

EXHIBITION

Final projects without borders

ZULITA MUSTAFA
zulita@nst.com.my

NINE local universities and three others from Asean countries took part in the 2017 International Architecture Final Student Project Exhibition brought by UCSI School of Architecture and Built Environment (SABE).

The one-month exhibition is a platform to highlight selected Year 3, Year 4 or Year 5 Architecture Design Studio student work from each participating university.

The main objectives of the exhibition are to promote students' design works across boundaries and to encourage networking and interaction among architecture students.

It is being held at Kuala Lumpur City Gallery, one of the major tourism attractions in the city.

All selected works are displayed at the Exhibition Room, located on the ground floor near the City Gallery's entrance.

UCSI University Programme of Architecture head Atirah Hazwah Abdullah Hani said the university hopes to set a benchmark for the country and shared knowledge among the universities via the exhibition.

“The ability to change our perspective based on the situation at hand is a key part of creating a life worth living.”

PROFESSOR DATUK DR AHMAD ZAINUDDIN
UCSI deputy vice-chancellor



Ahmad Zainuddin (second from left) and Board of Architecture Malaysia president Datuk Seri Dr Amer Hamzah Mohd Yunus (second from right) at the launch of the 2017 International Architecture Final Student Project Exhibition. With them are UCSI University's School of Architecture head Assistant Professor Chia Lin Lin and Atirah Hazwah Abdullah Hani.

She said the idea to collaborate with other universities came about because students lack the platforms to showcase their designs at the international level.

“We hope to be able to share our knowledge and expertise with other universities. The response is overwhelming but every university is limited to only one or two entries for the exhibition.”

She also said KL City Gallery is a good venue to promote architecture designs since KL city centre has rich cultural diversity.

The participating universities are Chulalongkorn University (Thailand), Universitas Gadjah Mada (Indonesia), Chung Yuan Christian University (Taiwan), UCSI, University of Malaya, Universiti Teknologi MARA Puncak Alam, UiTM Sri Iskandar, Taylor's University, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, International Islamic University Malaysia, Universiti Putra Malaysia and Politeknik Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah.

Among the activity throughout the month includes a session with KL Sketch Nation, a community of sketch enthusiasts based in Kuala Lumpur, and also an alumni sharing session and talks.

UCSI deputy vice-chancellor (external and international) Professor Datuk Dr Ahmad Zainuddin commended the effort by SABE to showcase selected students' design projects under one roof.

“This event is a good platform for SABE to review their Architecture programme in a wider perspective. A lot of the art of life is about perspective.”

“The ability to change our perspective based on the situation at hand is a key part of creating a life worth living. Narrowing our perspective will only limit our ability to grow or see beyond the boundaries, which would only delay our progress.”

“The 2017 Graduate Show is one of UCSI SABE's attempts to make a difference, which is a wise move to improve the quality of its architecture programme by working alongside other universities.”

“It is also an opportunity to build some strong networks amongst architecture students and academics in the Asean region,” said Ahmad.

Apart from the exhibition, UCSI also launched Architecture Inspires Fashion — UCSI De Institute of Creative Arts & Design in collaboration with UCSI School of Architecture and Built Environment; as well as mySPACE National Photography Competition 2017 for Secondary School Students.