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he year 2014 marked the celebration of talent amongst outstanding alumni of UPM. In this issue, we paid tribute to many whom we discovered not only established a successful career but displayed great talent in their fields with acknowledged differences.

Over the years, UPM's alumni ventured beyond boundaries or simply emerged out of the closed box into areas such as arts, design and media. The changes embodied the university's objective into producing student personalities who upheld strong cultures with great understanding and creativity. Art and design played important roles in the country's human capital development where it enhanced and offered variations through diversification.

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All That Glitters

Personalities selected to grace this issue are well known in their careers with exceptional qualities. They stood tall as reputable public figures of outstanding accomplishment. We are here to share their experiences, passions and vision that had inspired them to succeed in their chosen fields of art and culture.

The team approached them at their premises and were made welcomed although they themselves have hectic schedules and tasks. We expressed our pride and encouraged them to come back to the green campus and to tell their stories to wider audiences. In our promotion, alumni are welcome to create or form their own Alumni Chapters either by classes/faculties or interest groups. During the year, many events were organised and involved alumni chapters. However, we want to see more participation by new chapters or individuals so as to make it even more successful and meaningful. Indirectly, the presence of such alumni groups will provide strong support towards the betterment and advancement of our alma mater. As proven by many, a healthy support by alumni is an added value to universities.

We are pleased and thankful to our community donors who had generously contributed to UPM during this year. Their

contributions were distributed in support to various events namely *Majlis Makan Malam Sirih Pulang ke Gagang* or known as Alumni Homecoming Dinner VIII, which was organised with a great success by the Alumni Centre of UPM (ACUPM).

The appeal for donors and sponsorship for the development of UPM Clock Tower *Menara Jam Warisan Budi Putra* has been revived and put on a track. It is hoped that the Clock Tower will become a reality without further delays. Similarly, contribution towards Yayasan Pak Rashid is still on-going. We invite alumni to participate with enthusiasm as part of the fund is given away as scholarships to deserving students of UPM and as a research grant to young lecturers of UPM.

The existing strong bond between Alumni and the university had so far allowed alumni to provide significantly towards gifts and donations. ACUPM is moving forward; many thanks to the alumni for the kind support and involvement. Together we will transform the landscape of learning and placement in terms of ranking for UPM. Most important is to support UPM's PUTRA GLOBAL 200 (PG 200) aspiration to be ranked in the top 200 of World Universities Ranking by the year 2020.

 Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Bakri Hj. Ishak, MMIM (Alumni Class of 2004)
 Director of Alumni Centre (ACUPM) (w.e.f. 2 March 2015)





Serdang Sun: Could you give a brief account of your early life and background?

My name is Mohd Fazli bin Abdul Aziz. I was born in Masjid Tanah, Malacca. My early education started at Datuk Tambichik Karim Primary School and Ghaffar Baba Secondary School. As for my degree I took Bachelor of Science in Human Development, majoring in Management and Consumer Studies, 2002 at UPM.

I worked for a while with the Institute of Banks in Jalan Semantan and Takaful Nasional in my early career life. I joined FINAS in 2003. Initially I began in the Public Relation Office for about 7 years, then to the Planning and Policy Unit, Training Department Division and currently in the Licensing and Enforcement Division.

Serdang Sun: Was your time or life in UPM ever contributed anything significant directly or indirectly to your working life?

Yes, in UPM I was in the Faculty of Human Ecology and one of its core subjects was Psychology and Management. When I was in the Public Relation Office, I also doubled up as the Media Officer and had to deal a lot with

the Press and various organizations related to the film industry.

I also became a member of ROTU (Reserve Officer Training Unit). This taught me to be a disciplined person as well as a capable leader. In line with ROTU's motto to "Always be a Leader", I was trained to lead rather than waiting for others to take the initiatives. UPM also helps me build my character in facing stress in life and be alert most of the time.

Serdang Sun: Do you experience any memorable moments while vou were in UPM?

I remembered the idiosyncratic behaviour of one of my lecturers, Tuan Haji Bukhari who taught Demography. He disliked students who were not punctual and did not bring their notes to class. He would mete out minor punishments on these students, such as not allowing them from entering the class. Nevertheless, we enjoyed his class.

Serdang Sun: Could you elaborate on the challenges that you face in your career?

Facing challenges is part and parcel of my career life. As I explained earlier the press always sought

news about FINAS as it dealt with the glamourous lives of the film world. Anything negative that came out from FINAS might be misconstrued and reflected badly on public perception.

When I was in Training Department one of the challenges was to the ensure that the training module were carried out by film practioners. We roped in popular figures in the film industry, well-known actors and directors, such as Mamat Khalid, Aziz M. Osman and Indra Che Muda and a professional script-writer, Mazlan Manan to train people in the art and craft of film making especially for those in Sabah and Sarawak. It bore fruits as you could see today more people are getting involved in the film industry as evidence in the recent Sabah Film Festival.

But the most challenging moment is in my present post in the Licensing and Enforcement Unit. This is the division that we have to deal with a lot of rogue individuals such as traders of pirated products who have no distribution licences. In additions, we have to ensure Malay films are shown in cinema circuits as per agreements and not side lined and the licensed premises are not used for illegitimate purposes.







Serdang Sun: Why do you think people misinterpret the functions of FINAS, with the **National Film Body or Film** Negara, the Censored Board, and enforcement of copyright by the **Ministry of National Consumer, Culture and Cooperative** (KPNKK)?

Although we deal mainly with the film industry, certain types of film related activities such as licensing are not within our jurisdiction. For example, we provide licences for the showing of films in the country but the Censorship Board has the authority in categorising the films for public viewing. Another example, we no longer provide loans for the production of films since this task is undertaken by a different entity. To note, it is the National Film Body or

Film Negara which produces films highlighting government policies. Lastly, the enforcement of copyright acts is on the shoulders of the Ministry of Consumers, Cultural and Cooperative affairs (KPNKK).

Serdang Sun: What are your philosophy of life and advice to **UPM students?**

I always insisted we must always try our best, although a total perfection is difficult to achieve. I always trust the teaching of Prophet Muhammad and every good thing we do is part of our prayer or "ibadat" to Allah.

Serdang Sun: How can FINAS work together with UPM Alumni Centre?

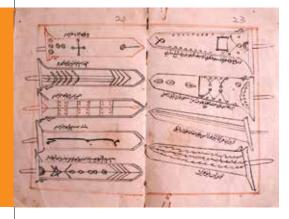
We are at the moment wanting to encourage more people to watch Malay films, especially among the professionals. We hope to involve UPM in organising seminar, conference and workshop on this matter. We also hope that more UPM students would be able to come to our training centre to gain knowledges in film making, such as making documentary and script-writing.



