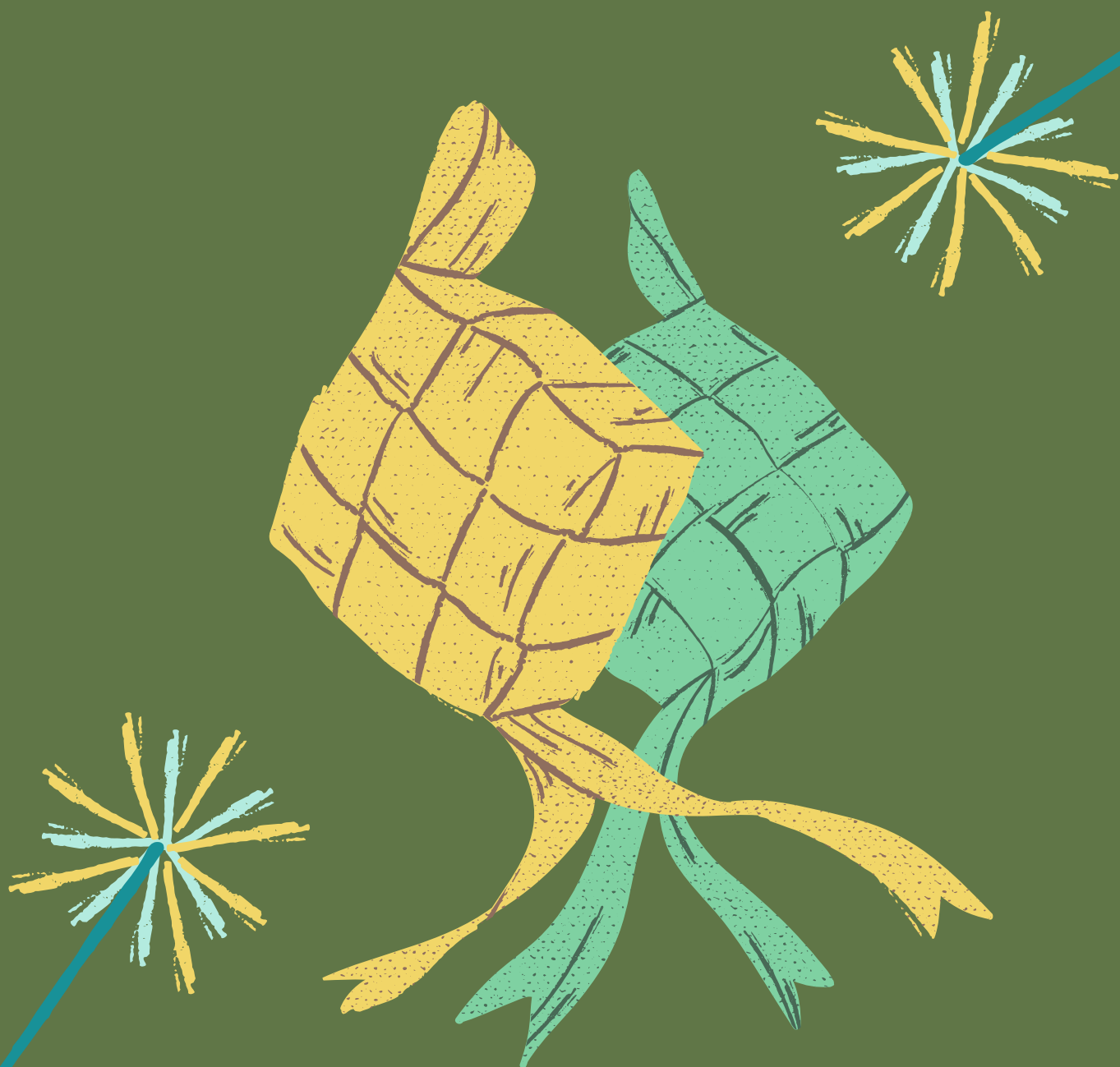


# *SCHOOL OF ARTS PRESS*



SUNWAY UNIVERSITY | MAY 2020



## ABOUT US

The School of Arts at Sunway University offers a variety of disciplines, ranging from Advertising and Public Relations to Design, Architecture, Film Production, Theatre and Music.

