

UCSI WINGS

THE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF ODL PROGRAMMES

Contributor: Nur Fareena Eleesha



UCSI College teamed up with six prominent industry players to launch its Open and Distance Learning (ODL) programmes, aimed at providing students with greater flexibility and accessibility to quality education.

Signing an MoA with its new partners - HiveTec, Craft, Masdea, AsiaHRM, AMC Group and Biztrak, the ODL programmes offered to its diploma students encompass a wide range of disciplines, including information technology, computing, healthcare, business, human resources, finance and gaming.



MoA signing ceremony with the partners.

From Left to Right: Mr Lee Kian Yip (HiveTec), Ms Connie Ho (Craft International), Mr Hairil Izwan (CompTia), Dr Andrew Tan (MASDEA), AP Dr Chong, AP Dr Mabel, Mr Che Zulhaimee (AsiaHRM), Ts Raymond Teh (AWS), Ms Jessica See (Biztrak) and Mr Ivan Er (AMC)

President and CEO of UCSI College Associate Professor Dr Mabel Tan Hwee Joo said that the combination of theoretical knowledge and practical skills offered in ODL will enhance employability of students upon graduation, thus, students will be well-prepared to meet the demands of the workforce and excel in their careers.

"With the world rapidly evolving and the demand for skilled professionals on the rise, UCSI College recognises the need to adapt and innovate to meet the changing needs of students," she said in her speech.



Lecturers who have completed their recording for ODL modules.

"We are committed to providing our students with the best possible education and preparing them for success in the ever-changing global landscape."

She also thanked all dedicated parties and professionals who have worked tirelessly to make this collaboration a reality.

Speaking as one of the partners, HiveTec Chief Operating Officer William Chow said that the collaboration aligned with their vision of bridging the gap between education and the IT industry.

"We are seeking candidates with practical skills and specialised knowledge to meet the growing demands of technology-driven markets", he added.

"By providing specialised training like the micro-credential course in assembling gaming PCs, we are addressing a specific need within the industry for individuals with hands-on expertise in high-end gaming hardware."

The launching also saw the presentation of documentation by CompTIA to UCSI College as an Authorised Academy Partner and presentation of letter of support from Amazon Web Services (AWS) Academy to UCSI College as a Member Institution.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH: SMK SERI MUTIARA

Contributor: Javier Jose Lopez Monique, Chua Li Yenn



On 5th April 2024, the UCSI Psychology Association (UPA) organised a community outreach event at SMK Seri Mutiara located at Taman Taynton View. This event was spearheaded by Bryan Kam Ming Leong (Diploma in Psychology Year 1 student) and supported by 19 volunteers from the Diploma in Psychology programme and UPA committee members. Our lecturers, Ms Evelyn and Ms Atiqah were there to oversee and support the students as well.



Students gathered in groups to discuss coping strategies for stress.

This community outreach event aimed to raise awareness about mental health among Form 3 secondary school students. Topics about stress and mental disorders, such as General Anxiety Disorder, Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder, and Major Depressive Disorder were covered, along with engaging activities like Chicken Dance, Myth or Fact, and Stress Bucket. Our goal was to dispel misconceptions and foster understanding about common psychological disorders. We are grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the well-being of about 140 students at SMK Seri Mutiara.



Committee and volunteer group photo.

CPR + AED Training

Contributor: Yau Jin Zey



This collaborative event, organised by the UCSI Psychology Association (UPA) in partnership with St. John Ambulance of Malaysia (SJAM) on 24 February 2024, provided students with essential first aid knowledge and skills. Aligned with SDGs 3, 4 and 17, the event aimed to promote good health and well-being, quality education, and partnerships for common goals.

The event commenced with an informative presentation by the SJAM members, covering their history, certification, and important first aid knowledge. Following the presentation, students engaged in hands-on CPR and AED training session, gaining practical skills and experience in life-saving procedures. The participants included students, lecturers, and administrative staff. During the training session, participants paired up and took turns switching between administering CPR and operating the AED device on CPR Manikins provided by the SJAM team.



