

blaze

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A Wonderful Cache of Books –

A Gift from
Dr Goh Cheng Teik
to THOL



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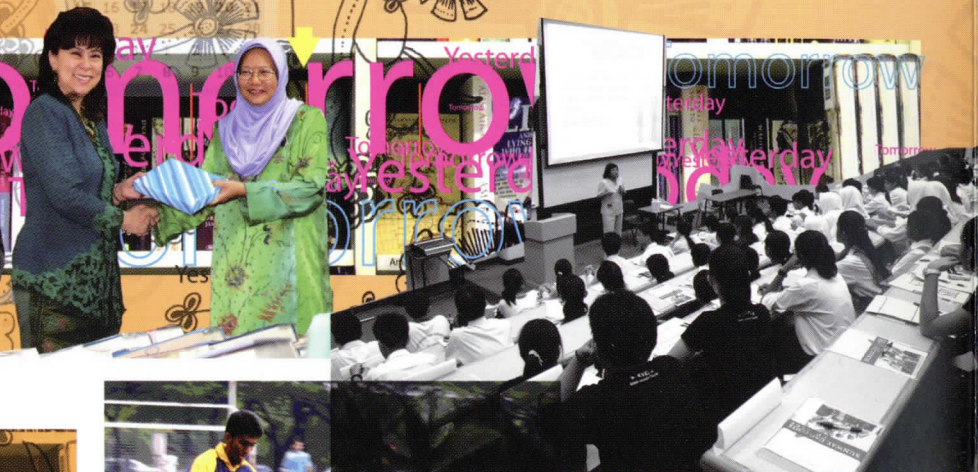
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Blaze reflects the upgraded status Sunway University College (SyUC). This status was conferred by the Ministry of Higher Education in August 2004. Both the institution and the magazine have since outgrown the former "Collegiate Chronicles" magazine, which Blaze now supercedes.

Explanatory notes: "**Blaze**" was selected as its name signifies SyUC's burst of achievements in recent years. SyUC is a 'trailblazer' in the area of excellence in education pursued with a flaming passion in the hearts of its staff and students.

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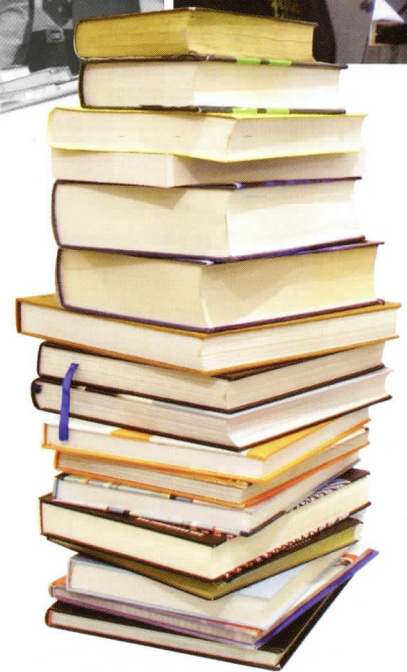
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Dato' Sri Hishammuddin, flanked by Tan Sri Dato' Seri (Dr) Jeffrey Cheah (left) and Dr Goh Cheng Teik (right) as he surveys the Dr Goh Cheng Teik Collection donated to THOL.

A Wonderful Cache of Books – A Gift by Dr Goh Cheng Teik to THOL



Dr Goh Cheng Teik, a long-standing member of the Sunway University College (SyUC) Board, a recognised academician, scholar and a former Deputy Minister in the Tun Hussein and Tun Mahathir administrations made a magnanimous gesture to the Tun Hussien Onn Library (THOL) at Sunway University College recently.

A total of 2,441 books including some rare books written on pre-independent Malaya, from Dr Goh's personal collection were donated to THOL. The scholarly books are valued at over RM200,000 and bear titles related to History, Politics, Government, Ethnic Relations, Religion and Economic and Social Development.

Most of the books were bought by Dr Goh during his undergraduate days. "I started buying used books when I was a student. After I began working and had more spare cash at hand, I was able to buy new books. I have spent a big portion of my savings on books" said Dr Goh.



Dato' Sri Hishammuddin is drawn to a book among Dr Goh's Collection



Dato' Sri Hishammuddin finds a book on his father Tun Hussein Onn at THOL. Ms Wong Sook Jean, Chief Librarian (in red) looks pleased.



Dato' Sri Hishammuddin enjoying an informal chat with SyUC students, at the Student Services Department of Sunway University College.

Some of Dr Goh's favourite haunts for book browsing were the Harvard Co-op and other bookstores at Harvard Square; Heffers and Dillons in Cambridge; Blackwells in Oxford; Foyles in London; and Select Bookshop and MPH in Singapore.

The books were written by prominent and influential writers gathered from all corners of the world and made an impressive addition to the existing THOL collection of 130,470 items.

Dr Goh graciously explained "In truth THOL is doing me a great favour by accepting my books. Finding space to shelve them is posing to be a major problem" "It is with a happy heart that I donate all the books I have been collecting for over four decades to THOL," he added.

Being the mentor that Dr Goh is, he said "Since I have collected far more books than I am able to read, I should share them with those who have time to do so, particularly students and lecturers. I can still refer to them at this library when necessary"

The total library expenditure on books and materials over the past eight years amounted to RM22.7 million. The budget for this year is RM4.57 million which is shared in the portions of RM2.059 million for SyUC and RM2.511 million for Monash University, Malaysia.

"This gift from Dr Goh's personal collection is priceless as the books were well chosen, sourced by one of our former statesmen and reflect the mind of a thinker. This would definitely benefit and inspire many students wishing to improve themselves intellectually" said Ms Elizabeth Lee, Executive Director, SyUC.

The hard collection of books, print journals and newspapers at THOL is complemented by thousands of electronic and audiovisual materials which include more than 24,000 online e-books, 15,000 electronic journals and 18 online e-databases.

The ISO-9001 certified library (since April 2003) serves the students and staff of both Sunway University College and Monash University, Malaysia.

YBhg Tan Sri Dato' Seri (Dr) Jeffrey Cheah, Founder and Chairman of the Sunway Group, received the books. The ceremony was witnessed by the Guest-of-Honour, YB Dato' Sri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein, the Minister of Education, Malaysia, who's father was Chairman of the Board of Governors, at SyUC in the early years.

Tan Sri Dato' Seri (Dr) Jeffrey Cheah said "Traditionally and especially during the last 200 years, an educated person was someone who shared a common stock of formal knowledge. It is however, increasingly recognised, that an educated person will be someone who has learned how to learn and throughout his or her lifetime, continues to learn. Dr Goh's special book collection will therefore contribute substantially to this continuous learning process"

Dato' Sri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein said "It is obvious that Dr Goh is an avid reader considering the number of books he has donated today. Dr Goh is known not only for his achievements as an academician, past politician and Deputy Minister, but an outstanding scholar and we can see his passion for books and knowledge in the range of titles he has read"

Dato' Sri added "Libraries should be seen as students' waterway to the ocean. In this safe, nurturing waterway, students should acquire the necessary knowledge to enable them to learn to swim in the rough seas of the corporate ocean"

This supports the most often quoted notion about books.