Muzium

Menghayati Keagungan Warisan Seni dan Budaya Bangsa Melayu di Kampus

- By: Dr. Muhammad Pauzi Abd. Latif (Alumni Class of 1998; Director of the Malay Heritage Museum, UPM)
- Edited by: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abdul Rasid Jamian (Alumni Class of 1997; Director of Co-curriculum and Student Development Centre





uzium Warisan Melayu UPM ditubuhkan pada 2013, hasil cetusan idea daripada Prof. Dato' Dr Mohd Fauzi bin Hj. Ramlan, Naib Canselor UPM. Objektif penubuhan muzium ini adalah untuk memastikan bahawa UPM tidak melupakan akar umbi warisan bangsa dan melagang usaha penyelidikan, penerbitan, pendidikan, pengajaran dan pembelajaran serta pemaparan artifak yang berkaitan warisan budaya Melayu.

Galeri Pameran

Pameran di muzium ini merangkumi dua aspek peragaan, iaitu galeri pameran dalaman dan pameran luar. Galeri pameran dalaman menempatkan koleksi-koleksi yang dibahagikan kepada empat segmen, iaitu Busana dan Tekstil. Manuskrip Purba, Senjata dan Alat Tempur, serta Peralatan dan Isi Rumah. Koleksikoleksi yang dipamerkan adalah artifak terpilih yang bernilai tinggi dari segi usia dan sejarah. Malah, terdapat beberapa artifak merupakan koleksi tunggal yang hanya terdapat

di muzium ini sahaja. Antara artifak yang dipamerkan termasuk kain sarong berayat yang dipakai sebagai pendinding diri yang berasal daripada Kelantan dan berusia hampir 200 tahun. Selain itu, manuskrip Melayu tulisan tangan Tok Pulai Condong yang membicarakan perihal bentuk, nilai dan pembuatan keris pahlawanpahlawan Melayu seperti Hang Tuah dan Hang Jebat. Manakala gobek api yang merupakan teknologi yang menjadi kekaguman kepada penjajah barat pada sekitar abad ke-16, serta lain-lain artifak yang membuktikan kehebatan warisan budaya Melayu.

Rumah Warisan

Pameran di luar muzium pula adalah projek khas apresiasi terhadap seni binaan tradisional masyarakat Melayu. Kehebatan seni bina yang dipaparkan bukan hanya dari segi teknologi binaan, malah falsafah dan filasafat binaan rumah Melayu tersebut. Pameran luar ini menempatkan beberapa buah rumah tradisional Melayu yang dipindahkan dari lokasi asal ke perkarangan muzium bagi memberi peluang generasi kini dan akan datang menghayati seni binaannya yang unik dan tersendiri.

Koleksi rumah yang telah dibina setakat ini adalah Rumah Negeri Sembilan milik asal Dato Raja Diwangsa Muhammad Yunus bin Jabar yang dipindahkan dari Seri Menanti di Negeri Sembilan yang berusia 90 tahun, Rumah Uda Noh bin Kanda Jaafar, seorang pendekar dari Bota Kiri, Perak yang berusia 114 tahun, dan Rumah Wan Muda Wan Hassan, seorang juragan dari

Kampung Tanjung Pekan, Kuala Terengganu yang berusia 150 tahun. Pada masa ini, pihak muzium dalam usaha memasang semula sebuah lagi rumah tradisional dari Negeri Pahang. Rumah yang dimaksudkan adalah Rumah Penghulu Mukim Kelola, di Jerantut, Pahang. Rumah tersebut dijangka siap pemasangannya pada pertengahan Mei 2015.

Seni dan Budaya

Pihak Muzium Warisan Melayu juga turut menumpukan usaha pemeliharaan aspek warisan tidak ketara. Pelbagai aktiviti berteraskan seni dan budaya dirangka khusus bagi menghidupkan semula warisan sebegini dengan menjemput karyawan seni seperti persembahan nazam diiringi muzik tradisional seperti gambus dan aud, sesi penglipur lara, serta bengkel ukiran kayu bersama adiguru seni ukiran.

Malah, usaha menyampaikan ilmu menerusi program seperti seminar, syarahan, dan juga pameran khas berkaitan juga bakal diadakan dari semasa ke semasa bagi memastikan warisan seni dan budaya bangsa dapat dihayati oleh generasi hari ini. Sebagai sebuah muzium yang merupakan institusi pendidikan tidak formal, pihak muzium tidak ketinggalan merencana pelbagai program bagi mendekati pengunjung.

Antaranya Program Bermalam di Muzium yang diadakan setiap dua kali sebulan. Program berbentuk santai ini terbuka kepada para pelajar sekolah dan institusi sekitar Lembah Kelang.



Muzium Warisan Melayu UPM



Pengisian program tersebut memberi penekanan terhadap aspek warisan dan juga sedikit pengenalan tentang kehidupan di UPM. Para peserta akan merasai pengalaman bermalam di rumah-rumah tradisional yang ada, mengikuti aktiviti-aktiviti kebudayaan seperti sesi penglipur lara, mempelajari teknik bermain gondang sembilan, aktiviti kembara malam warisan, melawat dusun contoh UPM, dan juga mengikuti sesi perkongsian berkaitan kehidupan kampus bersama mahasiswa cemerlang UPM. Selain itu, Muzium Warisan Melayu juga tidak ketinggalan menerima lawatan daripada individu secara berkelompok dan permintaan boleh dibuat untuk merasai kehidupan di rumah tradisional,

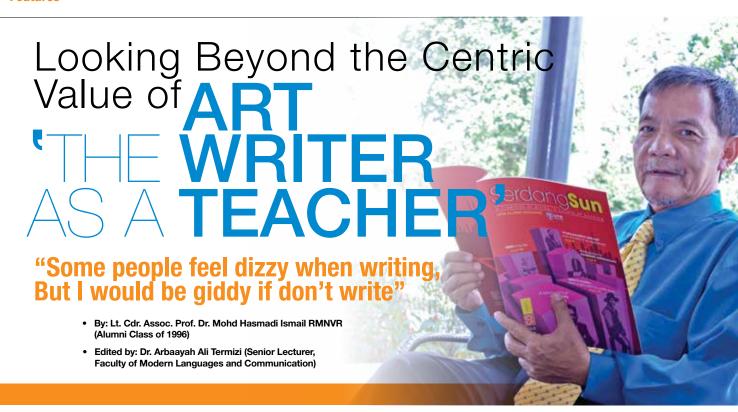
terutama bagi acara 'Makan Bersila' yang memberi peluang pengunjung menikmati hidangan menu tradisi di dalam rumah tradisional Melayu sambil bersila, seperti diamalkan masyarakat Melayu dahulu kala.

Synopsis

UPM Malay Heritage Museum features the uniqueness of Malay heritage collections and its true identity through the internal exhibition of ancient Malay and religious manuscripts, high quality textile, wardrobe and weaponry collections.

