alvin (ACCA-Kuching) and Dyg. Amy Zuliana (CIMA).

31st May: Twenty-four B Acc students completed their 6 months practical training which started on 1 December 2003. 14 of them were attached to public accounting firms while the remaining were in the various government agencies.



10 – May 2004: Ng Mendalam – gateway to Buda national Park



13 May 04: Crossing the Terikan River



13 May 04: Trekking at Foothills of Gunung Benarat

UiTM Sarawak Expedition

Part of the diary which PM Dr Margaret Chan kept of her Journey Across Buda - Mulu National Parks

" The thought of completing the trail got everyone pumped up with adrenalin. Sleeping in to catch up some sleep was not necessary. Didn't matter the rain. Some hired porters to carry their backpacks for this last stretch, a 9 km trek to reach Kuala Litut. The comparatively easier trail enabled us to admire with leisure that there were always something growing on something growing on something. Here, you could even play tricks with the leeches.

Just before Kuala Litut, we had to cross the river to reach the other side, which was a stone bank. This time there was no rope to hang on so we had to hold on to the experienced porters, who also helped to carry the backpack across. The current was very strong but luckily it was only hip-high. At the stone bank, we had wonderful lectures from Prof. Dr. Wan on geomorphology. For the biological science people, it was like old good university days on an ecological field trip. The social science people were the most inquisitive "students". Just before we reached Kuala Litut, we met some obliging penans on a hunting trip to have photographs with us and give short lessons on how to blow the blowpipes. Since, the water was a bit low at Kuala Litut, the longboats could only take our backpacks and the really wearied ones. The rest of us, without the backpacks, "floated" the last 800 meters, feeling very disoriented like walking on the moon. Reaching the deeper part of the river, we boarded the longboats and had a blissful, romantic ride down the river to Mulu National Park."

Search For The Meaning Of Life

Prabha Ramakrishnan

Ever since I turned fifty, my mind has been troubled by a lot of childhood questions. Beyond my childhood and into my adulthood, I often pushed back thoughts about seeking the meaning of life for I was more engrossed about the meaning of work. But now that I know the dreadful secrets and joyful mysteries of work, I guess the next logical step is to go back in time to the childhood question of "What is the meaning of Life?"

So, I discreetly asked a few friends what they thought of this original question. Some looked at me strangely and backed off; a few burst into laughter and ran away; and others were hit with selective deafness and changed the topic. One even posed a question as an answer: "What is the meaning of Euro 2004?". Though I was certain that the love for football could not be the basis of life on Earth, perhaps the inherent elements of fun, excitement and suspense could epitomize the meaning of life? I was still not sure. So, I turned to the greatest guru of all times: the humble silicon chip, the computer.

I fired up my PC and raced to the holiest site of all search engines: google.com. With reverence, I carefully typed into the dialogue box the words "the meaning of life" and gently massaged the search button. In a blinding blaze of 0.16 seconds, the web guru flashed before my eyes a list of 352,000 web destinations in answer to my search. I have selected a cream of websites that will thrill you into knowing the meaning of life in 60 minutes. The table below lists the goodies:

- <http://www.bellaonline.com/subjects/5465.asp>
- <http://www.mlife.org/>
- <http://www.dislam.org/links.html>
- <http://vmohan.com.my/gurulife.htm>
- <http://www.inspirationalgiftbooks.com/prophet.htm>
- <http://users.aristotle.net/~diogenes/meaning1.htm>
- <http://www.themeaningoflife.org/>
- <http://yudkowsky.net/tmol-faq/meaningoflife.html>
- <http://www.pearls.org/>

For those of you who already know the meaning of life, kick your day off at <http://www.euro2004.com>. Or if that's too wild, why not stop and smell the flowers at <http://www.digitalphotoartistry.com>.

"The ideals which have lighted my way, and time after time have given me new courage to face life cheerfully, have been Kindness, Beauty, and Truth..."

Albert Einstein (<http://members.aol.com/pforpeace/quote7.htm>)

Performance Appraisal: What is wrong with it ?