"The reading of all good books is like conversation with the finest men of past centuries"

-Descartes

May we never cease to have these conversations and we thank you Dr Goh for allowing us a peek into your world of knowledge through your books.



Siti Farhah (right) during a culinary arts class under Chef Mokhtar's (centre) close supervision

Bringing a Sense of Pride to a Special Student of SMK Bandar Sunway

The Sunway Group of Companies (of which Sunway University College is a subsidiary of) initiated a pilot project under the group's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme to teach skills and provide job opportunities to a group of students in the special class of SMK Bandar Sunway. These special needs students differ from the mainstream in having learning disabilities but are no different from normal students in their enthusiasm and irrepressible thirst for learning.

Their difficulties extend only to the use and acquisition of oral, literacy, reasoning or mathematical skills and are intrinsic to the individuals. Puan Hj. Juairiah bt. Hj. Johari, the coordinator of the special class of 71 students, who has been involved with them for the past 22 years, has been the driving force in shaping this school-within-a-school.

Their unique curriculum is modified from the mainstream and includes innovative training programmes. "Very often the curriculum is tailored to each individual. They learn basic reading,

writing and mathematics, living and social skills, religious and moral education, sports and preparatory skills for vocational training" explained Puan Juairiah.

"Like most of us, these students need links with the world beyond their classroom" added Puan Juairiah, who holds a master's degree in special education.

Seeing a need in the area of vocational training, the Sunway Group pulled support from some of its subsidiaries to provide jobs for the special students.

There are presently nine special students under this project, four of them are working at the Petting Zoo, two at the Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel, two at the Pyramid Shopping Centre and one, Siti Farhah Azyan Bt Basiron is involved in full-time training at the Sunway University College School of Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure Management".

With the shared goals of stimulating development, self-esteem and enhancing employment, as the Sunway Group, the special class of SMK Bandar Sunway has, through its G.O.L.D (Generating Opportunities for the Learning Disabled) programme set up a Bakery cum Café also known as "Gold Street Café" and a Craft Centre. This was made possible with the generous help of the Kiwanis Club and funds raised by the school. At present it is the only special school with such facilities for fantastic learning opportunities.

The Café and the Craft Centre, which was built in 2004 at a cost of RM150,000 brings a sense of purpose to the everyday education of the special students. The students learn baking and simple café operations at the Café and another group of students fashion beautiful fine china by hand and fired in their own kiln. These activities take place on Saturdays with teachers and volunteers. Parents are encouraged to join and assist them.

With the support of the Aluminium Company of Malaysia Bhd (ALCOM), the special students are producing festive greeting cards with handmade recycled paper at the Craft Centre. The task of making these high quality cards from scratch using unwanted papers to the finished product rests entirely in the hands of the students and teachers. ALCOM handles the marketing and distribution of the product to companies.

At the training kitchen of the School of Hospitality at SyUC, 20-year old Siti Farhah is busy preparing the

vegetables for the soup of the day. She is undergoing a closely supervised 3 month individualised training programme in the basic techniques of the culinary arts. After her training at the hospitality school, she will be attached to the Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel for "on-the-job" training for another 3 months.

Her warm smile is an indication that she is comfortable here. When asked how she found her training, she replied slowly but confidently "It is great – I am learning a lot of things".

"It means a lot to the students to be given an opportunity to be involved in real activities. The pay that some receive in return for work is very much appreciated by them" said Puan Juairiah.

"We are grateful to the Sunway University College for their support through this excellent project and it is an ideal arrangement for the special needs students to have the opportunity to learn marketable skills and gain a

real perspective on the world right here in their backyard" she added

Mrs Mae Tan, Head of the School of Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure Management said that "Through Siti Farhah's presence in our programmes, it has refocused our hospitality students to the great need to help those who are less fortunate than them and someday as adult members of the society, we hope they will contribute positively towards the needs of the community"



Special student Razak Razali (right), 17 and his mum (left) at the Gold Street Café's kitchen



Siti Farhah with a batch of freshly baked pastries



Puan Juairiah at the wall of the Café painted by students



Expert paper makers, Ashraf (left), 18 and William Lim (right), 19



Puan Juairiah (centre) guiding other students Shukri Shukor, 17 (left) and Wong Kar Weng, 13 (right)

Taking a School Under its Wing

In tandem with the Ministry of Education's call to encourage schools to increase their efficiency through computerisation, the School of Computer Technology's (SCT) ICT R & D Centre at Sunway University College (SyUC) has plans to adopt several schools in the neighbouring Subang Jaya/USJ vicinity to provide ICT support as part of its community service.



Ms Elizabeth Lee and Puan Fatimah Uni signing the MoU to formalise the new parent-child relationship. Witnessed by YB Dato' Ch'ng Toh Eng (centre) and Tuan Haji Yusoff Bin Mohd Sani (left), Chairman of PIBG of the school.

The first school chosen to be adopted with the launch of the school adoption programme was SMK Subang Utama. The ceremony was graced by YB Dato' Ch'ng Toh Eng, Permanent Chairman of Multimedia, Environment and New Village Development Committee. Ms Elizabeth Lee, Executive Director, SyUC said that it was an honour to welcome the first school into its family, which was selected due to the outstanding performance of its students and to the school's commitment to computerisation which it had undertaken since 1995.

"The objective of this programme is for SCT to advise and assist on development of the Information Technology (IT) in schools and to provide IT support. SCT is committed to achieving 100 percent ICT literacy among the staff of schools by providing



Elizabeth Lee, Executive Director, SyUC (left) presenting a token to Puan Fatimah Uni, Principal of SMK Subang Utama.

basic ICT training that will enable them to achieve academic excellence" said Elizabeth Lee. She added "I commend both the staff and students of SMK Subang Utama in their far-reaching efforts to embrace ICT and to make it a model for others to follow"

In wanting its IT degree students to take charge of IT knowledge and not to be its mere servants, Sunway University College set up the ICT R & D Centre six years ago. The Centre has provided students an avenue to develop and implement research projects mainly in the area of mobile solutions, multimedia production, timetabling solutions, web-based solutions and augmented reality.

Some of the very successful projects with SyUC students include a Nuerosurgery Logbook for a medical centre, a web-based approval system and the M-care Solution, a managed healthcare application.



Touring the School's facilities. (From left to right) Puan Fatimah Uni, Tuan Haji Yusoff Bin Mohd Sani, Dato' Ch'ng Toh Eng, and Mr Kanendran T. Arulrajah, Head of the School of Computer Technology, SyUC.