School of Arts Press (SOAP) is a monthly newsletter in which we provide information on student and staff achievements, past events as well as a notification platform for upcoming events.

## ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

In this month's issue, SOAP celebrates the academic staff of SOA in celebration of Teacher's Day 2020. The newsletter also covers various happenings of the SOA community amidst the ongoing CMCO.

**School of Arts Press** —

**Advisor/Editor:** Rachel Ong (SOA Arts Project Manager)

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[School of Arts, Sunway University](#)



[soa.su](#)



[School of Arts](#)



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# MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

**As I write this, Malaysia is beginning Day 79 of the (Conditional) Movement Control Order. I cannot adequately express how grateful I am for the professional way our staff have stepped up to the task of recreating higher education on a moment's notice. We are just past the mid-point of a 14-week online semester, and I salute our staff for their hard work and long hours making it a success. Don't just take my word for it, though: See below for messages of appreciation from our students for their teachers.**

**At the same time, I have been very impressed by the maturity and hard work demonstrated by our students in the School of Arts. This is a new world of education for them, as well, and I recognize their talents and efforts.**

**Finally, I would like to call out our SOAP newsletter team, Sophia, Annie, and Rachel, for keeping the lights on in the School of Arts. Thank you for all that you do!**

**Please forward this email to anyone who would be interested in receiving a monthly review of upcoming events and past successes in the SOA. Links to subscribe or unsubscribe are included at the bottom of the newsletter.**

**— Professor Donald Bowyer**

# UPCOMING EVENTS!



## **ROOFTOP TROMBONE DAILY, 5PM SOA SU FB**

Stay tuned for Prof. Don Bowyer's daily musical series "Rooftop Trombone in the Age of Covid-19". Streaming live at 5pm daily on Prof. Don's Facebook page - [Don Bowyer](#), as well as our [SOA's Facebook page](#) - School of Arts, Sunway University.

## **SOA ONLINE GUEST SERIES: EMILY UNDERHILL 12 JUNE, 5PM SOA SU FB**

In the month of June, join us for an interview with post-rock sensation Emily Underhill (UK), aka Tusks! Join in as we discuss topics like song-writing, production, creativity, touring, merch and more. Get a chance to get your questions answered by leaving them in the comment section during the FB live-stream! Simply visit [SOA's Facebook page](#) and don't miss out!



*SCHOOL OF ARTS WISHES YOU*

*Selamat  
Hari Raya  
Aidilfitri*

We would like to wish our Muslim friends  
and staff a blessed Eid!



**SCHOOL OF ARTS  
Q&A WITH PROF. DON  
& SOA HODS**



Prof. Don answering student's queries during the Q&A livestream



Congratulations to all of us who have survived the first half of this unique semester! Since there were no proper face-to-face meetings for orientation this semester, School of Arts organised a "Q&A Session " with the Dean of SOA and the SOA Heads of Departments over FB Livestream. The session was held on 22nd May, at 4pm and lasted for 45 minutes, reaching a number of 45 viewers.

SOA students and prospective students posted many questions in the comment sections. These questions ranged from the concerns about CGPA calculation, the graduation ceremony, to the use of campus facilities. Some asked if the lectures are going to be conducted online in the next semester but this question remains unanswerable at that moment as we have to rely on the pandemic situation and wait for further announcements from the Malaysian government.

The participants were actively engaged in the Q&A session and expressed that the Q&A session was helpful for them to clarify issues related to lecture or course which has been ambiguous and confusing throughout the CMCO.