Nagarajah Lee

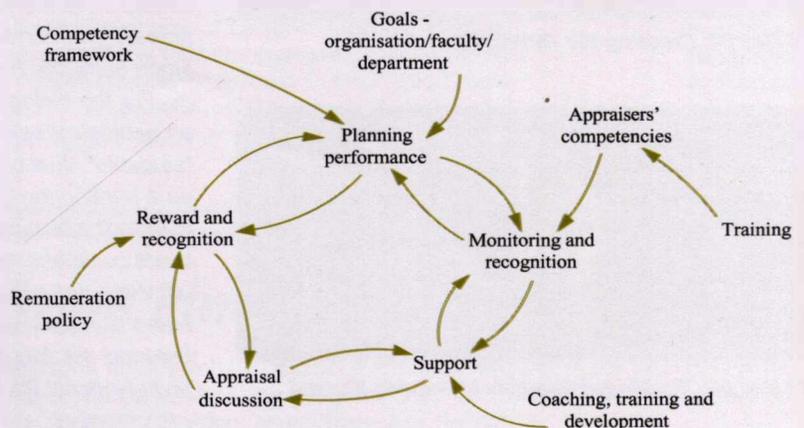
An organization will enjoy a sustained performance only if it creates a performance culture among its employees. This is only possible when the performance management system is tailored to the organization so that it will align itself to the organization's culture. A local perspective of the organization, such as the context in which it exists, needs to be integrated with the generic principles of performance management so that the effectiveness of its implementation is optimal.

In most performance management model the performance appraisal is the most visible component of the performance management process. Thus, many people perceived performance appraisal as the performance management system itself where in actual fact the annual performance appraisal is only one component of the performance management process. The misconception of equating performance management with performance appraisal has been the major factor which prevents the performance management system from being a tool for sustaining the success and competitiveness of the organization. Bob Havard (2001) stated that the performance appraisal system that functions as a stand-alone tool for managing the employees' performance will eventually degenerate if it is not connected to other performance management process.

How do we make our appraisal system systemic ?

No one can deny that managing the performance of the employees in an organisation is an important task. In an attempt to address the problems relating to performance, managers often isolate them from their complexity before attending to these problems. The reductionism approach in managing performance does not truly address the problem because it is not looking at the actual problem but its symptoms instead. For example, if we are interested in knowing whether the employees' performance depends on the reward system, our focus would be the relationship between the performance level and the remuneration. This is what the system thinkers term as analysing the events. In the system thinking, the focus is on understanding how these factors interact and the objective of the management is to find the leverage point, for example, between the optimal performance level and the existing conditions in the organisation.

The systems perspective offers a more holistic and integrated approach where the performance appraisal is well linked with other performance management aspects such as organization's goal, competency framework, performance planning etc. The systems way of assessing the employees performance is shown in the figure below.



ideas in education

Humour in the Classroom

Humour and laughter are areas that have not been closely studied. Their role in education and medicine has been briefly examined as far back as Wells (1974) to as recently as Provine (Dec. 2000) in, "The Science of Laughter", *Psychology Today*.

Loomax and Moosavi (1998) in an article on the use of humour in a university statistics class point out that anecdotal evidence in past studies consistently suggests that humour is an extremely effective tool in education. These same studies suggest that the use of humour in the classroom reduces tension, improves classroom climate, increases enjoyment, increases student-teacher rapport and even facilitates learning.

Regardless of what evidence there may be, we all have personal views on the value of humour, as depicted in the film "Patch Adams" and for years in *Reader's Digest*, "Laughter is the Best Medicine." Yet, there is little in literature that speaks of its pedagogical value and in particular in second language teaching and in second language teacher training.

According to Provine (2000) laughter is generally subdued during conversation. Speech will dominate and laughter serves as a phrase break creating a punctuation effect in language. Laughter therefore has a specific role in conversations and is not random. Therefore, as in authentic communi-

cation, humour in the classroom shouldn't be random. It shouldn't be used without preparation and a clear objective. It may be simple or complex in nature. It is your decision as to how, when and why you will use it.