Meanwhile, outside the museum's premise, there are three traditional Malay houses have been reassembled. The first is the house of Dato' Raja Diwangsa Muhammad Yunus bin Jabar, also known as the Negeri Sembilan house. The second is the Perak traditional Malay house and also known as the Uda Noh bin Kanda Jaafar house, while the third is the Wan Muda Wan Hassan, Terengganu house. The students, researchers and visitors are welcome to see clearly their architecture and how these traditional Malay houses are built based on location and area.





ato' Aripin Said or "Cikgu Ipin" as he is fondly called was born on December 11, 1948 and raised in Kampong Batu Bor, Bera, Temerloh, Pahang. An eminent prolific writer in Malaysia's art and literature, he received his early education at Sekolah Kebangsaan Bohor and Sekolah Kebangsaan Kuala Bera while his secondary school days were spent at Sekolah Menengah Abu Bakar in Temerloh. Later, he joined the Teacher's College in Kuantan, Pahang.

Upon his graduation from Teacher's College, he taught in several schools in Terengganu and Pahang. He took creative writing at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Penang in 1976. Subsequently, he was appointed as the school Principal in Triang, Pahang. In 1986, he graduated from Universiti Putra Malaysia with a Bachelor in Education majoring in Language and Literature. His passion in drama and writing led him to pursue TV drama at the British Broadcasting Corporation in London. Dato' Aripin Said has 30 years of teaching experiences both in schools and universities.

His pride

Classified as a diversified field, art and humanities include an array of multi-facet aspects of life. Dato' Aripin Said considered his work as his pride and passion in which he has over 300 novels, short story anthologies, poetries and Malay folk tales under his belt. Among his well-known works are Menongkah Gelombang (1989), Sebuah Warung DI Tengah Kota (1989), Awang Sabdu Dan Tok Guru, Cerita Awang Miskin, Tukang Canai Batu Permata, Racik Raja Putera, and Pemain Rebana (1990). Several of his novels have been translated into English.

He was active member to various organisations where he was one of the Board of Directors in Pahang, Malaysian Linguistics Association, GAPENA, Malaysia Malay Scholar Association, and the Board of Director of Pahang Art Centre. Currently, he chairs the Folk Literature Research in Malaysia and is also the Vice Chairman of the project at the ASEAN level based in Manila, Philippines, As a prominent writer, he often receives invitations to literary workshops for young writers in Malaysia. He presented numerous papers both at national and international conferences.

One cannot dismiss Dato' Aripin's most significant contribution where he was the pioneer of the veterinary clinic in UPM. In addition, he was also responsible for writing Professor Dr. Tan Sri Nayan Ariffin's speeches, the previous Vice Chancellor for formal occasions. Tan Sri himself even practised in front of him before the actual event.

Despite his eccentricity, he received numerous awards of recognitions for his services and significant

contributions in cultural studies. He has been awarded with Darjah Kebesaran SAP (2006); SMP (2004); AMN (1998); Pahang's cultural appreciation (1998); BKM medal (1994) and PKC (1994). Dato' Aripin Said was awarded as "Distinction Alumni" for the Alumni award (Alumni Terbilang) during UPM's Homecoming Event on 20 November 2012.

An artist

Apart from writing local folk tales, his flair for singing local folk songs is unparalleled and unrivaled. He often performs in front of dignitaries and state officers both locally and abroad. He used to sing folk songs in the early 1970's using a rebana as his musical instrument. He also composes melodies and lyrical songs for live audiences. Local Pahang songs like 'Indung-Indung" and "Tebang Tebu" are among the songs that he normally sings during his

As a prolific and original writer, his works portray mankind through folk songs, literature and song of the spirit in the pasts and presents. He also conveys moral values through education to the present generation.

Life as a Teacher

He was a Malay Literature teacher in secondary school before he joined UPM. Still fondly known as "Cikgu" due to his teaching background, he worked as a lecturer in UPM from 1989 to 2005. Many of his students loved his teaching approach due to his father figure demeanour which has inspired one of his engineering students to be awarded as the "Best Engineer" in one of the leading companies in Malaysia. For Cikqu Ipin, his students' success and achievements are his source of motivation to continue and remain in the field of teaching.





shows. From Dato' Aripin Said's opinion, the connection between live performances and literature are significantly relevant. It is important for the artists to choose their works before performing live in front of the audiences. The artist or the writer generally, is responsible to lead the society on the artistic spectrum from a traditional, static society to a modern and dynamic culture.

Expectation

Dato' Aripin Said hopes that future graduates are equipped with great knowledge of science, critical thinking and use the university's facilities to the maximum. Students must also know how to apply their scientific knowledge to solve problems and find solutions to overcome any obstacles they face. He adds that immeasurable moral support and co-operation from all parties in UPM

are essential in paving the way for UPM's academic development, as well as in research and publication for the benefit of society as a whole.

His outlook on what is expected from university staff and graduates are encapsulated in the statement below:

"Do not think of doing the work because of the instructions, But do it because of the responsibility that it must be executed "



Simultaneously, she also organizes and collaborates with local organizations in handling student activities, write articles for the Ministry of Tourism's bulletins and promotes and organized short films competitions, including 2012's Short Film Competition on "Inspired by P. Ramlee".

However, she found handling a group of students single-handedly to a performance in Papua New Guinea as a very challenging one; the group had to go through many unchartered "territories". Looking back on the career path to-date, she started as a part-timer with Uniputra

Production in UPM after obtaining her Diploma in Creative Writing from Akademi Seni Kebangsaan in 2000. At the time she was studying for her Bachelor of Communication (Corporate) at the Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication and graduated in 2003.

Under the supervision of Assoc. Prof. Dr Naim Ahmad, she undertook several tasks and assignments, and the most prominent one, according to her, was handling photo- and video-recordings during UPM Annual Convocations. Upon graduation, she continued serving Uniputra Production for a short stint

before taking a break from work. She returned when the Unit was expanding and had also involved doing short films, corporate videos and documentaries, but this time as the Team Manager. Her best achievement was in the production of a short film entitled "Zaleha Ayam Patah". The script, written by Shahrul Azli, won the Best Script category in a contest organised by FINAS in 2004. The success earned Uniputra Production a grant worth RM100,000.00.

Then she moved on to the National Film Development Malaysia (FINAS), as an Executive Media Officer (parttime) and placed under the Public Relation Unit. Her tasks, among others, were to deal with production companies and handling seminars organized by the Unit The stay at FINAS lasted only for six months and she then joined the Ministry of Unity Culture, Arts and Heritage Malaysia (KEKKWA) where she handled the promotion of Malaysian Cultures and Arts to other countries.