A library system software, known as "SyLibs" was designed by the SCT students and staff recently. SMK Subang Utama was one of the first schools to successfully test the software at its library. This software is available as network and stand-alone versions and has useful features such as stock-checking and the ability to import data from SMM which replaces the need for time-consuming data entry.

In most education systems in the West, information technology is formally integrated into the school curriculum. With the arrival of the Internet and the broadband connections to school, the application of IT knowledge, skills and understanding in these subjects are set to take over and bring us to a different place altogether. "With the adoption, we hope to make a tremendous impact in ICT knowledge and its applications on SMK Subang Utama students and staff" said Elizabeth Lee.

A Memorandum of Understanding signing ceremony was held between on 22 July 2006 to seal an agreement for the mutual commitment of obligations between the two institutions.

Manchester Business School MBAs in Finance and Engineering now at SyUC

One does not have to venture very far to pursue a world acclaimed Master of Business Administration (MBA). The Manchester Business School Worldwide MBA programmes, one for financial managers and finance professionals and the other for engineering business managers; are available at Sunway University College (SyUC) as part-time programmes for global professionals wishing to acquire the crowning achievement that will be the ultimate embellishment to their already illustrious resumes.



New students having a bite during the informal dinner at the Orientation Evening for the MBS MBA

These MBAs have been designed to fit around busy work schedules allowing ambitious-minded individuals to pursue a highly sought after qualification without any interruptions to their career.

As an accredited partner of the Manchester Business School (MBS) Worldwide, Sunway University College taps into the 15 year track record of the MBS Worldwide in delivering a well proven programme, blending self-study with face-to-face residential workshops. This prestigious course can be pursued at any one of the worldwide centres namely Hong Kong, Jamaica, Singapore, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and now Malaysia.

Students get to attend intensive workshops which total about 200-250 hours for the whole course led by the UK faculty. Extra local tutorial sessions offered by SyUC and conducted as a forum of discussions, enable students to gain a greater understanding of the subjects and topics. Faculty staff spend a fifth of their time consulting which translates into up-to-the-minute expertise relevant to the workplace. Assessment is by both assignments and open book examinations.

A programme such as this with currently over 3,000 students worldwide gives great opportunity for networking with fellow global executives in an active alumni and learning from academics of different backgrounds. SyUC took in 20 students in its inaugural intake in July this year.

Established in 1965, the Manchester Business School is one of the largest campus based business and management schools in the UK. It enjoys a ranking of the 3rd top business university in the UK, 7th



Dr Marie-Aimée Tourres, Head-Manchester Business School Worldwide at SyUC, welcomes the first batch of the MBS Worldwide MBA students at the Orientation Evening in July.

in Europe and 22nd in the world, according to the Financial Times Top MBA Ranking 2006. It is one of the few institutions to hold triple international accreditations : AACSB (USA) , EQUIS (Europe) and AMBA (UK). All graduates are awarded the same MBA as the on-campus programme in the University of Manchester.

The MBS MBA is an excellent platform for corporate-minded individuals to develop themselves, expand their horizons and face challenges head-on as they strive to gain as much as possible from this world class post-graduate course.

Applications close on November 15th for the January 2007 intake.

For more information on this programme, please visit www.mbs-worldwide.ac.uk

FEATU



The Mak Yong being performed for the students



A behind-the-scenes look at the "Wayang Kulit" performance

Students Cause a Stir in Kelantan

In the idyllic quiet of a village not far from Kota Bahru, surrounded by padi fields and pondoks, a group of students are observing the intricate and graceful Mak Yong, an ancient Malay dance-theatre form.



Rey Buono (left), Shaari Abdullah (centre) and Professor Ghulam-Sarwar Yousof (right)

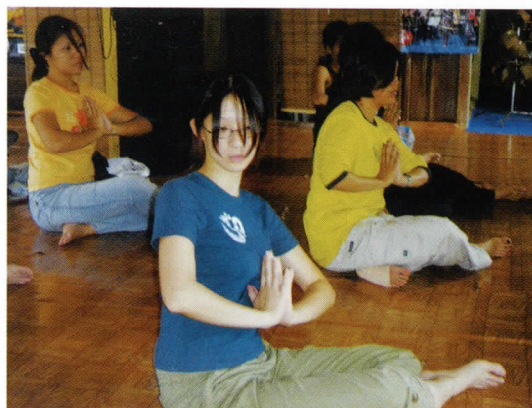
Performed principally in the state of Kelantan, it is a ritualistic, stylised form of dance and acting accompanied by vocals and music played with traditional instruments. The repertoires have traditionally been transmitted orally by the performers of which there are only a handful today, much less than when it was performed in its heyday.

The Mak Yong is performed for entertainment and for spiritual and healing purposes. It may also be performed in combination with the shamanistic Main Puteri ritual, for non-theatrical healing. Many theories abound to explain the Mak Yong's origins. Experts say it is steeped in the supernatural, with segments in the dance traditionally having invocations addressed to spirits inhabiting the environment. These rituals lead to an improved sense of physical, psychological and emotional well being.

The 8 students from SyUC's Diploma in Performance + Media (P+M) programme were studying the Mak Yong and Wayang Kulit under the guidance of Shaari Abdullah, the leader of the Kumpulan Warisan Sri Temenggong Troupe which staged the show. Encik Shaari is a well respected teacher and performer of Mak Yong and the Wayang Kulit.



Pak Shaari playing the rebab (left) for the P+M students



Students learning the intricate movements of the Mak Yong

The trip was part of the requirement for the students' "Traditional Malaysian Theatre in Performance" module which must be fulfilled. "The objective of this week-long study trip, in late February to early March was to involve the students in the immersion of research, observation and study of traditional Malaysian theatre with a view to give them a deeper understanding of this genre" explained Rey Bueno, the Head of the P+M Department who accompanied the students.

The group was also privileged to benefit from the presence of Professor Dr Ghulam-Sarwar Yousof, the Head of the Asian Cultural Heritage Centre, University of Malaya, who was on hand to share his expertise with the students. Dr Ghulam is the world's foremost expert on traditional Malaysian theatre.

On 25 November 2005 under an application prepared with the consultation of Dr Ghulam, Mak Yong received the honour of being one of 43 cultural masterpieces in the world proclaimed by UNESCO as being a part of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity.

One of the students, Tengku Amalia Zahirah Binti Tengku Anuar Mussaddad said "The Mak Yong is a beautiful art form of the Malay culture that gives a rich perspective of Kelantan. It is sad that most of us will never get to see the Mak Yong in its prime and all efforts should be made to preserve this dying art.

The students intent on their study were oblivious to the fact that they were in the centre of a controversy created by the press. The next day, the show was mentioned in one of the newspaper dailies and was referred to as a "banned" dance. Contrary to what the press had said, the performance viewed by the students was not a public one and would not fall in the category of a banned performance.