**SOA Q&A**  
with Dean Don and the HODs

All SOA students and staff are invited

**Q&A**

Friday • 22 May • 4:00-4:45pm

SOA Facebook Live  
<https://www.facebook.com/SchoolofArtsSU/>

Submit questions  
through the comments

They wished this event would happen more often and that our Dean and the HODs will consider the proposal.

Follow us on our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) so you won't miss out on any SOA upcoming SOA events.



# HAPPY TEACHER'S DAY !



Photo Source: Dr Nicole Fu

School of Arts Press would like to wish every one of our academic staff Happy Teacher's Day! In celebration of Teacher's Day 2020, SOAP have collected messages of appreciation from students across all 3 departments within the School of Arts who wishes to express their deepest gratitudes to the lecturers and teaching fellows that have taught them!

# TEACHER'S DAY MESSAGES FROM THE STUDENTS AT SCHOOL OF ARTS

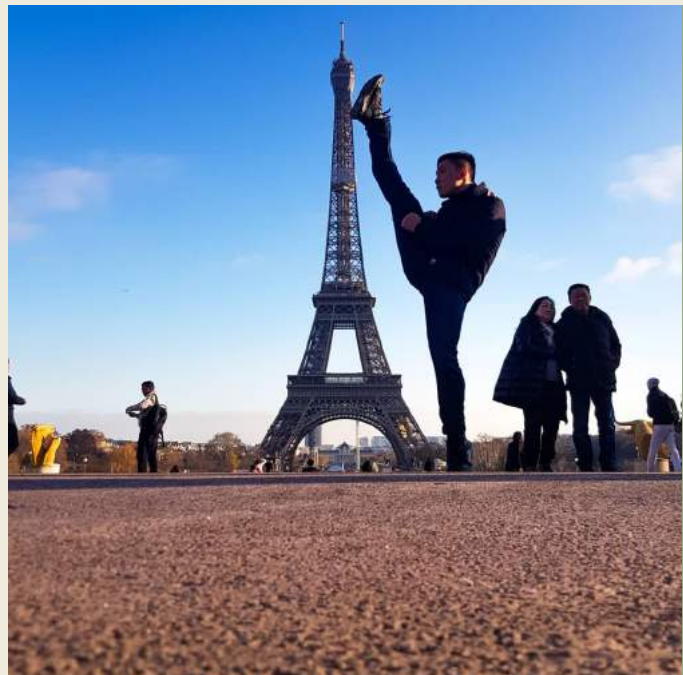


To all the lecturers in SOA and especially to all my lovely DPA lecturers, HAPPY TEACHER'S DAY! We all know it's been hard doing our first semester online, but it holds a very special meaning and memory. I appreciate and am really grateful for all of my lecturers preparing everything nicely for us and being patient of us weird and fun kids despite having to meet us online probably throughout the whole semester. Once again, thank you so much and let us all overcome this MCO together!

**TANG OI HUA (BEMMIE)**  
**DIPLOMA IN PERFORMING ARTS**

HAPPY TEACHERS DAY! Even though I had never met my teachers( you all) in real life yet, but it's already nice getting knowledge from you all online!! So for sure when we meet it's gonna be a blast!!! P.S If I'm being annoying please let me know hehe.

**SIAW BOON KEAT ( SBK)**  
**DIPLOMA IN PERFORMING ARTS**





Happy Teacher's Day to all of the SOA's lecturers! It's very unfortunate that I'm having to experience my final year without your presence, though I know it might have been tough for you too. Thank you for always trying your best during this difficult time. I have great and sincere gratitude to all of you who have taught me. All of you have always believed in my potential and constantly push for me to do and achieve great things. Know that I'll always remember the impact that you've made on my life.

**SOPHIA ALYSSA**  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

A heartfelt thank you to all the lecturers for putting the time and energy in educating us especially during this challenging period of lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic. All of you have been working extra hard to adapt to the new norm of teaching and did the best to make online teaching the way forward. Your deeds, contributions, and sacrifices can never be measured and they will continue to be cherished and nourished in our hearts. You deserve recognition for all the sacrifices that you make.