Her last stop before the current position in ASWARA, was at the

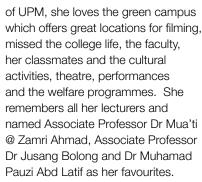
Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah Arts and Cultural Centre, UPM (PKKSSAAS). She worked hard to promote arts to students and staff of UPM. She conducted classes on Gamelan, dance classes for ladies and vocal training. Often her activities joined forces with the Student Affairs Department (BHEP) and staff of UPM when come to organizing cultural shows.

The "stone" may or may not stop rolling. But she has great memories

The "stone" may or may not stop rolling. But she has great memories of UPM...







She is willing to collaborate with PKKSSAAS in joint-activities that will see the expansion and advancement of culture and arts in both UPM and ASWARA.



An Artist

from a

- By: Dr. Ibrahim Mohamed (Alumni Class of 1975); Masitah Arsad (Alumni Class of 1975); Fatheen Nabila Ghazali (Alumni Class
- Edited by: Baharudin Mohd. Shah (Alumni Class of 1986; Language Instructor, Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication)

"Never stop to ponder and to observe with human logical thinking", as each behaviour can be analysed and subsequently be categorised accordingly



hat's the life philosophy of a Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) young alumnus, Encik Amran Atan or better known as "Azam Zaidie – the Artist". Amran graduated with a Bachelor in Design and Architecture, 2006 and currently, a Lecturer in Architecture-cum-Head Coordinator of Industrial Training at Politeknik Merlimau. Melaka. He chose to do architecture when he pursued his study at UPM (2001). While in campus he took part in various student club and association's activities. He participated in competitions organised by statutory bodies and private sectors and often came out winners in various capacities.

Early Career

In 1999, Amran started his career as a Technical Executive and Designer in an architectural consultancy firm. He was assigned as a supervisor of housing and factory projects. That's how he gained his extensive knowledge on Building By-Laws 1984 during his tenure as a consultant. In 2006, he moved into the education fraternity and took up post as a lecturer at Kolej Negeri, Seremban. A year later, he joined Politeknik Merlimau, Melaka as a lecturer in Architecture and currently holds the position as the Department Head Coordinator in Industrial Training.

His interest in painting blossomed in 1990-1995, where his entries qualified and became winners at various national level competitions. In 2009, for the first time, his work of arts was recognised by the host of the National Art Gallery Malaysia, (now known as National Visual Arts Gallery, BSVN). Subsequently, he was registered as a

Freelance Artist of BSVN (2012) and in October 2014 he was inaugurated to join the list of Lifetime Artists. His contributions as an artist are grouped in the Abstract & Expressionism together with some other local artists.

A number of his art pieces was chosen and exhibited in BSVN. In addition, his other winning works include the designing of the Polytechnic's Official Mace and the official Logo for Koko Minda Food, an SME company. The logo is used by the company to penetrate the international market. Amran, plans to incorporate "Art in Architecture" in his works in the near future so as to bring his pursuits to a better understanding worldwide. Other than having interest in teaching the subject of Design and Graphic Presentation, Amran also takes his creativity in arts seriously and at the same time committing more energy in gaining more experience in Landscape and Contemporary Arts.





Student Days

During his student days in UPM, Amran was active in "Kelab Kepimpinan Putra (KEPUTRA)". Among his many contributions to KEPUTRA, was the designing of the official logo of KEPUTRA which was recognised and is still used until today. As a student, he was also involved in other activities such as participating in motivational programmes for rural schools, giving support in social services and participating in other faculty and college's activities. In recognition, he was presented the Outstanding Silver Award during the Kolej 10's Appreciation Night for his efforts and contributions.

He had a beautiful and fruitful experience amongst the teaching staff at the Faculty of Design and Architecture (FRSB), UPM, which was its infancy stage, at the time. His intake was the second batch of FRSB students. The unforgettable memory with lecturers lingers on. They taught, trained and prepared the students with skills and useful knowledge. All these prepared him

well in his career path and moulding him into personality of what he is today. He expressed gratitude to his lecturers and educators, and naming some of them among others: Prof. Dr. Azizah Salim, Dr. Yazah, Prof. Dr. Dato' Elias, Tuan Haji Ar. Kamaruddin, Ar. Im Peh, Ar. Kalsom, Dr. Azizi, Dr. Mohd Zaki, Mrs. Sumarni, Puan Roslina Shariff, Puan Ida Suriana, Puan Wan Srihani, Mr. Shafizal, Ms. Sofie, and most respectable and beloved of all, Allahyarham Prof. Dr. Ar. Roslan Khalid.

Awards and Recognition

He was awarded third placing in the Designing "Living Convergence" Competition at Malaysian Universities Level (2002) and a Runner-up in the Designing of Pavilion Competition for the International Tilawah Al-Quran. He was given the opportunity to present the design himself to the then Prime Minister, YAB Dato' Seri Hj Abdullah Hj Ahmad Badawi (now Tun) at the Prime Minister's Department in Putrajaya. One of the art pieces he entered reached the final level in the

National Academic Award 2013 (Arts and Creativity Category). The success brought great pride to Amran as he was the only polytechnic lecturer taking part in the competition.

The "now-famed" artist and dedicated lecturer has given his commitment to being more successful in areas he loved most, that is, to teach landscape architecture and practice contemporary arts. Further down the line, he has a life-long ambition of having his own company and becoming a consultant in design and law. Also, he aims to set up a personal gallery to exhibit all Azam Zaidie's masterpieces and creations for public viewing.

Sharing Experiences

If ever he is given the opportunity to return to UPM, he wants to be with the students and give them motivational talks in the form of forum or outdoor outings. His rich experience in leadership training, provided and developed by UPM before this, will definitely allow him to reach the students. He expressed that students are to be guided and given advice on how to create a balance between studies and social activities. Continuous supports in injecting interest to do well in their studies as well as to inculcate the love towards their campus life are also recommended.

He reiterated that, as an undergraduate, one must have a balance approach mentally and physically and also a balance in education and social activities. While in UPM, Amran was very active and contributed greatly to the College and Faculty's organized activities. He was senior office bearer in various clubs and associations and executed his responsibilities well. He stressed that self-discipline is important to develop great personality; and learning about "the outside world" will give students better outlook when meeting people or attending social events.