One reason for using humour is that as a human trait it is a self-effacing behavior (Provine, 2000). It can allow the shy or timid student in your class to participate with the group. If it is used properly humour allows the student to feel a part of the class and possibly contribute without losing face, feeling exposed or vulnerable. This is of particular importance in a communicative classroom where the accent is on verbal authentic communication, participation and interaction. It's a way of reaching out to those students who are too afraid or nervous to attempt expressing themselves in their second language. Humour is as human and as authentic as the need to communicate. As with other facets of our lives it plays a major role in our every day social interaction. We should therefore not ignore it but instead make it part of our everyday classroom learning.

Laughter helps us forget about ourselves, our problems, our fears and allows us to lose ourselves momentarily. This momentary loss may be interpreted by some teachers as a loss of control, poor classroom management and therefore something to be avoided. However, humour as with

all activities in the communicative language classroom, must be well prepared and have a specific objective.

Interestingly enough, Provine (2000) also discovered that even though both sexes laugh a lot, females laugh more. It might explain why the females in our classes seem to enjoy more the humour used in the classroom. Although, as Provine points out, males appear to be the initiators of humour in any culture, beginning in early childhood.

As was stated earlier, Kristmanson (2000) stressed the importance of the affective environment in second language teaching. It can't be emphasized enough that students are more willing to participate and take risks in using their second language in a classroom that allows them to do so without fear of criticism and ridicule. It's important for the teacher to create a "positive atmosphere" for learning. Humour, by decreasing anxiety and stress can, contribute to this positive classroom, to class unity and learning.

"Indeed, the presumed health benefits of laughter may be coincidental consequences of its primary goal: bringing people together."

(part of an article by Paul-Emile Chiasson, Ph.D. downloaded from <http://www.caslt.org/research/humour.htm>)

"Reflection might sound like an obvious activity, but is actually a complex process involving association, synthesis and validation (Warner Weil and McGill, 1989, p. 248), and is the subject of considerable educational theory related to experiential learning. Effective and purposeful reflection is often deficient, weakening the quality of the learning experience (Boud et al., 1985). This theme has been developed, particularly in relation to professional education by Chris Argyris and Donald Schön, the latter of whom popularised the term 'reflective practitioner,' known to many in the built environment sector (Schön, 1983 and 1988). The LTSN Generic Centre has been carrying out research into reflective learning, linking it into PDPs (see Moon, 2001 for a helpful discussion of this)." (from an article entitled 'Development Planning in the Built Environment' by Marilyn Higgins- <http://ctiweb.cf.ac.uk/learning/pdp/docs/higgins.doc>)

Retreat Bahagian Hal Ehwal Akademik

Hjh Siti Rohmah

RETREAT Bahagian Hal Ehwal Akademik telah diadakan dari 9 hingga 11 Ogos 2004 di Hotel Holiday Inn Kuching. Semua staf sokongan Bahagian Hal Ehwal Akademik termasuk staf Makmal Kejuruteraan dan Makmal Sains serta Staf ILQaM dan EMBA/EMacc telah hadir pada sesi retreat yang telah dirasmikan oleh Pengarah Kampus. Retreat ini juga disertai oleh Timbalan Pengarah HEA.

Objektif utama retreat selama 3 hari itu ialah untuk melihat dan menyemak semula Piagam Pelanggan, Objektif dan Fungsi Bahagian Hal Ehwal Akademik serta mengemaskini Manual Prosedur Kerja (MPK) sedia ada

dan Fail Meja (FM) setiap individu staf mengikut Format ISO 9001:2000 selaras dengan tuntutan perkhidmatan serta penyusunan semula tugas mengikut kehendak semasa. Encik Mohamad Ehsan Amin, Ketua Unit Kualiti Pejabat Pendaftar, telah dijemput untuk menjadi fasilitator retreat kali ini.

Sebagai alat pengurusan, MPK dan FM perlu dikaji semula dari masa ke semasa mengikut tuntutan semasa dan perlu lebih 'mesra pelanggan'. Pengemaskinian ini untuk membolehkan semua staf HEA dapat melaksanakan tugas dengan lebih cekap, sempurna dan lebih berkesan bagi mengelakkan sebarang kelewatan dalam menyelesaikan sesuatu tugas.