St. John member demonstrating the CPR technique to the participants.

The training session empowered students with the confidence and abilities needed to administer first aid if needed. The event was well-received, fostering a positive learning environment and strengthening community ties. Special thanks to St. John Ambulance of Malaysia for their invaluable contribution to this event's success.



Students and lecturers taking a group photo with the St. John's team.

EXPLORING EXCELLENCE: A JOURNEY INTO HARTALEGA'S WORLD-LEADING MANUFACTURING

Contributor: Assistant Professor Dr Dhaarshini Balachandran

On 2nd April 2024, students from the OBU Degree in Accounting and Business program embarked on a full-day trip to Hartalega, world's leading nitrile glove manufacturer. The trip aimed to provide students with real-world exposure and practical insights into the manufacturing industry. Throughout the day, students witnessed Hartalega's meticulous manufacturing processes, from raw material procurement to final product packaging. This hands-on experience offered invaluable insights into industry standards and the importance of precision in manufacturing operations. Interactive sessions with Hartalega professionals facilitated discussions on industry trends, challenges, and innovations. These exchanges broadened students' understanding of the manufacturing sector and highlighted the role of technology in driving business success. The trip served as a catalyst for students' professional development, bridging the gap between theoretical concepts and practical applications. It equipped them with real-world perspectives essential for their future careers in accounting and business.



Group photo with Mr Vektor at Hartalega Academy, a memorable moment during our insightful visit.

INDUSTRIAL VISITATION AT PKT LOGISTIC SHAH ALAM

Contributor: Dr Marilou Priya Salam



A total of 150 Diploma students accompanied by three lecturers Dr Priya, Ms Hanim and Ms Naiem visited PKT Logistic Group Shah Alam. Students gained new experience, knowledge and exposure pertaining to the E-Commerce and Supply Chain Distribution Operations activities. PKT Logistic Group representative Dr Sharon presented a remarkable and brilliant platform and ideas on how to operate a supply chain company. These industrial visitations also help to boost students' critical thinking on how to get ideas operating in the warehouse. The PKT Logistic also demonstrated an understandable guideline in order for students to apply those learning information into their group assessment.



UCSI College students at PKT Logistics.

CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS SHARING SESSION

Contributor: Ts Soo Weng Jyh



On March 19, 2024, the cybersecurity awareness session organized by the IT school was greatly enhanced by the dedicated efforts of Ts. Soo Weng Jyh. With meticulous planning and coordination, we effectively managed our time, starting promptly and concluding on time. The response from students was overwhelmingly positive, with classroom L704 at full capacity.

Facilitated by cybersecurity practitioner Mr Paranjothy Mohan, who boasts over ten years of experience in the field, the session provided invaluable insights into the life of a security analyst. Attendees engaged in discussions covering cybersecurity fundamental concepts, device and network security, personal data protection, and cyber incident response. This program aims to enhance students' awareness and understanding of cybersecurity, empowering them to navigate the digital landscape with confidence.



Mr Paranjothy Mohan, Ts Soo Weng Jyh with the students.

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION: EMPOWERING STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS

Contributor: Sharmila Laksmi a/p Muniandy



On March 15, 2024, the Department of Business and Accounting organized the "Transforming Lives through Education" event, showcasing the profound impact of education in shaping futures and empowering students to realize their full potential. Esteemed alumni shared inspiring stories of personal growth and academic achievement, highlighting their transformative journeys from the Certificate in Business (CBS), Diploma in Business Administration (DBA), and Diploma in Marketing (DIM) programs to pursuing higher education and international opportunities. Attendees found inspiration in the narratives of Ms Ching Wei Sze and Ms Kamini Menon.