**ADILA AFIAH**  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION



Most people around the world are still not aware of the importance of educators and teachers alike around the world as they provide so much more than just teaching. A responsible teacher will not only educate but learn alongside with you, being your friend and parental figure of sorts. The multi-hat wearing task of an educator is a burden to carry but the sight of succeed students makes it all worthwhile to go through. Thank you to all educators for your sacrifice and I wish you nothing but good health in these times.

**TIMMY LIM JI YUAN**  
MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Thanks to every lecturer that encouraged me to practice!

**DAMIEN**  
**MUSIC PERFORMANCE**



Ms. Priya, thank you for guiding me throughout my university life. Happy Teacher's Day!

**CHIN KAR MARN**  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION**

Happy Teacher's Day! It was so upsetting that I have to experience my final year without an actual physical meeting with you, also my classmates. Thank you for teaching, inspiring, guiding us passionately, and most importantly, motivating us to get the best out of us and shaping us for our future career. Living far from family is tough for a foreign student like me, however, I am sincerely grateful to meet you all of lovely lecturers on my path to studying abroad. You have helped me a lot in academic matters, as well as in tackling my problems. Thank you for making me feel like a home in Malaysia. It's my honor to be your student!

**ANNIE NGUYEN**  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION**





Photo Source: BFM

## AZMYL ON FULL FORCE

Azmyl Yunor is no stranger to the School of Arts Press. In past months, SOAP had featured the senior lecturer in the Department of Film and Performance Art for his various online activities ever since Malaysia was put into MCO. Azmyl have been in full force throughout the month of May. He has launched an EP titled "PKP", acronym for Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (In English: Movement Control Order), done music collaborations for a song titled "Kurang Gaji" and was interviewed on BFM's "A Bit of Culture" Podcast.

Azmyl launched "PKP" on the 9th of May, a video EP inspired by the COVID-19 pandemic. These collections of seven songs are a set of improvised lo-fi music that he has posted online throughout the MCO period. To listen to his new video EP, [click here!](#)

On May 11th, Kinovisuals, an independent production house invited various artists across the indie music scene to collaborate and jam to Azmyl's cover of "Makan Gaji" (In English: Wage Earner) as a commemoration to the MCO situation that Malaysians are in. Azmyl was joined by 24 other artists for vocals as well as instrumentals. The song title was changed to "Kurang Gaji" (Insufficient Wage), a musical social commentary on the issue of wage gaps and debt that are being experienced amongst the working-class society. "Kurang Gaji" has received more than 600 views on Youtube as well as close to 70 thousand views on Facebook and can be viewed [here!](#)