Narrating Broadcasting for WORLD

By: Dr. Rasmina Halis (Alumni Class of 2011)
 Edited by: Lt. Cdr. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Hasmadi Ismail
 RMNVR (Alumni Class of 1996); Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd
 Bakri Hj. Ishak, MMIM (Alumni Class of 2004)

or Azzura Azizul Azman is a remarkable narrator and she is so passionate in oratory since she was young. Started with storytelling in primary school when standard 2, she won "Pertandingan Pidato Piala Diraja" in December 1999 at national level. She was the icon for her school Sekolah Rendah Kebangsaan Kampung Cheras Baru and Selangor State. After finishing her secondary school, she pursued a Diploma in Performing Arts (Screen Arts) in School of Performing Arts, Universiti Teknologi MARA from 2000-2005. Then in 2007, she continued a Bachelor degree in Communication (Broadcasting) in Faculty of Modern

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First career

"During my diploma program I won a reality program show by TV3. The second series of Olay Total White Aspirasiku ignited my talent and I won the competition!", she said happily. She was offered by TV3 to work with them as broadcast journalist. She works at TV3 until she became assistance producer for segment Wanita Hari Ini (WHI). The topics for WHI need to be prepared a month earlier and the most challenging parts are to get more interesting topics every day.

She had interviewed Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad and a few famous and popular person inclusive of popular actor Shah Rukh Khan. She also delivered a special WHI- Salam dari Penjara. The chat with prisoner without handcuff is something I cannot forget in my life.

"The most significant impact during my work is an opportunity to meet an utmost people. I need to be ready physically and mentally..."

Best moment in UPM

Nor Azzura had her best moments and very challenging year in 2007 during her study in UPM. When people ask me, "What are some of your best moments at UPM? I quickly realize my best moments at UPM have undoubtedly been with my friends and UPM itself. My time is very tight especially from 2007 until 2010 due to my job as host and assistance producer for Wanita Hari Ini."

She still remembered her funny moment during her exam, when she can't sit on the chair with desk arm because she was pregnant.







The invigilator that time was Dr. Muhammad Pauzi Abd Latif where he asked her sit at the invigilator desk instead and she also had experienced taking exam during her confinement.

"Working and study need a full commitment. Motivation comes from the lecturers, friends and family. I also had good support from my lecturers and staff in UPM", she added.

I had a good working group in faculty. We studied together and interact each other therefore make everything easy and enjoyable. However sometime I also missed my class because I have to carry out an assignment for program like Jom Heboh, Singgah Sahur and WHI.

Favourite lecturer

Among my favourite lecturers in faculty are Assoc. Profesor Dr. Abdul Mua'ti @ Zamri Ahmad, Assoc. Prof Dr. Jusang Bolong, Dr.Muhammad Pauzi Abd Latif, Prof. Madya Dr. Siti Zobidah Omar and Dr. Muhamad Rosli Selamat.

They always understood my situation and always encourage and give me moral support to finish my degree.

I believe that to be a successful in this field you have to know how to position yourself and interpersonal skill is really needed. UPM has given me one of the best returns on my investment; my knowledge and my career.

Having stayed for 10 years in Media Prima Berhad, Nor Azzura had excellence knowledge and experiences in broadcast/media industries. Currently she choosed to be an educator. She said this is her contribution to community and society. She believed that she will be a good lecturer.

Creating niche, perfecting style...

from radio

Vol 3: Issue 12/ JUL DEC 2014

• By: Dr. Nooreen Nordin (Alumni Class of 1998)

Edited by: Baharudin Mohd. Shah (Alumni Class of 1986; Language Instructor, Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication)

to()







athiaseelan Paul Thurai a.k.a Seelan Paul was born in Ipoh, Perak and raised in a small town called Nibong Tebal, Penang. He completed his primary and secondary education at the SK Methodist and SMK Methodist, Nibong Tebal. "I was fortunate to have studied in that school. The school signified a true one Malaysia community. We never thought of ourselves as Indians, Chinese or Malays. There were only "naughty boys', 'soccer boys' and the 'smart boys". I guess that is why my Malay is not that bad. It did not matter which race you were from, all of us spoke fluent Malay. I was also a very playful student and my attention was mostly on sports than academic. But I managed to get through Form 5 and Form 6 at SMK Tunku Abdul Rahman, Nibong Tebal", he said.

Then, he continued his education at UPM and obtained his Bachelor Education (Physical Education), 1998.

Recently the editorial team visited Seelan Paul, Chief Operation Officer of Media Prima Television Networks (MPTN) to capture some of his thoughts and showcasing his success stories as our notable alumni of UPM.

Serdang Sun: What makes you love what you do? What is your philosophy when it comes to work?

Our philosophy changes as we progress through phases in life. I believe it also depends on where you are working, maturity, age and good leadership. When I first started back in 2005, I had the privilege to work under Mr. Ahmad Izham Omar. He is a visionary leader; in fact I would say he is like the Steve Jobs of Malaysia. I also had George Bushman, a business consultant who taught me to always think about the future.

In this business, it is always about going forward and pushing the boundaries. If we want to progress in life, you need to explore what is in store for the future and always charge ahead to where vou want to be tomorrow. That became my philosophy of work, but I also do encourage people to have a balance where work and personal life were concerned.

Serdang Sun: What were you experience like studying in UPM? What were some of your fond memories and things that you really missed most?

I decided to enroll in UPM because of Physical Education but let me tell you that I barely scraped through studying in UPM. It was tough getting into the programme, not just with the interview but having to go through the physical evaluation as well. Again, I was lucky to be placed at the Kolej Tun Dr. Ismail (KTDI) or Third College. I was an active student in college and there was a fantastic team of individuals

running the college. I would say we were close where everybody knew each other pretty well.

From day one I had a good exposure where our college's seniors set high standards that became part of our culture. I miss the Dewan Makan or the Dining Hall too; because that is the place where friends would meet up, eat together, so it was a bit like being at home. As the saying goes, the family that eats together stays together. It was where friends would gather and these are the kind of friends whom I keep



in touch until today and also I met my wife when I was in KTDI too.

Serdang Sun: Can you tell us about your achievements in your current career? What are the key milestones that you want to achieve?

I don't usually see it as big achievements because in business, sometimes you go for small milestones. It is not measured by success alone because when you see people whom you are working with grow into the industry, I believe that can be considered as my achievement in developing talents

for the industry. For example, about 10 years ago, I hired a girl from ERA radio station, groomed her and now she is the Group General Manager. I would like to see more fresh young minds getting involved in the industry.

Companies like Media Prima is expected to deliver the goods as our stakeholders and shareholders want to see a sustainable profit and for the company to raise its corporate value. So it is our milestone to continue to be more competitive and relevant, and one of my tasks would be to establish, develop and drive my team towards achieving the mission.

Serdang Sun: If given the opportunity, how will you give back to UPM? What kind of contribution would you be willing to make for your *alma mater*?

I would love to give back to UPM especially in broadcasting. I would seize the opportunity if UPM wishes to expand its broadcasting network. I mean, UPM has its own radio station Putra FM, and over the years media have become very fragmented and nowadays content is travelling through different media platforms. There in itself becomes our biggest competition because all kinds of content are travelling through social medias like Whatsapp, Facebook, Twitter and others. People can choose their own social media to get to the content. It is time for radio stations to evolve and think of other ways to disseminate content to our viewers and listeners.