Alhamdulillah, retreat selama 3 hari tersebut telah mencapai objektif yang diharapkan dan mudah-mudahan sesi sedemikian akan menjadi pemangkin serta motivasi kepada semua staf HEA bagi mempertingkatkan perkhidmatan terutama perkhidmatan kaunter yang lebih bersifat 'mesra pelajar'.

DIA Students Visit KOMAG (M) Sdn Bhd

Suryati Binti Dewan @ Abdul Rahman
BEL315-DIA44

On 20 July, Thirty one DIA students together with Pn Affidah and Pn Cindy made an educational visit to KOMAG. Upon arrival, we were gladly welcomed by the Human Resource Managers. We were instructed to put on the shoe cover to prevent contamination within the building. Once inside the building we were told to leave all our belongings especially cameras in the lobby area. Then, we were ushered to the canteen for refreshments.

Next, we were briefed on the background of the company, its production process of hard disks, number of staff, career opportunities, missions, future goals of the company, challenges and strategies of the company by the Human Resource Manager, Encik Sapi'ee Bin Hanapi.

We were later taken on a tour around the production rooms. It was interesting to note that all the rooms were classified according to the level of cleanliness for example

10K means the air filter is capable of absorbing 10,000 particles per cubic square feet of that room. All the workers are required to wear smock, special glasses, hand gloves, covers for mouth and head and special shoes to help to reduce chemical exposure and prevent contamination on the hard disks which are the main product of the company.

From this trip, we were able to see for ourselves the process of producing a product, management organization structure and the real scenario of business communication in KOMAG. This is really a priceless experience for all of us and the whole visit is relevant for our BEL 315 course.



The road to UiTM Sarawak Campus's Website launching

Mohd. Zamri B. Abdul Rahim
& Lee Beng Yong

UiTM Sarawak started developing its own website in 1998 with the help of PM Wan Akil Wan Abdullah. The responsibility was handed over to PM Ahmad Ismail in 2003. Currently it is being managed by En Mohd. Zamri B. Abdul Rahim

An ad hoc website development committee called Underground Spidey was formed with a group of lecturers and supporting staff headed by En Zamri and Pn Ziraizratul to design and develop the website structure for UiTM Sarawak. The committee is made up of two teams - technical and non-technical. The technical team is formed by lecturers from the department of Computer Sciences with supports from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering whereas the non-technical team consisted of lecturers from various department such as Accounting, Information Management, Engineering, and Language.

The committee held a retreat on 19 to 23 of April 2004 at Holiday Inn, Kuching and the computers labs in UiTM Sarawak.

The development of the website started during this retreat with designing a

standard layout for the entire website. Ideas from the discussion during the first 2 days of retreat were compiled and a standard layout together with the colour scheme was finalized.

After the design was completed, group members were assigned with the responsibility of collecting information from various departments to be posted on the website, taking pictures of the campus and creating computer animation to enhance the appearance of the web site.

The following is a list of activities carried out during the retreat.

Current status

Number of web pages: 586 hypertext documents

Number of animated graphics created: 100 + images

Number of photograph taken: 2,000+ photos

Don't miss it guys!

Rafidah Nawawi

Satu pra-graduan akan diadakan pada 22 September 2004 bertempat di Hotel Hilton. Majlis ini adalah julung kali dianjurkan oleh Bahagian Hal Ehwal Pelajar bersama pelajar MKT 310 yang diketuai oleh Saudara Danny dan dibantu seramai 35 ahli kumpulan yang menggelarkan diri mereka sebagai Seman'Qa Event Management.

Tujuan Malam Pra-Graduan diadakan adalah sebagai menghargai usaha dan penat lelah yang terpaksa di harungi pelajar tahun akhir sebelum menamatkan pengajian mereka di UiTMCS. Di samping itu, majlis ini juga menguji kebolehan pelajar untuk mengaplikasikan apa yang telah diajar di kelas MKT 310 yang diajar oleh pensyarah yang berwibawa En Jati Kasuma Ali.