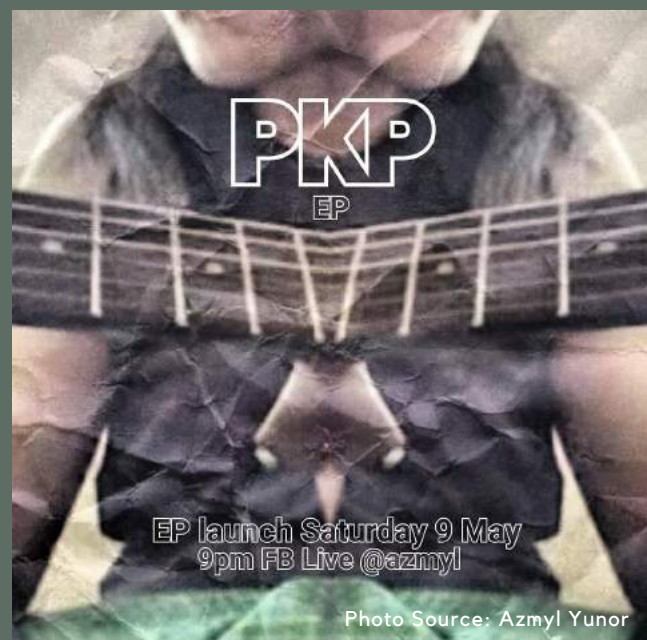


Photo Source: Azmyl Yunor

On 22nd May, Azmyl also made an appearance in BFM's "A Bit of Culture" Podcast. The episode is titled "Adapting Dystopian Safety" and was hosted by Kam Raslan, alongside Bernice Chauly. They discussed questions such as "Are we safe to go out yet?", their experiences while in quarantine and what was it like for them to adapt to the new normal. Azmyl, as an educator also touched on the topic of pastoral care for students beyond lecturing and grading.

You can listen to the podcast [here!](#)

SOA ONLINE  
LECTURE SERIES:

**PROF.  
DONALD  
MAURICE**



Dr. Andrew Filmer hosting the SOA Online Lecture Series with Prof. Donald Maurice

For the SOA Online Lecture Series this month, Dr. Andrew Film invited Prof. Donald Maurice from Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand to share about the viola d'amore, performing chamber music and works by Béla Bartók with SOA music students over Zoom. The one-hour session was also streamed live on SOA Facebook page from 12 pm to 1 pm on 20th May.

After some self-introduction, Prof. Maurice explained and demonstrated on his viola d'amore which he has devoted all of his energy to since 2015. The viola d'amore is a 7- or 6-stringed musical instrument and shares many similar features to the viol family. It has a flat back and an intricately carved head at the top of the peg box which is lacking in some violins. Prof. Maurice commissioned a copy of an old version of viola d'amore.

He also discussed his collaborative works internationally and his albums recordings such as works by Bach, Paganini, de Fossa, Kimber, Vivaldi, Graupner, and NZ composers Michael Williams and David Hamilton. In the week preceding the 45th International Viola Congress, he filmed a music video in Poland on concertos by Graupner featuring the viola d'amore.

At the end of the lecture, some students raised intriguing questions about his special instrument. They were also curious about how and why Prof. Maurice decided to major in the viola d'amore. The lecture provided participants with a wonderful chance to learn from a very skillful violist, have a better understanding of the viola d'amore in particular, and also classical music in general.

Stay updated about SOA upcoming events and happening through our Facebook and Instagram page so you won't miss the opportunity to meet our marvelous guest artists in the next lecture in SOA Online Lecture Series!

Rewatch the lecture [here!](#)



*The School of Arts would like to thank Prof. Donald Maurice for generously gifting his time to speak to the music students.*

*Prof. Donald Maurice is the Director of Research, Musicology and Classical Performance (viola, violin, viola d'amore and chamber music) at the Victoria University of Wellington. For more info, please [click here!](#)*



# DESIGN FOR GOOD

By Dr. Goh Yi Sheng, Senior Lecturer,  
Department of Art and Design





Photo Source: <https://designforgood.my/>

There lies an idyllic fishing village off the Selangor coast. It is reachable by 30 minutes' boat ride from Port Klang. I have been to this place 20 years ago but my memory of it has faded over time. Two years ago, I rediscovered this place when I brought my non-Malaysian friend there for a visit. Without much expectation other than knowing it is a fishing village located on a mangrove island, I found, to my great surprise, that this place has a sense of hospitality and warmth (from its inhabitants) that we, urban dwellers, have abandoned. Since then, I decided to do something for this village.

The website [www.designforgood.my](http://www.designforgood.my) presents the project that I have started from my teaching of Sustainable Design subject. It has since been upgraded as an internal-grant research project which led to cross-disciplinary and cross-sector collaboration with a few Selangor Exco offices, Kampung Sungai Lima Village Community Management Council as well as Malaysian Nature Society and School of Hospitality from Sunway University. It is a long-term social innovation project that aims at the sustainable development of the village.