Ms Ching Wei Sze recounted her seven-year educational journey at UCSI College, starting from her time in the CBS & DIM program and culminating in her pursuit of a BA (Hons) in Business and Management 3+0 in collaboration with Oxford Brookes University. Ms Kamini Menon shared her remarkable transition from a pastry chef to pursuing her educational aspirations through CBS and DBA at UCSI College, with her next step being to pursue her undergraduate program in Korea. Ms Sharmila, Head of Program for DBA and DIM, facilitated a student Q&A session, offering guidance and advice to attendees. The event concluded with Mr Ong Kent Lun, Senior Manager



Ms Ching Wei Sze sharing her inspiring speech to attendees about her journey from CBS to DIM and now in BA (Hons) Business and Management 3+0 in Collaboration with Oxford Brookes University at UCSI College.

from the Student Enrollment Center, providing valuable insights into education opportunities for CBS students at UCSI College.

The event fostered meaningful conversations, networking opportunities, and a sense of empowerment among attendees, reaffirming UCSI College's commitment to transforming lives through education. As we continue on our journey of education and transformation, we remain steadfast in our mission to empower students and shape futures with confidence and opportunity.



Ms Kamini sharing her inspirational journey from pastry chef to CBS & DBA program and pursue her international education opportunity.



Mr Ong Kent Lun sharing about educational opportunities to CBS program students.

UCSI COLLEGE CN EPORTFOLIO SHOWCASE 2024

Contributor: Assistant Professor Dr Dhaarshini Balachandran



Group photo with the CN ePortfolio stars.

UCSI College hosted their very first CN ePortfolio Showcase on 21st March 2024. The event was organized with the aim of encouraging students to develop their ePortfolios while studying at the college. This event served as a platform for students to showcase their digital portfolios and highlight their academic and extracurricular achievements. During the showcase, the top five students were selected to present their ePortfolios. Each presentation was evaluated based on the completeness of the ePortfolio, the quality of its content, and the level of creativity

demonstrated. After careful deliberation, three winners were chosen. Vithyasree Sarawanan (Diploma in Accounting) emerged as the winner, Wam Wei Kang (Diploma in Information Technology) secured the first runner-up position, while Muhammad Davinish Udhaya (Diploma in Information Technology) clinched the second runner-up title. The event garnered significant attention, with Ms Savitha from Course Networking in attendance, alongside with Dr Mabel (President and CEO of UCSI College) and Dr Chong (Vice President Academic Affairs of UCSI College). Their presence added prestige to the event and underscored the importance of digital portfolio development in today's educational landscape. The CN ePortfolio Showcase not only recognized the efforts of students in constructing their ePortfolios but also highlighted the significance of digital competency in academic and professional settings. It provided a valuable opportunity for students to showcase their skills, achievements, and aspirations, setting them on a path towards future success.

VISION AND LEARNING

Contributor: Chua Li Yenn



On the 19th of February 2024, The UCSI Psychology Association (UPA) hosted "Vision and Learning," an educational talk in collaboration with Neuro Vision Specialist | Sun Time Vision Specialist. This event emphasises the importance of vision in the learning process. With nearly 80% of learning accomplished through the eyes in the first 12 years of life, and approximately 60% of children with learning difficulties having undiagnosed vision problems, the event shed light on the critical role of vision in education. Aligned with SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), the event promoted inclusive education and collaborative efforts.



Neurovision Career Talk Event.



Group photo of committee members and lecturers with the Neuro Vision Team.

Through this educational talk, a total of 56 participants got the opportunity to delve into a new field of therapy, vision therapy. Interactive activities throughout the talk highlighted essential visual skills such as eye movement, eye teaming, and eye-hand coordination. On the whole, participants gained insight into the challenges faced by children with vision problems and learned about specialised therapeutic eye exercises offered by the centre. Additionally, the speakers also touched on the various career options available within this field and the required

qualifications, offering participants valuable information on potential career paths.

Overall, the event went smoothly and the knowledge gained is sure to be beneficial for all participants. A heartfelt thank you to the Neuro Vision Specialist team for making this event possible!



Participants engaging in an eye dominance test.