Tema pada malam tersebut ialah "Executive Halls of Fame" di mana semua peserta yang menghadiri majlis tersebut mesti memperagakan pakaian "ala eksekutif" terbaik mereka kerana pada malam tersebut penganjur ada menyediakan hadiah untuk "King and Queen of the Night". Di samping itu, terdapat banyak lagi aktiviti menarik pada malam tersebut seperti cabutan tiket bertuah, persembahan dari peserta "It's Our Idol" dan Mara Kenyalang, "Slide Show" untuk pelajar terbaik UiTMCS sesi Jun'04-Okt'04 dan banyak lagi aktiviti yang penuh dengan kejutan.

Kepada semua pelajar tahun akhir anda semua dijemput hadir kerana ini adalah majlis sekali dalam seumur hidup anda. Bayaran yang dikenakan hanyalah RM 15 sahaja dan sememangnya rugi kalau tak datang. Cepat-cepatlah datang ke kaunter Seman'Qa Event Management bila ia dibuka kelak kerana tiket adalah terhad.



Celcom in-Play Futsal Fiesta 2004 Tournament

Congratulation to UiTM Sarawak Football Team led by their Captain Mohd Shafiq Abdullah for winning 2nd

place in the tournament. Sarawak Housing Corporation team beat UiTM team 2-0 in the final. The game was held at Padang Merdeka, Kuching on 10 and 11 July. UiTM Sarawak team walked away with cash price of RM2,000.00. Thanks to EE Hin Electronic for sponsoring us.

"Cabaran Kenyalang di Bawah Bayu"

Rafidah Nawawi



Bermula 7 Ogos 2004 sehingga 14 Ogos 2004 berlangsungnya satu aktiviti yang paling bersejarah di UiTM Sarawak, iaitu "Cabaran Kenyalang di Bawah Bayu" yang diadakan di Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Aktiviti ini telah diketuai oleh Saudara Ahmad Termizi Sapri dan disertai oleh 38 peserta dan 2 orang pegawai pengiring.

"Cabaran Kenyalang di Bawah Bayu" merupakan aktiviti yang paling mencabar yang pernah dianjurkan oleh Jawatankuasa Perwakilan Komander Kesatria (JPKK) UiTM Sarawak. Objektif utama program ini adalah untuk menaiki puncak tertinggi di Asia Tenggara, Gunung Kinabalu setinggi 4095.2 meter Di samping itu, aktiviti ini juga bertujuan untuk melatih para peserta untuk bekerjasama sebagai satu kumpulan. Semua peserta telah berjaya mencapai matlamat itu pada 12 Ogos.

Antara aktiviti lain yang telah dilangsungkan ialah lawatan ke Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), Muzium Sabah dan UiTM Sabah. Semua lawatan ini amat menarik terutama lawatan ke UMS di mana pemandangan sekitar adalah saujana mata memandang. Di samping itu persekitaran UiTM Sabah amatlah mempesonakan kerana kedudukan UiTM Sabah yang terletak di lereng bukit. Lawatan ke Muzium Sabah pula amat berinformasi kerana pelbagai artifak dan pameran berkenaan Sabah dipamerkan ketika kami mengadakan lawatan ke sana.

Adalah diharapkan aktiviti ini akan menjadi satu sumber inspirasi kepada persatuan lain untuk mengadakan aktiviti yang lebih mencabar lagi di masa hadapan.

Sekalung tahniah juga diucapkan kepada peserta kerana telah berjaya menaiki puncak Kinabalu.



Rehabilitation the OKU way: Learning to Live

Ng Kui Choo

"Tell your friends, your relatives, anyone you know who has a disability, about this center. We want to rehabilitate as many disabled people as possible so that they can become more independent and self-reliant."