On the website, we present the details of the project, including some facts about the village, its culture, the challenges it faces, and potential solutions to its problems. On-going activities will also be posted. By persistently updating on this website, we are not only



Dr. Goh Yi Sheng

sharing our research findings with the public but, more importantly, we are hoping for future collaboration with researchers and volunteers who share the same vision as us. We want to bring our knowledge and expertise together to make a real impact to the community and its environment.

You can visit the website [here!](http://www.designforgood.my)



BEHIND THE SCENES OF  
**SUNWAY AMBASSADOR  
LEADERSHIP TREK  
(SALT)**

By **Cassandra Foo Wern Yen,**  
Third Year Student, Department of Communication



Photo Source: Rachel Goh Pei Shyuan

Rachel Goh Pei Shyuan is a Year 3 Communication student who served as a committee member in Sunway Ambassador Leadership Trek (SALT) for two years. Founded in 2015, SALT never failed to provide a jam-packed experience for high schoolers to get a taste of activities on leadership skills in a fun-filled environment. She first started as a participant in Form 5 to progressively grow her experience into an exemplary leader for her juniors. Are you ready to take a ride through Rachel's journey into SALT?

SALT piqued her interest even before entering Sunway college and the influence felt even greater when Mr Adrian, the Assistant Manager of Marketing Department and Advisor of SALT closely kept in touch after their first encounter at her secondary school. After being accepted as a committee member, it started out rough as Rachel admitted that "She was being blur,

had no sense of sensibility and needed the team to lead her through many tasks". Nevertheless, this didn't stop her from going above and beyond in becoming the Head of PR even though she was new to the team. Rachel adapted quickly within the next few months with the guidance of her fellow partner. The push that made her do her very best was to "complete every task given and making sure that it doesn't go overdue". If this happens, chaos will befall on the team and create a snowball effect thereafter.

It wasn't surprising that she had a strong mindset to gain new experiences which landed her different positions for two consecutive years. As Head of PR, it was all about maintaining close connection with the high schoolers, managing social media pages and stressing the purpose of why SALT events happen in the first place.

Rachel was grinning ear to ear when she mentioned "During SPM season, her team prepared study kits that had a miniature sized calendar for the students to enjoy". However, many people wrongly assumed that the content team had it easy with the planning of activities but in reality, every activity was created from scratch according to objectives set beforehand. She stressed that "both roles were challenging in their own ways". The satisfaction of handling a full-blown event other than her usual academic syllabus still blows her mind as "These experiences made her grow, matured and have a sense of sensibility as a person"



Photo Source: Rachel Goh Pei Shyuan

This advice not only applies to SALT but for any clubs and societies where it's best to fully understand one's sole purpose of joining these extracurricular activities. There can be a whole list of reasons such as making new friends, becoming an emcee, becoming a game master etc but only you can be certain of what your true intentions are. Rachel couldn't stress it more saying that "teamwork should be a top priority and there shouldn't be any time for slacking when it will heavily affect the flow of work with your team". Being an overachiever, she makes that term look like a piece of cake especially juggling in between her extracurricular activities and studies. She always keeps a small diary to jot down every plan two months in advance to be fully prepared with a reminder to consistently be "disciplined with your time management".

As for studies, she is truly blessed to have the gift of studying a week before the exams so it saves her a lot of time. Tell me, who wouldn't wish to have this capability? Rachel ended with a good note saying "having good teammates to rely on will help you a long way in times of need so choose them wisely."

She wishes for her juniors to "take on the challenge" and to "continue SALT's legacy in creating more responsible leaders". Who knows, you might be the next person to inspire the next batch of juniors that would love to follow in your footsteps. This is the kind of challenge and experience that will make you grow as a person while pushing past your limits to tick off achievements that you didn't know you are capable of.



*This feature writing was a collaboration effort between the School of Arts Press with Dr. Catherine Lee to publish the works of Public Relations students within the Department of Communication. This piece by Cassandra Foo was submitted as an assignment for the Advanced PR Writing subject lectured by Dr. Catherine Lee.*