Shaari Abdullah or Pak Shaari as he is more fondly known said "We want to educate the people on Mak Yong and make it more accessible especially to the younger generation.

Surprising developments after the "banned" performance, has given hope to Pak Shaari and many others. The Kelantan Local Government Committee Chairman Takiyuddin Hassan said Mak Yong was not permitted for public viewing but private shows were allowed for students and tourists in Kelantan. He said there was a proposal to lift the

ban on public shows if it contained Islamic values.

Another Mak Yong performance in Kelantan following this and scheduled for April 8 was given the blessing of the Culture, Arts and Heritage Minister Datuk Dr Rais Yatim. He said at that time "We want to bring arts to the people. I will be there at the planned Mak Yong show. I want to gauge the response from the people of Kelantan and see if they accept the performance or otherwise"

On this visit to Kelantan, Rey Bueno said "The Mak Yong is truly magnificent and the students' presence has inadvertently brought it the attention it deserves from the public. I'm pleased about the outcome of not just the debates and public attention but a positive change in the attitude of the state and federal authorities towards the Mak Yong and their attempts to preserve one of the most important dance traditions of the world."



Some of the P+M students mingling with the Mak Yong performers after the show



A Colourful Evening of Fun

The Student Services Department and the Association of International Students (AIS) at Sunway University College jointly organised an "International Students Gathering Nite". Some forty members from the international student community came for a night of fun as students put up performances of dances, a song and a sketch and mingled with other international students.



(Left to right) Students having a good time, Priyanka Mehta from Kenya (MUFY), Keisha Camila from Sri Lanka (MUFY) and Mohammed Murtadha from Oman (Foundation in IT & Multimedia).

The students who came from about 15 different countries including Kenya, China, Indonesia, Botswana, Oman, Zimbabwe, Jordan and Sri Lanka made the evening a riot of colours with the traditional dress of their home countries. The programme for the evening was a showcase for the dormant talent in the students that was unleashed that night.

Mooketsi Makgetho had this to share "The event was interesting and everyone's mood skyrocketed as we chatted with each other during the night" "We all enjoyed the Iranian dance by Shabnam Hemmati the most" he quickly added.

The highlight of the show was "Lost in Translation" a skit performed by the AIS committee members and Student Services Advisor, Ms Jessica Low. It was an amusing parody of how things can go wrong at the airport when a SyUC staff attempts to pick up new international students who have difficulty communicating.



Shabnam Hemmati from Iran, a student of the Diploma in Multimedia performing a Persian dance



Botswanians Boitumelo (left) is pursuing a Bachelor of Multimedia Systems at SyUC and Mooketsi (right), a Bachelor of Information Technology (Networking) at SyUC.

"With so many international students at SyUC, get-togethers like this are the best way to help acclimatise students to their new environment and foster ties between each other and the Institution" said Ms Lee Siok Peng, Head of Students Services Department and Chairperson of the Committee which organised the event.

Princeton Student takes Gap Year at SyUC

Rina Ayob speaking to Blaze at the Child Observation/Counselling Room of the Department of Psychology, SyUC



The world has shrunk with the advent of global degree programmes around the world with a common content, brought about by the shared goal of delivering a quality programme. SyUC was one such institution when Rina Ayob, a psychology sophomore from Princeton University took a gap year and completed a semester of studies in the Psychology Honours degree course offered by the Department of Psychology at SyUC.

An outspoken young lady with a gentle demeanour that hides a steely determination, Rina had her credits transferred easily to Princeton. "I am really pleased with that as it is a time-saver" she said, which also attests to the high standard of the Psychology programme at SyUC.

Always fascinated about the science of human behaviour, Rina, a Malaysian, first came to know about the Psychology Department at SyUC when she became a research assistant during her summer holidays last year. She assisted in a survey on "Youth Lifestyles in Malaysia" by clinical psychologist Dr Teoh Hsien-Jin, Head of the School of Health and Natural Sciences, which oversees the Psychology Department.

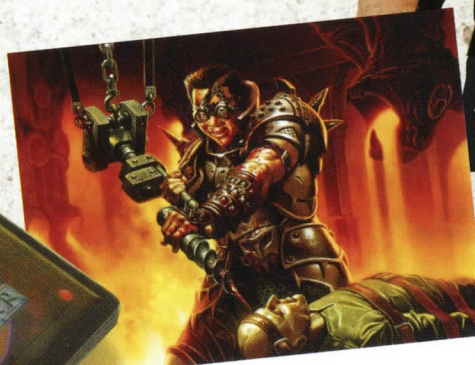
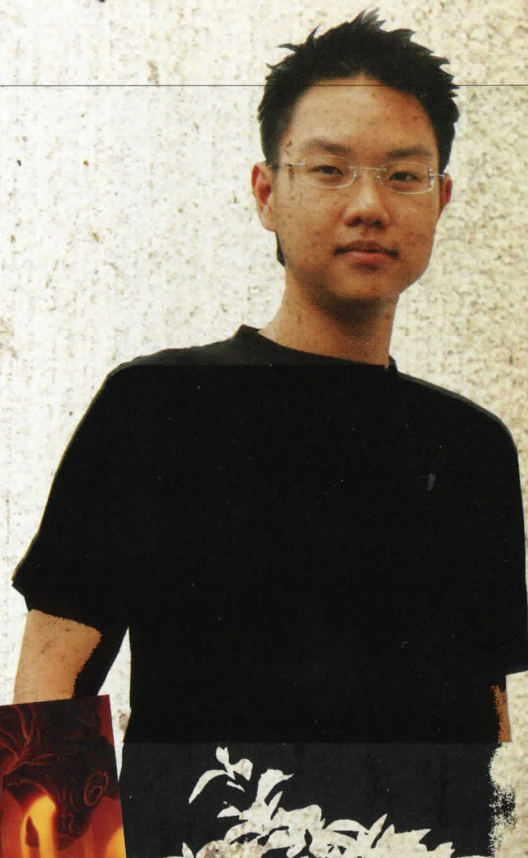
22-year old Rina studied at SMK Damansara Jaya in Kuala Lumpur and did well enough to win a pre-university scholarship at the United World College of the Americas in West New Mexico prior to entering Princeton. Rina will return to Princeton next January where she will work towards gaining more experience that will put her in a better stead to help others in the future. She shared "I am interested in child psychology and hope to work with women and children when I graduate". "It is fascinating to work with children especially in their first five years, when their minds are easily shaped" added Rina.

Rina plans to spend the rest of her gap year here continuing with her volunteer work at the All Women's Action Society (AWAM) as a para-counsellor, providing counselling and advice to women, on many issues including relationships and abuse.

When asked what she would like to see more of here, Rina replied "I hope more students will take time out to help the less fortunate. A student of any discipline should venture into the community and not feel inadequate as even at their level, their knowledge is sufficient to help others and they will learn a lot in turn" she said.