In terms of contributing, I strongly think that UPM need to be at par with other top universities. In the USA for example: each university has its own apps. When students first register, they can download the apps and that enables them to get access to their schedule, courses. location as well as the latest news and information. This can definitely boost UPM's ranking and I believe this is a good investment.

- Meeting The By: Dr. Arbaayah Ali Termizi (Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication)
 - Edited by: Dr. Ibrahim Mohamed (Alumni Class of 1975))



iti Jasmina Ibrahim, a name which is emerging as one of the talented young writers in the local art scene. To date she has more than 40 short stories, 4 anthologies of short stories, and 15 young adult novels to her name. This petite persona has also written over quite an extensive list of scripts for theatre, television and radio. Many might have come across her name as the scriptwriter for the horror/comedy movie, "Puaka Niyang Rapik" as well as other film scripts which include "Damping Malam", "Persona ... ter" and "Tembus." Quite a busy bee, her resume does not stop there.



She is a budding poet and was involved in a number of local theatre productions as either an actor, a dancer or a member of the production team itself. In addition she does not shy away from the education field when she is invited to be a speaker for a forum, an instructor for a workshop, a member in a judge's panel and a part time lecturer for creative writing classes. She won numerous awards for her works and this is what she could share about her success.

Prelude

I am the eldest in a family of three siblings and now married with two kids. I went to Maktab Yayasan Pelajaran MARA for my high school education and later continued my tertiary education in ASWARA (1994). As the first batch of ASWARA's product, we became the 'lab rats' for the Creative Writing program with the Fakulti Penulisan Kreatif. Candidates for each program had to go through vigorous interview sessions and I succeeded to convince the interviewers of my passion for writing with articles I wrote for my school magazine. After my diploma graduation with ASWARA, I worked for a while and opened a production house under the label SQ Production Sdn Bhd. In 2004, I joined UPM for my Communication degree under executive program with Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication. At present, I am doing my Masters with ASWARA.

Philosophy

You have to love your work in order to produce the best. Both my husband and I are doing what we loved full time at the moment. I tried juggling writing and working before but most of the time, I am obligated to attend meetings and drafting paperwork for multiple projects. These 9-5 activities somehow hinder me from focusing on writing. I believe that God will provide rezqi if we work hard in anything you do.

The most missed of UPM

I remembered one of the lecture halls in Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication i.e. Dewan Za'aba. Another place which was my favourite is the small canteen at block B of the faculty. This was the place where I 'hid' if I'm bored with the lectures. On the same note, I wouldn't miss any class by one of my lecturers, Dr. Abdul Mua'ti @ Zamri Ahmad. For me, he's a teacher who teaches with ample evidences to substantiate the content of his lectures. And now I applied the same technique in my teaching.

The dare as an art writer

I would say the challenge is to be known for your work. The writer has to pitch their work in order to gain the trust of potential producers. There are many scripts to be chosen out there and we have to be able to



convince that our story is unique and worth to be produced. The same challenge goes for a short story writer. The space for short story is quite limited in the local scene. One has to stand out via the work. The challenge is sometimes either to go against the mainstream or we have to succumb to a certain producer's wish.

Passion and focus

To those who want to pursue this field, you must get to know your passion. A focus must be set from the beginning so that they could follow the right track. Do research on what is the current trend or issues in order to produce a good work.



"Extraordinaire"

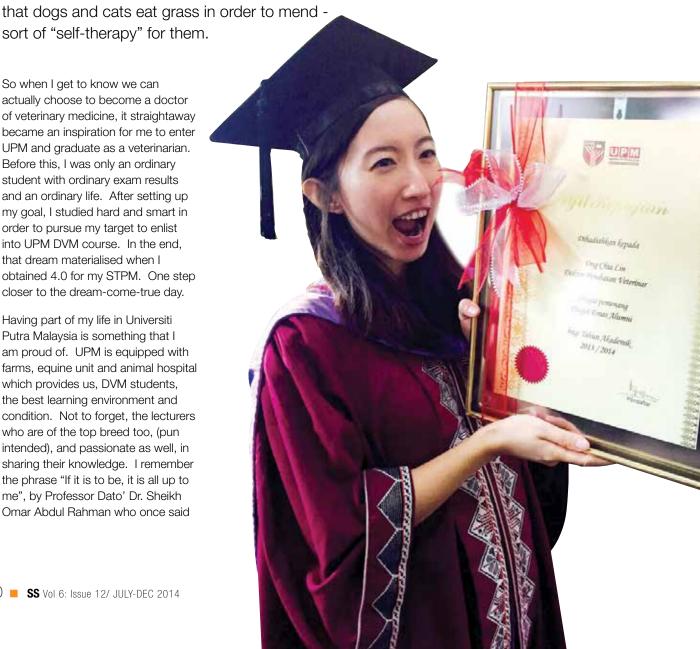
- . By: Ong Chia Lin (Alumni Class 2014; Recipient of Alumni Gold Medal Award)
- . Edited by: Dr. Ibrahim Mohamed (Alumni Class of 1975))

was born the youngest child in the family with two sisters and a brother and brought up together with pets around the house. I guess it's my pets, doggies and kitties which made me to be a veterinarian. Despite being brought up together with the furry friends, I was still unaware of the existence of veterinarian till I started studying in Form Six. All because when I was a kid, I was told by my grandma

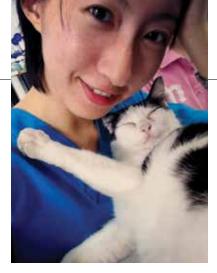
sort of "self-therapy" for them.

So when I get to know we can actually choose to become a doctor of veterinary medicine, it straightaway became an inspiration for me to enter UPM and graduate as a veterinarian. Before this, I was only an ordinary student with ordinary exam results and an ordinary life. After setting up my goal, I studied hard and smart in order to pursue my target to enlist into UPM DVM course. In the end, that dream materialised when I obtained 4.0 for my STPM. One step closer to the dream-come-true day.

Having part of my life in Universiti Putra Malaysia is something that I am proud of. UPM is equipped with farms, equine unit and animal hospital which provides us, DVM students, the best learning environment and condition. Not to forget, the lecturers who are of the top breed too, (pun intended), and passionate as well, in sharing their knowledge. I remember the phrase "If it is to be, it is all up to me", by Professor Dato' Dr. Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman who once said







during his lecture in the introductory class about DVM, and it was engraved in my mind since then. It became the motto of my life.