BEYOND BOUNDARIES: EXPLORING AUDIT SOFTWARE WITH AMC GROUP

Contributor: Assistant Professor Dr Dhaarshini Balachandran



On 20th February 2024, the UCSI College Accounting Society organized a talk on the role of audit software in modern accounting, featuring guest speakers from the AMC Group. The AMC Group is renowned for its innovative solutions in the field of accounting. They specialize in developing advanced audit software tailored to meet the evolving needs of modern accounting practices. Mr Eric and Mr Ivan, the CEOs of AMC Group, were invited to share their expertise with the students. During the session, Mr Eric and Mr Ivan provided an overview of AMC's audit software and highlighted the significance of audit software in streamlining accounting operations. They also delved into the features and functionalities of their software solutions, showcasing how these tools can revolutionize auditing practices and optimize performance. In addition to the sharing session, they also conducted a live demo session to allow students to witness firsthand the capabilities of their software in action. Through



CEOs of AMC Group with Lecturers and Students of UCSI College.

practical demonstrations and interactive discussions, students gained valuable insights into the benefits of leveraging technology in accounting and auditing processes.

MASTERING LITERATURE REVIEW: A WORKSHOP WITH DR OTHMAN TALIB

Contributor: Assistant Professor Dr Dhaarshini Balachandran



On 18th January 2024, we had the golden opportunity to invite Dr Othman Talib, fondly known as Dr OT, one of the renowned researchers in Malaysia, to give a talk on conducting an effective literature review to our students at UCSI College. The event was specifically organized for our OBU Degree students (both Accounting and Business) who were working on their final year projects. During the talk, Dr OT shared invaluable insights and practical tips on how to conduct a comprehensive and effective literature review. His guidance encompassed various aspects, including identifying relevant sources, critically analyzing existing literature, and synthesizing key findings. The session was highly interactive, with students actively engaging in discussions and seeking clarification on various aspects of literature review methodology. Moreover, Dr OT also provided personalized advice and addressed students' queries during the event to ensure that they gained a clear understanding of the process and its importance in academic research. Apart from that, he also shared examples from his own research projects to illustrate best practices and to highlight potential pitfalls to avoid. This event played a vital role in enhancing our students' learning experience. It equipped them with advanced research skills that leads to academic excellence.



Memorable group photo with Dr OT after the insightful sharing session.

THE MELANCHOLY MUSEUM

Contributor: Chua Li Yenn



On 29 February 2024, the Melancholy Museum, an exhibition-type event, showcased items and stories that have significance in individuals' lives. Organised by the Peer Support Volunteers (PSV), a sub-division under the UCSI Psychology Association (UPA), this event was led by Hoo Ying Yi, the Director of PSV Programme, and held in collaboration with the Mental Illness Awareness and Support Association (MIASA) and the UCSI Psychology Centre. Our collaborative partners set up their respective booths and shared valuable knowledge with all attendees. The exhibition displayed a variety of personal stories, comfort items, pictures, and poems, all of which were submitted by UCSI students and staff members.



Students passing the positivity baton with heartfelt notes.

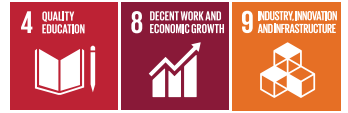


Participant reading stories of students and lecturers at the exhibition.

Three SDG goals were implemented throughout this event: SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). Many attendees found the exhibition deeply moving and memorable. Through the personal stories shared and the activity of writing an affirmative message to the next individual who visits, this event has allowed attendees to connect with their emotions, practise gratitude, and understand that they are not alone. We extend our sincere thanks to MIASA and the UCSI Psychology Centre for their contribution to this impactful event.

INDUSTRIAL VISIT TO GLOBAL ACCOUNTING FIRMS

Contributor: Assistant Professor Dr Dhaarshini Balachandran



The UCSI College Accounting Society organized two half-day industrial visits to top 10 global accounting firms namely Grant Thornton and BDO on 14 March 2024 and 26 March 2024 respectively. These visits aimed to provide accounting students (both Degree and Diploma) with practical exposure to the real accounting world. During the trips, students engaged in various activities, including interactive sessions, guided tours of the firms' facilities, and networking opportunities with professionals.