Gabriel Teo, Assistant Principal of Pusat Pemulihan Samarahan, spoke with the deep-seated passion and determination of a man who believes in what he is doing – rehabilitating the OKUs (Orang Kurang Upaya). He

was briefing some 23 Pre-Commerce students during the first leg of their educational visit to the center. For practically all the the students, led by Puan Ng Kui Choo, this was their first encounter with the world of the under-privileged. "Try not to use the word "cacat" or handicapped," cautions Teo as he delves into the types of disabled people currently undergoing training at the center. He explains that the trainees follow courses like carpentry, hairdressing, dress-making, prosthetics-making and so on for two years. The students were taken on a tour of the center where they had the chance to watch the trainees at work. The large majority of them felt a lot of admiration for the trainees.

"They are very special people. We must respect them," said Julia Adan. Vanessa Kacha admitted that she had learnt a lot from them.

"They try very hard to improve themselves ... they have shown us that handicapped people can also be useful..." Norrisyamsiah, echoing the sentiments of many others, shared this: "The visit to the rehabilitation center was a most unforgettable experience and it was very useful to me. ...the people there are very special and creative." Many students also admitted that after the visit to the center, they learnt to be more appreciative of life.





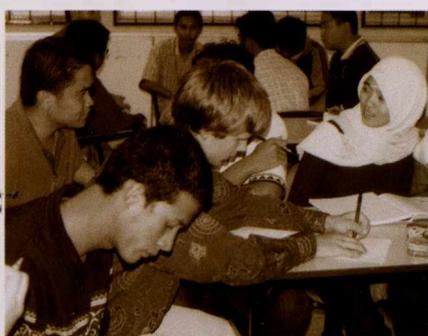
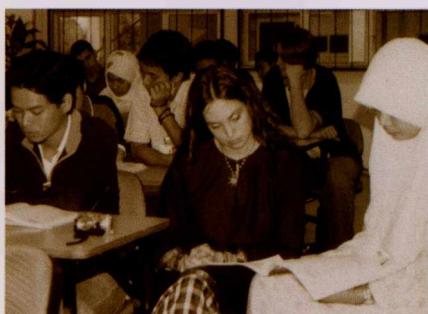
Students Exchange Programme

Cindy Wee

A group of 12 American students invaded my BEL 200 class and quickly took their seats. My students were quiet for once and did not know how to react. To make matters worse, the crew from NTV 7 zoomed into the class next. It did not take long to break the ice and everyone was let loose to interact and the atmosphere was transformed into real conversation in English!

The American students from the University of Missouri, University of Florida, University of Kansas, Vanguard University and University of Arizona were here for a short stint in the campus from 22 to 31 July 2004 for the first batch of students and from 1 - 7 August 2004 (second batch). They were here on the student exchange programme with aims to encourage exchange of culture, create friendship between Asia and America, encourage exchange in learning experiences and encourage tourism. Steven Mak, a student from the University of Kansas described his time in Malaysia as interesting and said, "I have learned some new words in Malay language and also about the customs. But what I find very astonishing and wonderful is how everyone in Malaysia is always nice, caring and helpful. The nature and surrounding areas are very beautiful and the wild life is just magnificent. The schools are filled with nice and smart students. I will recommend my friends to visit Malaysia and meet the wonderful people and their culture."

"I have found the mix of ethnicities and religion quite interesting. Eating with my hands was different at first, but I like it. I also enjoy eating the spicy food and other foods that I cannot get in the US. Learning the traditional dance has been difficult but very fun too. I am very pleased by the hospitality and warm hearts of those we have met here" says Jonathan Louie Rachele Conn, a widely traveled student commented, "I've really liked the fact that this campus has people of different backgrounds and everyone dresses modestly".



Anna Ho, American Chinese born in California who is planning to become a doctor speaks Mandarin and Cantonese also echoed Rachel's comments that students are very kind and friendly and the food is tasty. Andre Nagy from Missouri was certainly pleased to be here and said, "UiTM is the best university I have visited, and if I was able to study here I would love it". Terry Daffron, who is of American and Korean parentage, majored in graphic design, has published a book, likes to eat nasi lemak and had a great experience at UiTM.