“Terry, Terry, Quite Contrary”

When assigned to write on Malaysia's own teen sensation in Magic: The Gathering®'s (MTG) global tournament arena, one can't help but jump to conclude that such a person would be a nerd. One tends to have a pre-conceived notion that anyone who can be obsessed with such games must be so, although very little is known by the mainstream public about collectible card games.



Terry gets the honour of having his face immortalised on this which appears in a Magic card.

After completing the Canadian Matriculation Programme at Sunway University College, Terry is pursuing the University's Bachelor in Business Management Degree (Hons) Programme.

Along comes Terry Soh, a cool, self-assured student of Sunway University College, to banish that thought. 19 year-old Terry has just recently completed the Canadian International Matriculation Programme (CIMP) at Sunway.

“Do you know what is important to becoming a good player?” Terry poses this question.

He lets a moment of suspense pass by and finally says, “Politics,”

Politics? What does that have to do with a collectible card game?

“Being a part-time player, between balancing studies and playing, I can't keep up with the latest game strategies, tips, etc,” he explains, “So during the international tournaments, I socialise with the professional players to obtain this information.” His pleasant demeanour no doubt masks his intentions from other unsuspecting Magic players.

Terry and his younger brother, Soh Han Yuen, who is currently pursuing CIMP at Sunway and also active in Magic, have both been playing for about seven years now. The first tournament that Terry took part in some years back in Subang Jaya was disastrous. “I lost everything,” he laughs good-naturedly. Since then, he has come a long way, ranking tops in many of

the tournaments held worldwide. Last year, Terry won the Magic Invitational Tournament, landing him the coveted prize - the right to design an MTG card, featuring his likeness.

Terry flew to his first international tournament at the tender age of 15. Luckily his father is open-minded. “My Dad is a businessman. He wanted me to see more of the world and gain more exposure” Terry added, “When I travel to the different countries for these tournaments, I get to talk to more people. It builds my confidence and helps me to be more analytical.”

Seeing that he has the worldliness and shrewdness that leans towards a business calling, it seems apt that he is now pursuing the Bachelor of Business Management Degree (Hons) at Sunway.

His success is in no small part attributed to old-fashioned hard work and dedication. He usually puts in about 15 hours per week into

Terry's success in cards fuels his other passion – a modified Honda Integra DC5



practicing, but when tournaments draw near he may spend 9 hours each day with his cards - even more than the hours of sleep we require daily. Consistency and discipline are imperative. A lapse in practice would make him lose touch with tactical play and would require 2 to 3 days of intense training to regain.

Since Magic has expanded 3 years ago to allow enthusiasts to battle it out in cyberspace, Terry has seen major improvements to his skill. "Local players are already familiar with each other's style. But playing online allows me to play with a lot of different and unfamiliar international personalities. I get more exposure to the game," he explained.

The Magic tournaments held all year round have a remarkably high payout. For the May 2006 Pro Tour held in Prague, Terry won USD 6,000 (RM22,000) for ranking 11th place. This fact alone would be enough to make anyone consider a career change.

Besides cards, Terry has another love - a Honda Integra DC5 - bought and modified using his gains from the tournaments. Terry indulges with a ride in his car to look for a suitable photography location on the University campus.

"Have you seen the movie Fast and Furious?" he asks, as green trees, blue sky and staring faces whoosh by outside the window. "You know how they inject NOS (common reference for Nitrous Oxide) into the engine to make the car go faster? Well, this initiates it," he points to a bright red button on the right side of the dashboard. "And one thought that fancy driving only exists in the movies. Another misconception is smashed to bits once more.

After Terry obliges with some poses for the camera, he politely says his 'thank you's and 'goodbye's. As his car disappears around a corner, Terry leaves the impression that he is no mere card player, but someone who enjoys a good game and what life has to offer, which allowed him to grow in confidence and wisdom. It was not the cards that made the man - it incited the potential in him to emerge.





Seeking Out an Outstanding Literary Talent

Prof Dr Noraini Tamin facilitating the first part of an interesting workshop to a captivating audience on "Effective Oral Communication Skills" together with Mr Walter Jones. Prof Noraini is a Consultant to SyUC.

Sunway University College in collaboration with the Oxford and Cambridge Society of Malaysia once again hosted the annual Oxbridge Essay Writing competition held recently. Fifty-seven (57) 4th and 5th form students from 22 schools around the peninsular from the Klang Valley, Seremban, Melaka and Ipoh took part in the competition.

Ms Elizabeth Lee, Executive Director of Sunway University College, Cambridge graduate and President of the Oxford & Cambridge Society of Malaysia said "We are proud and honoured to work hand-in-hand with the Oxford and Cambridge Society of Malaysia in a quest to raise the standard on the usage and mastery of the English language in Malaysia"

Competitors were given an hour to compose an essay of a thousand words on a topic selected from a list of 5 questions on current issues. The winner was Varsha a/p Sivalingam from SMK Puteri, Seremban. Her essay responded to the question "In our determination to be ahead of the others we have abandoned humanity, ethics and decency. How far do you think this is evident in our society?"

The Oxbridge judges were clearly impressed by the standard of the competition. The panel was made up of Dr Chua Hui Yen, Mr John Nicholson, Ms Sharon Saw and Ms Sue Wong from the Oxford and Cambridge Society of Malaysia.

speakers who are graduates and members of the Oxford & Cambridge Society of Malaysia. The workshops were: - "Effective Writing Skills" by Mr. Mark Disney and Dato' Dr M. Shanmughalingan and "Effective Oral



From left to right : Ms Margaret Hall, Chairperson; Ms Elizabeth Lee, Executive Director SyUC; Pn Shireen Begum, teacher advisor of the Champion school, Champion Varsha a/p Sivalingam, SMK Puteri, Seremban; 1st Runner Up, Soraya Kee, SMK Damansara Jaya; 2nd Runner Up, Tarrant Kwok Siew Ming, Sekolah Wesley Methodist.

The winning school bagged RM300, a trophy each for both the individual winner and the school and a certificate of commendation from the Oxford & Cambridge Society of Malaysia for the winner.

The competition was also made into an Oxbridge English Language Event that included workshops conducted by a panel of distinguished

Communication Skills" by Mr. Walter Jones and Prof Dr Noraini Tamin.

"Time and again it has been said that the strength and advancement of a nation depends on its people. Indeed this is why; we are pleased to be part of this public service endeavour at Sunway" added Elizabeth Lee.

SyUC Alumnus A Karachi Connection in SyUC



Elizabeth Lee presenting a gift to City Nazim Syed Mustafa Kamal, Mayor of Karachi



City Nazim Syed Mustafa Kamal speaking to Elizabeth Lee and Staff of SyUC.