I think all courses have their own tough times but DVM students seemed to have endless of them. We have a lot of credit hours to fulfill and weeks of practical during semester break. It became incessant when comes to clinical years: we have rotations, night duties, emergency situations, and endless presentations and assignments. Every week, we need to present at least once. When exams clashed with all the above, that's when you saw zombies walking around in the faculty. But, now when I think of it, all these have benefitted us, to get us prepared, ready and up-to-the-mark to be a veterinarian. We are now more confident to serve the community and bring up the good name of UPM.

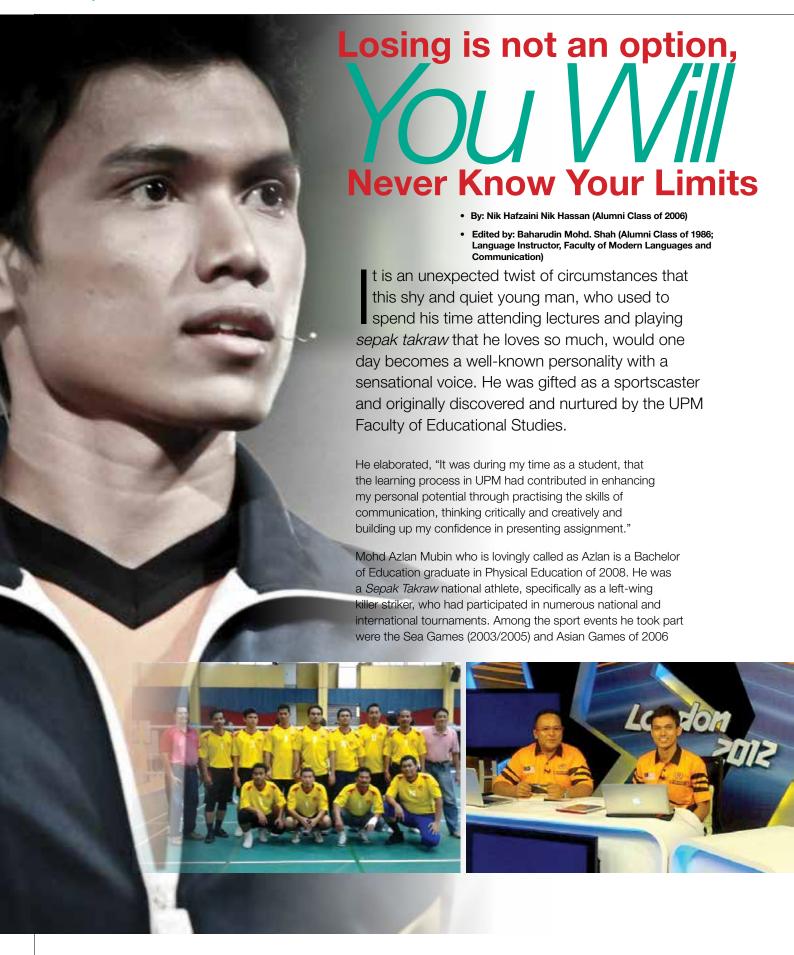
I am sure every student underwent depressing or demotivating phase during his or her study years. I had been through that period too when I doubted myself being capable of becoming a good vet. That was when I had my small animal clinical rotation, and the patient that I took care of, eventually died. I cried unashamedly as if it was my own pet that had passed away. In my opinion, a vet should be rational rather than emotional, which would benefit both parties, client and vet. Luckily I managed to move on after sessions of counselling by my parents and friends; and the patients themselves are source of motivation for me to become a Veterinarian "Extraordinaire. All because when I was a kid, I was told by my grandma that dogs and cats eat grass in order to mend - sort of "self-therapy" for them.











"I believe an academic qualification will enable one to plan one's future properly. After recovering from two serious injuries in 2007, I decided to leave the national Sepak Takraw team. That the sad moment in my life"







Recalling his life back in UPM, he admitted that he was more involved in the activities at the faculty than at his residential sixth college. Most of his time in the evening and at night was spent in sports training activities. In the morning he attended lectures. He managed to juggle without hitch between his training schedules and lecture time, largely due to the cooperation and flexible attitude of his lecturers, notably Dr. Borhanuddin Abdullah. However, he also managed to join some activities at his residential college and made quite a number of friends.

Azlan said that the success he had today was due to his experience acquired in UPM and did not regret his time there as it taught him to be resilient in facing challenges.

"As an alumnus of UPM, I would like to advise students to get themselves involved in as many activities as possible in the campus", he said. "It is through such exposures that we are able to have the self-confidence to resolve problems that could guide us in our future career path," he added.

For the moment, Azlan intends to gain as much experience as possible in broadcasting and sports commentating works and hopes to be one of the leading sportscasters of the nation one day.

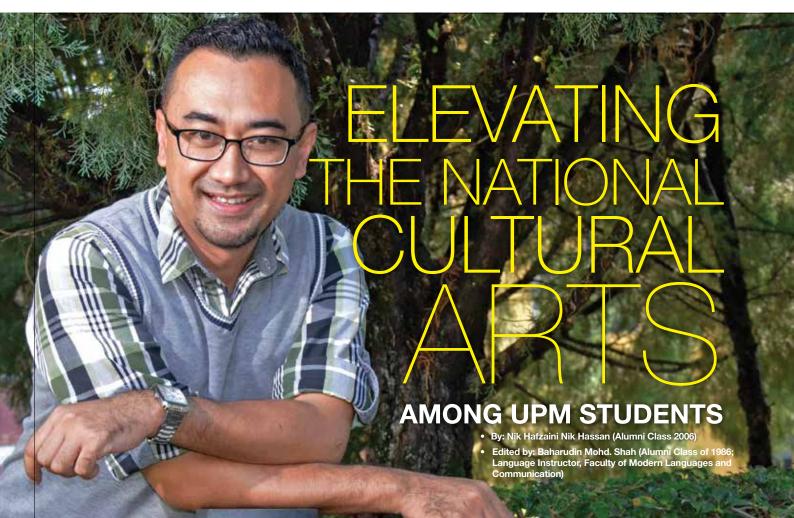
in Doha. Qatar, where his team clinched two silver medals for the country. These activities do not in any way hamper him from pursuing his dream of owning a degree.

According to him, "I believe an academic qualification will enable one to plan one's future properly. After recovering from two serious injuries in 2007, I decided to leave the national Sepak Takraw team. That the sad moment in my life"

Now he is a sportscaster for Radio and Television Malaysia station

since 2008. It seemed that his loves for sports could not entirely leave his spirit and interest. He originally became the sports announcer and commentator for the Le Tour de Langkawi slot in March 2015.

He is of the opinion that," As a sports commentator and sportscaster a person has to do research on every aspect of sports, so that what he is commentating on will have a greater impact on the listeners or viewers. In this way he would be able to provide a clear and correct information effortlessly. "



t is still fresh in my mind when during the occasion for new intake of UPM students in 2002, we were greeted by an amazing voice that made the whole hall roar with excitement. It is true in the saying then that his golden voice has a charisma of its own. That was the most cherished moment I remembered when I first became a student of this Green Campus.