Dr Dhaarshini Balachandran with students at Grant Thornton on 14/3/2024.



Dr Dhaarshini Balachandran with students at BDO on 26/3/2024.

These activities allowed students to gain firsthand insights into audit methodologies, tax strategies, and advisory services, bridging the gap between classroom learning and real-world application. Additionally, some graduating students also seized the opportunity to secure internship positions during the visits, further enhancing their professional development.

MALAYSIA BUDGET 2024: ALIGNING TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)?

Contributor: Assistant Professor Ooi Shuat Mei



The recent UCSI College E-Poster Competition witnessed an engaging and insightful exploration of Malaysia's Budget for the year 2024, focusing on its alignment with the SDGs. The event organised by A-Level Academy, UCSI College provided a platform for students to share their ideas and perspectives on the budget potential impact on SDGs. Students actively participated in analysing various aspects of the Malaysia Budget 2024, scrutinizing its provisions and allocations in relation to the SDGs. The competition served as a wonderful learning process, emphasising the financial aspects of the SDGs.



1st prize winners Ng and Hoh presenting their idea.

We are honoured to have an external judge, Assistant Professor Dr Al Amirul Elmer Bin Ramdzan Ali from IIUM to share his valuable tips on e-poster presentations.



2nd prize winners Sharmini, Hani and Trisha from A-Level programme.

There were all 7 groups with a total of 20 participants who joined the competition on 29th November 2023. The top three groups who received their hampers from the Head of Department, Assistant Professor Dr Nalina are:

- 1st Prize Winners: Ng Shane Joe, Hoh Yi Kang, Tan Euri
- 2nd Prize Winners: Hani Aisyah binti Jazlee, Sharmini Mei A/P Subramaniam, Trisha Lau
- 3rd Prize Winners: Loh Chun Yin, Sik Jing Yu, Muhammad Afrin Faris bin Abu Samah

Meanwhile, recipients of the consolation prizes are: Tarshene A/P Ravichandar, Nur Ilana Hanania Binti Nasrun, Lee Mei Hui, Jasleen Kaur and Lai Siew Mun.



3rd prize winners Loh Chun Yin, sik Jing Yu and Muhammad Afrin.

In conclusion, the competition is to foster the culture of critical analysis, learning, and action in the pursuit of SDGs.



Consolation prize winner Nur Ilana, Tarhene and Lee Mei Hui.

HALL OF FAME

UCSI College
MAIA NORHAFIZ
 UCSI College alumna (AUSMAT)
97.65 ATAR score
 High Subject Achievement Awards recipient
 • Psychology
 • English as an Additional Language

MEET-THE-COUNSELLOR DAY

Contributor: Chua Li Yenn



On 30th January 2024, the Peer Support Volunteers (PSV), a sub-division under the UCSI Psychology Association (UPA) that primarily focuses on promoting mental health and well-being set up a booth in conjunction with Meet-The-Counsellor Day. The event allowed students to engage in multiple activities that highlighted their personal attributes and goals, as well as to meet with the counsellors present on that day. Our booth was themed around self-esteem and our activities centred around helping students to build their self-confidence. The activities supported Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 3 and 4, focusing on good health/well-being and quality education.



Participant engaging in a bingo activity.

Our PSV booth hosted two engaging activities for the students to participate in. The first activity was Positive Affirmation Bingo in which the students had to achieve three "bingos" to clear the game. The bingo sheet included prompts such as "highlight an aspect of yourself that you like" and "sing your favourite song". The second activity was Positive Traits Word Search. The students were instructed to locate one trait in the word search and describe how that trait applied to them. Both activities encouraged the students to engage with our team members at the booth, and it also allowed our team to communicate with those who were present. Overall, the event went smoothly, providing valuable experiences and connections.



PSV booth at the Meet the Counsellor Event.



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