It is the dream of every educator to receive a call from a former student who has made a notable impression on the world. Such a call was received in April this year by Sunway University College. It was City Nazim Syed Mustafa Kamal, the Mayor of Karachi expressing a desire to visit his alma mater.

Staffs were in a state of excitement and looked forward to meeting this former student. Any apprehension that may have been building up was soon dissipated. "When we met him we were pleasantly surprised by a charming yet distinguished gentleman who was eager to share his memories at Sunway and to meet some of his former lecturers" said Mr Syed Abdul Kadir, Lecturer of Professional Courses at SyUC who lectured Syed Mustafa Kamal.

"When he spoke it was obvious to all of us that he loved his time at Sunway and it is a compliment to us that he took the time off from his tightly scheduled business trip to visit us" added Mr Kadir.

Syed Mustafa Kamal was born in his native Karachi in Pakistan in 1972. He came to Sunway College then as it was known, to pursue an Associate Diploma in Business Executive studies (ABE) from 1996 -1998 and like most international students, resided at the apartment hostels. He went on to earn an MBA in Marketing from the University of Wales. He once served as a Minister for Information Technology with the Sindh Government in Pakistan.

City Nazim, a title equivalent to mayor, was earned by Syed Mustafa Kamal in his local elections in 2005. He bagged 1,493 votes against 800 votes of his rival, former City Nazim Naimatullah Khan. He then took oath on October 17, 2005.

"It was such a proud moment for us to meet City Nazim Syed Mustafa Kamal and we are honoured to share a close connection with him through his education" said Elizabeth Lee, Executive Director of Sunway University College. "He is most welcome to visit us anytime again in the future and we look to him as a link to help us forge closer ties with the people of Karachi" added Ms Lee.

If you wish join the SyUC Alumni, you may call the **Students Services Department** at 7491 8622 Extn 8021 (Adelene Goh) or 8069 (Elisa Dass). You may also email your details associates@sunway.edu.my. More info can be found at www.sunway.edu.my under "Alumni".

SyUC Environmental Proponent Wins Award



Dr Uthaya making a point on what we can all do for the environment



A Friend
of the
Environment

With more and more companies jumping on the recycling bandwagon in their efforts to project an environmentally conscious image, it has now become essential for each of us to understand that there is more to preserving the environment than recycling.

"People should reduce their use of plastic bags" said Dr Uthaya. It's sad that we have reached a point where salespeople feel they have not served us if they have not given us a plastic bag. "It's a cultural norm now to expect a plastic bag but we can do our part to get the message across by reducing our dependence on plastic bags" "Just keep saying no and if everyone refuses a plastic bag, the message will eventually come through" added Dr Uthaya.

Dr Uthaya Kumari K Raman is a lecturer in Biology at the American Degree Transfer Programme at SyUC. Recently, Dr Uthaya was honoured with the K.Kumarasivam Endowment Fund (KKEF) 2006 Young Environmentalist Internship Award as the judges were clearly impressed by her passion for educating the community on environmental issues.

Her internship was a two-week long attachment with Village Green Environmental Solutions Pty Ltd, in Melbourne, Australia. The company strives to change people's actions both at the work place and in the home. Village Green's services include assisting and advising SME's and their communities on the best ways to reduce waste and increase energy and water efficiency.

Dr Uthaya went on to explain that plastic bags take a very long time to degrade and when they do, they release toxins into the soil and waterways, polluting our environment and even the water we drink. Some sea animals eat the plastic bags thinking it is food but only to succumb sadly to choking and dying.

"If caterers and cafeterias would switch to non-disposable plates and cups, it would make a big difference to the amount of garbage we produce and eventually reduce our landfills" said Dr Uthaya commenting on the increasing use of disposables during functions and parties.

Dr Uthaya has a degree in Botany from the University of Malaya and a PhD in Plant Physiology from the University of Cambridge. It is time that each individual stops to think of how their actions would affect the environment. The simple act of reducing our wastes and changing the way we do things to a sustainable lifestyle would contribute to help our ailing planet. We are indeed proud to have someone like Dr Uthaya to steer us in the right direction.

Four Rounds of Brilliance by MUFY Sunway!



Chee Aiying (right), receiving her award from Lee How Chih, Mathematics B lecturer.

The first and second time it happened, they deserved applause. Clinching it the third time vanquished any doubts that it was mere coincidence. Now, MUFY Malaysia has proven its mettle by receiving the Monash International Top Scorer Award for the fourth time. The award has been presented only four times thus far and MUFY Malaysia has won it on all occasions, a proud achievement indeed.

MUFY or Monash University Foundation Year is an Australian Year 12 equivalent pre-university programme that provides a smooth transition into higher education. Graduates who achieve the required grades will automatically be accepted into the prestigious Monash University.

The Top Scorer accolade is given to the highest total score achiever among all the MUFY students from providers around the globe. They span across different countries, namely Sunway University College (SyUC), Malaysia, Taylor's College Melbourne and Taylor's College Perth in Australia; and Vientiane College, Laos. The outstanding student this time around is Chee Aiying from SyUC, who received recognition during the MUFY Graduation Night recently.

Celestina Chin Ai Qi was chosen as Valedictorian for her significant success in both academic and extra-curricular activities, as well as possessing leadership qualities.

In addition, there are the Monash International Subject Awards, presented to the top scorers in each of the nine subjects offered amongst all the MUFY providers. The recent graduation had SyUC students sweeping six of them, with Aiying bagging the Subject Awards for Mathematics A, Mathematics B and Physics. Serena Chua Yen Li, Marina Tan Su Min and Hardev Singh Dhillon were the winners of the Subject Awards in Economics, English and Biology respectively.

Among the Sunway MUFY students, Handy Santono emerged top scorer for Computer Science as did Tan Hooi Teng for Accounting. A total of 165 students received their graduation certificates.

Aiying received a full scholarship to study Engineering at Monash University Malaysia. Her proud parents were present at the Graduation Night to witness their daughter's moment of glory. They expressed their appreciation to the University and hailed its systematic programme structure, well-organised and



MUFY Valedictorian Celestina (right) receiving her award from Puan Adawiah Norli (left), Director of MUFY Sunway.

comprehensive teaching methods, and well-equipped facilities. "In addition, the lecturers are knowledgeable and dedicated. They are not only great educators but also great friends of the students," Mr. Chee praised.