Highlights ictoria

Highlights of Alumni Activities • July-Dec 2014

3 & 10 JULY 2014 • KEMBARA ZIARAH & MAHABBAH ANAK-ANAK YATIM









Rumah Kebajikan Anak Yatim Al-Khairiah, Klang & Rumah Anak Yatim Baitul Barokah Walmahabbah, Sepang

17 SEP 2014 • **REUNION BACK TO UPM (DSP 81-84)**

Reliving fond memories among alumni of DSP 81-84







26 - 27 SEP 2014 •

UPM AMBASSADOR

Sharing experiences with students from UPM **Bintulu Campus**







YBhg. Tuan Hj. Sapuan Ahmad (Alumni UPM 1979), Director of Forests Sarawak delivering his lecture on sustainable forest and wildlife management.





10 OCT 2014 •
DISTINGUISHED UPM
ALUMNI LECTURE
SERIES: LIVING THE
SERDANG STORY

" LOOKING BEYOND THE TREES: SARAWAK'S WAY FORWARD"



MALAYSIA GLOBAL OUTREACH

24 – 26 OCT 2014 • INDONESIA





Knowing You Indonesia & Roundtable Discussion with Embassy of Malaysia, Jakarta, Indonesia, Education Malaysia, Jakarta Indonesia, MATRADE, Malaysia Chambers Jakarta, MyAlumni Consortium and Malaysia Alumni of Indonesia & Reunion Hi-Tea: Malaysia Alumni of Indonesia





21 - 23 NOV 2014 • **MYANMAR**



Knowing You Myanmar, Roundtable Discussion with Embassy of Malaysia, Yangon, Myanmar, Malaysia Myanmar Business Council, My Alumni Consortium and Malaysia Alumni of Myanmar & Reunion Hi-Tea: Malaysia **Alumni of Myanmar**





15 NOV 2014 • UPM ALUMNI DAY 21 MAY - MAJLIS MAKAN MALAM SIRIH PULANG KE GAGANG @HOMECOMING VIII























Highlights of UPM Homecoming VIII Dinner

29 NOV 2014 • UPM CHARITY GOLF 'MENARA JAM WARISAN BUDI PUTRA'



Golfers and Sponsors of UPM Charity Golf 2014 for the building of Budi Putra Heritage Clock Tower







16 DEC 2014 • LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF CHAPTER STUDENT AMBASSADOR











F2Generation

Tarikh: 28 Disember 2014 (Ahad)
Tempat: MAEPS Bistro
Masa: 8.00 malam - 10.30 malam

Kehadiran: 100 orang





Alumni Ijazah Pertanian UPM Kedua Tahun 1978, yang dikenali sebagai "F2 Generation", dengan kerjasama Persatuan Alumni UPM (PAUPM) telah menganjurkan program silaturrahim alumni iaitu Majlis Makan Malam "F2 Reunion". Majlis yang julung-julung kali diadakan ini bertujuan untuk mengumpul semua Alumni Ijazah Pertanian 1978 disamping mengimbau kenangan Alumni "F2 Generation" bersama warga pensyarah, pentadbir serta warga kampus yang telah bersama-sama mereka ketika pengajian di kampus dahulu.

Apa yang menarik majlis makan malam ini berjaya mengumpulkan



pensyarah-pensyarah mereka seramai 20 orang. Ternyata pertemuan ini berjaya menggamit semula memori zaman belajar dahulu. Ada juga yang hadir membawa keluarga untuk sama-sama meraikan pertemuan bersejarah ini. Majlis dimulakan jam 8.30 malam dengan ucapan alu-aluan daripada pengerusi AJK Reunion UPM F2 Generation iaitu; Y.Bhg. Dato' Dr. Mohamad Hashim Ahmad Tajudin. Beliau menyatakan rasa gembira kerana program ini terlaksana setelah beberapa penangguhan dibuat disebabkan beberapa masalah dan komitmen ahli jawatankuasa yang lain. Ini disusuli uacapan daripada mantan Dekan Fakulti Pertanian; Prof.

Zain Karim. Beliau turut melahirkan rasa keterujaannya kerana dapat hadir dalam majlis ini. Beliau mengucapkan ribuan terima kasih kepada jawatankuasa kerana sudi mengambil dan menghantar beliau ke majlis ini kerana keadaan kesihatan beliau yang tidak mengizinkan beliau untuk hadir sendiri ke majlis ini. Seterusnya, mantan Presiden Persatuan Alumni UPM; YBhg. Tan Sri Mohd Noor Ismail turut menyampaikan sepatah dua kata.

Sambil para tetamu menjamu selera mereka dihiburkan dengan tayangan slaid video memaparkan wajahwajah F2 Generation dahulu dan kini. Tayangan video ini mengundang suasana hiruk pikuk disertai gelak ketawa apabila mengimbau kembali wajah-wajah rakan seperjuangan ketika belajar. Majlis tamat jam 11.00 malam dengan sesi fotografi bersama pensyarah dan jemputan terhormat. Majlis ini berjaya menemukan semula Alumni Ijazah Pertanian UPM Kedua Tahun 1978 dan mengeratkan semula silaturrahim antara mereka.

PAUPM'S ACTIVITIES

21 JULY 2014 •

MAJLIS IFTAR SEINDAH RAMADHAN 2014







2 SEPT 2014 • **CORPORATE VISIT TO MALAYSIAN INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MIDA)**







11 OCT 2014 • PERTANDINGAN MEMANCING AMAL 2014





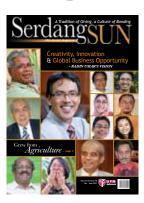


We welcome our alumni to promote their business in UPM Alumni Magazine 'Serdang Sun'. Advertising in this magazine is a great way to let UPM alumni and friends know about your product, service, event or organization.

For your information, all payment made will be channelled to the Tabung Dana Wakaf Ilmu UPM.

Listed below are our ad rates.

No.	Category - Ad Size	Price
1.	Page (Full)	RM3,000.00
2.	Page (Half)	RM2,000.00
3.	Page (Quarter)	RM1,000.00









Contribute to Alma mater

Serdang Sun welcomes contributions in the forms of article, feature stories, alumni news to ensure the content of the magazine is relevant and appealing to the readers. Photos must be in high resolution and submitted as jpeg file. All published articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor, UPM alumni or the university, nor does the Editor take responsibility for errors on fact that may be expressed by the writers and we also have right to edit submissions to suit our housestyle and format.

Send your interesting story, thought and views to alumni@upm.edu.my.







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ABADIKAN NOSTALGIA ANDA DI MENARA JAM WARISAN BUDI PUTRA

