The sports science students (D2R) enthusiastically made new friends instantly and were proud to share anything under the sun with the American students. They were glad to have the opportunity to get to know them and these were what they said about the whole experience:

"They are all students like us but they are very knowledgeable and proud of their country."

"My perception towards the Americans has changed, they are actually very nice people."

"I never knew they also eat rice and not live on potatoes daily".

It's good to have this student exchange programme so that we can learn more about each other and they are not as bad as we have seen or heard on the mass media."

"It's a great chance to meet people from other countries and I can practise my English naturally"

"I force myself to speak to them in English because that is the only language that we can communicate with each other".

Besides going to classes, the American students also visited places like the Sarawak Cultural village, pottery factory, Semenggok National Park, Gunung Gading National Park and Kem Pueh.

They also had the chance to learn the traditional dance and music; besides playing the traditional games like sepak takraw, congkak. They also demonstrated Frisbee to our students.

Cik Norazlin Abdullah, the programme coordinator certainly had her hands full during this time but was very positive about this programme and together with Encik Robert Adan of National Travel System Agency hope to continue with this programme and in future bring our students to America.

"After a hearty longhouse style breakfast, we knew the real challenge lied ahead of us. Everyone was so enthusiastic and got ready at the dock – no delay. We got into the long boats again to go up the Sg. Limbang River for almost an hour to Stargate – the gateway to Gunung Buda or the "Starbuck" of Prof. Dr. Wan. Wasn't he missing his coffee! Told to ensure no reduction or increase in the numbers of our team, the science group went first on to a four-wheel along an 8 km timber track to the Buda Camp, so that they could start their work. The rest of us volunteered to trek, hoping to be picked up as it returned for the second and third batch. With the hot sun on our back and the steep gradients of the track, we gave up after 3 hours' walk with so many stops and disappointed that only less than 2 km covered. Actually, it was the lure of the stream of the clear cool water.

The four-wheel returned after picking up Nazaruddin Hamit who arrived at Limbang in the morning, Lim and our packed lunch at Stargate. The rest of the journey to the camp on the four-wheel drive came with the majestic view of Gunung Buda and Gunung Benerat. We also caught a glimpse of the hornbills flying past." PM Dr Margaret Chan (UiTM Sarawak Expedition)

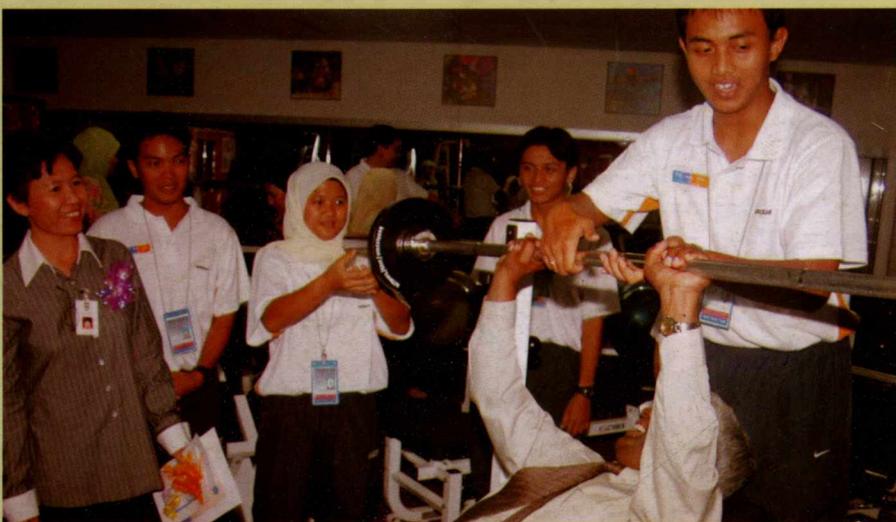
URDC Research W'shop Programme (p 3)



HEA Retreat (p 8)



Our Own Fitness Centre (next issue)



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" Berbekalkan ilmu, keazaman, ketaqwaan dan yakin segalanya boleh, kita akan lebih memahami erti kemerdekaan." Prof Madya Dr Abang Ridzuan