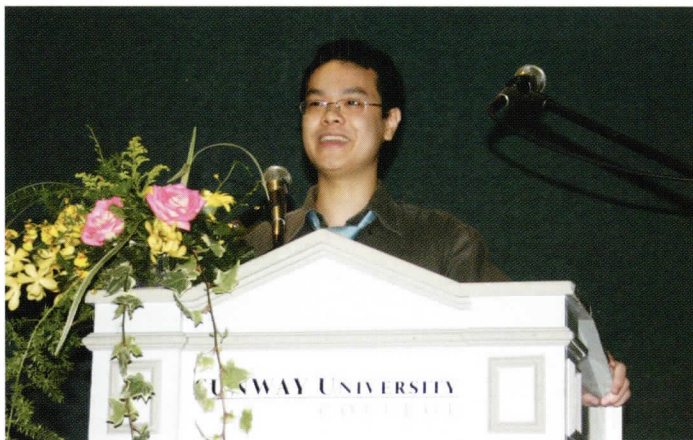
Serena Chua and Handy Santono received partial scholarships from Monash University Malaysia.

Apart from academic opportunities, Sunway MUFY students have a chance to meet international students through various extra-curricular activities. SyUC is a melting pot of various nationalities, ethnicities and cultures, exposing students to different ideas and viewpoints in their daily interactions.

"We teach the students to appreciate people. We want them to be able to work together and appreciate each other's differences," said Puan Adawiah Norli, Director of Sunway's MUFY "This program was and is continuing to be built by different people, from different places with different ideas. We have used these differences to make us stronger."

With lives just beginning for these hopeful fresh graduates, the foundation paved by MUFY would undoubtedly help them decide future paths to take, leading them to success. Puan Norli's closing words to them were, "What you must realize is that the education that you have received thus far will be a foundation upon which you will build your lives. These aren't the best years of your life. The best really is yet to come!"

Seeing Double at the 'A' Level Graduation at Sunway



Valedictorian Qu Hsueh Ming presented his witty appreciation speech. Hsueh Ming is now pursuing his studies in Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Oxford University.



Valedictorian Andrew Hoh Tjun Mee delivered his "thank you" speech at the graduation ceremony. He is currently at the London School of Economics reading Accounting and Finance

Sunway University College Cambridge GCE 'A' Level programme has always had an excellent track record in its yearly academic results. In the June 2006 examinations, 33% of its students obtained 3 'A's or better and five of its top students were accepted into Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

Recently, during the graduation ceremony in June this year, two students were glaringly exceptional and were given the honour of being the class valedictorians. "Both shone in their different turfs and we just decided that there will be two valedictorians this year" said Mrs Hor Poh Choo, Director of the GCE 'A' Level programme at SyUC.

Andrew Hoh Tjun Mee is one who constantly sets high standards for himself. Andrew achieved 'A's in all his 'A' level subjects. Not only is he a confident, high calibre student, but he enjoys the challenge of striking a balance between studies and co-curricular activities.

This was aptly demonstrated when he scored 10 'A's in his SPM while proving himself to be a talented debater. Andrew represented his school in interschool debates and was

the best speaker for the state of Negri Sembilan. At SyUC he was president of the Archery Club and the 'A' Level Committee. Andrew will be pursuing Accounting and Finance at the London School of Economics, UK.

Qu Hsueh Ming, another straight 'A' student who shared the honour with Hoh took an unusual combination of Mathematics, Further Mathematics, General Paper, Chemistry and Economics for his 'A' Levels. Described as intellectually adventurous and perceptive, Qu is a talented writer, having won many international writing competitions. He emerged Champion in the Oxford and Cambridge Essay Writing Competition last year. He was also a shortlisted finalist for the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award for Young Malaysians this year.

Qu was the Secretary of the Sunway-Monash Chess Club and a member of the 'A' Level Committee. Recently his brilliance was validated when MENSA admitted him as a member. It's no surprise that he will read Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Oxford University.

The SyUC CIMP - Nurturing Thinkers



Eliza Tan (left) a recipient of the Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Jeffrey Cheah Award receiving her Governor General of Canada's Medal from Mr Bez Babakhani, Programme Manager of the Political Section of the High Commission of Canada in Malaysia.



CIMP Valedictorian, Nadya Erina (right) about to get her award from Mr Lee Weng Keng, CEO Healthcare & Education Division of the Sunway Group

One hundred and ninety-seven (197) graduates proudly walked on the stage recently to receive the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). This certification is awarded upon completion of the Canadian Matriculation Programme (CIMP), a premier pre-university programme offered at Sunway University College (SyUC).

The graduation ceremony was graced by Mr. Bez Babakhani, Programme Manager of the Political Section of High Commission of Canada, Puan Sri Datin Seri Dr Susan Cheah, EXCO Member of the Sunway Group and Mr Lee Weng Keng, CEO Healthcare and Education, Sunway Group.

CIMP is an Ontario-based curriculum that meets the requirements of the Ontario Ministry of Education, Canada. The well-rounded course structure of this programme prepares the students for the next level of their higher education. More importantly perhaps, it grooms them to face the real world challenges head on.

The class of 2006 commanded a remarkable 92% passing rate. Top student Eliza Tan's outstanding academic achievement made her a

recipient of both the Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah Award and Governor General of Canada's Medal.

Eliza agrees that the uniqueness of this programme is that it stresses learning beyond the classroom. "CIMP is just so different from other programmes!" she enthused "The students are expected to not only grasp the knowledge but to apply it, which is so challenging and exciting. In the process of requiring us to apply our knowledge, CIMP sharpens our problem-solving skills, shaping us into becoming good thinkers."

Nadya Erina, the Valedictorian of the graduating class, sees eye to eye with Tan. "Through CIMP, I learned how to handle real life experiences, as well as develop new talents and skills," she shared during her valedictorian

speech "I would not be able to give this speech today if it wasn't for the many presentations I gave in my classes!" Besides achieving excellent academic results, Nadya was actively involved in extra-curricular activities including the Frisbee Club, Health Club, French Club, Talent Night Organising Committee and the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) Charity Programme.

The graduates attributed their success to their lecturers, mostly Canadian and some local, who were carefully selected for their qualifications and extensive experience. "The lecturers are so professional yet unbelievably approachable. And they are really passionate about what they teach," said Eliza.

Sunway CIMP graduates in the past have successfully received scholarships and placements into reputable universities in Canada, Australia and many parts of the world. Eliza has been accepted into the University of Melbourne to study Law. Nadya intends to pursue Business Banking and Finance, and Accounting at Monash University, Malaysia.



Overcoming Procrastination

By Dr Teoh Hsien-Jin

Serena was a student with lots of potential. She had good grades in SPM exams, spoke English fluently, and was a leader in all sorts of secondary school activities. She enrolled at Sunway University College, and commenced her degree programme with a good start. However, after a period of time her progress began to deteriorate. She was always late for class, her assignments were never completed on time, and in the long run, she did not do well in her exams. When asked why these things were happening, she just replied, "I dunno, I just seem to be putting things off, and am not always able to get started, then I feel guilty and hate myself for it."

Does this scenario sound familiar?

When people procrastinate, they constantly put chores and assignments off. This is a very common problem amongst humans and it is not a new phenomena. There are several common reasons for why this occurs. Here are some of the reasons:

Negative Thoughts

Feeling confident is about believing in "your" abilities. This can get out of hand if you are continuously saying negative things about yourself. These self-defeating thoughts may sound like "I can't do it", "I am a loser", or "I'm just no good". In the long run, you just feel lousy about yourself and can't bring yourself to get started, because you do not have the confidence to do so.

Low Self Esteem

Having lots of negative thoughts usually leads to low self-esteem. It lowers your mood, makes you feel unsure, and you just keep putting things off, either because you do not feel you can accomplish the task or that you feel you can get the job done later.

Priorities in the Wrong Order

Success is not just about completing tasks. It is also about completing these tasks in the right order. It all begins

with priorities, especially when you are having lots of things to do at the same time. Draw up a list, think about when the projects are due, and put them in a list in order of what is due in terms of deadlines, and also of difficulty. Generally, the more difficult tasks should rank as higher priority, and the less difficult ones as lower priority. The assignments that are due first, get higher priority, and those that are due later get a lower priority.

History

Family and friends may be unwittingly contributing towards a person developing low self-esteem. Have you ever had relatives or friends who do not seem to have anything good to say about anyone? They are always criticising you, saying nasty things about the way you do things, or saying that you could have done something better. As nasty as this sounds, it has detrimental effects, and you might begin believing what these people are saying which would eventually lead to low self-esteem.

What happens when you procrastinate?

When you procrastinate, and put things off, you put the important tasks aside. This eventually ends up as "out of sight, out of mind". Thus, you do not work on the assignment.

Then the deadline comes, and you begin to panic because you have not done the task. It usually ends up in one of two ways. Either poorly completed because you have not given it your best shot or alternatively, it does not get completed. Either way, you feel annoyed with yourself, and guilty, and bad. All these negative feelings eventually lead to your self esteem dropping further.

Solutions

Being a procrastinator is not the "end of the world". Some people enjoy procrastinating. The only problem is that they never manage to get anything completed. There are others who know that this is a problem. For these people, here are some suggestions to help them.

Identify those negative thoughts

You can't be living life on an "automatic" mode. Be aware of what you are thinking. Keep a diary of the negative thoughts that are going through your mind. The essence of control over life starts with being aware of "yourself".

Prepare yourself

No journey is ever completed if some preparation is not done. Similarly, equipping yourself with skills and knowledge prepares you to face

"I still have time"
 TODAY
 Tomorrow
 Yesterday
 Tomorrow
 Deadline



adversity. Think carefully about how you are going to handle a situation where you are either tempted to do something else, or when you feel like delaying doing a task. If you have thought carefully through how you are going to handle the situation, you are going to be a lot more prepared when the "unexpected" situation arises. Louis Pasteur, the famous scientist, once said "Fortune favours the prepared".

Learn to reward yourself

If you have managed to overcome procrastination, then this new habit must be maintained. It can only be done if there is an incentive. True, the incentive should be the long term goal that you set for yourself, but it is also important to recognise the short term achievements, and to subsequently reward yourself along the way. This way, you have something to look forward to at various points along the way.

Break task down into smaller goals

Large and exciting tasks may be nice to think about, but minds that have limited memory processing power need something smaller to conceptualise, and to put into operation in the short term. Break your big goals into smaller intermediate goals that last a week, or even a few days, and are a lot more

manageable and easier to put into practice. There is a saying that goes "A journey is made up of many small steps.", similarly "Eating a Big Mac consists of taking lots of little bites!"

Have realistic expectations

Whilst it is important to have dreams, the dreams that are too big and unreachable become "myth" rather than "fact". Stop for a moment. Evaluate whether you think the dream is achievable and modify it into something that you think can be achieved. If your dreams and goals are unrealistic, you are only setting yourself up for failure. So get real!

Make appointments with Yourself

Even the most high-level, high flying achievers find that they have so many other important things to do, so they tend to put things off. Many things need to get done and if they are "out of mind" they never get done for lack of time. Shape up, get the priorities right and make an appointment with yourself, to put time aside to get the tasks completed. This is called time-tabling. Keep an appointment diary and note down when you are going to get the task done.

Editor's Comment:

Dr Teoh Hsien-Jin is a Clinical Psychologist and Head of the School of Health and Natural Sciences at SyUC. The School offers the Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Psychology.



Treading Carefully on the Lighter Side of Courtesy

By Malenee Jinadasa

While walking along the campus corridor and reaching a door, I instinctively held it open and saw two people approaching from the other side. As I kept the door open on the side I was standing, they walked through - and kept walking with nary a backward glance or a nod. As I was about to step through, two other people appeared, chatting and laughing away in happy oblivion, and walked through the door - again with no word of thanks.

Did they think it was an invisible force that kept the door open? Or was door-opening part of the services thrown into my job specification when I joined SyUC? In fact, pondering about the way people generally treat one another, the situations below may sound quite familiar to most of us.

The elevator: An interesting place to hang out at. Firstly, the lift door opens (with you inside) to a colossal horde of people who have been waiting for it, and before you get to poke a toe out, the said horde does what it does best - they get in before you get out. I may not know much about elevator etiquette, but the last time I checked (now I could be wrong here), the insiders are supposed to get out first? Secondly, another baffling fact - people actually wait to board the lift, only to get off either one floor above, or one floor below. Now, I can perfectly understand it when I see people laden with equipment or armloads of paperwork or pushing trolleys, but come on - can't some people take the staircase for just one floor?

Littering: Another mind-boggling occurrence - people litter despite having a bin located nearby. Is it truly inconvenient to walk the 12 steps to the bin? And what do some people do instead? Slip a sweet wrapper or tissue into some corner or crevice that is handy. Another scenario - would we even think of holding on to our rubbish while travelling in a car? Heaven forbid, why would we? - especially when we

have a wide, open space literally at our disposal. During an outstation drive, I have had longan skin come hurtling down to land on my windscreen, compliments from the lorry driver on the next lane.

Mobile phones: Why, despite so much being said about phones in cinemas, do people keep answering it, and persist in launching into whispered conversations that can be heard at least three front-rows and two back-rows away ("Hello? Watching movie loh - Sunway Pyramid. Huh? No - Pirates of the Caribbean lah - ya loh, 2 o'clock show - finishing 3.30 - I call you back? Ok") Mobile phones ring during a religious service, when a speech is being made, during a meal, and in Port Dickson, while swimming, I have seen a man with his body submerged in water, chatting on the phone unmindful of the danger he is in. Do we communicate better through the phone instead of face-to-face? Scary thought.

Cutting a queue: You would have encountered this scenario innumerable times - you are patiently queuing up, carefully inching your way in the heavy morning or evening traffic, bopping your head to the tunes of Coldplay or INXS, and an inconsiderate chap slows down and stops alongside your car, indicating that he or she wants to cut in. What do you do? (A) Glare and swear in vain as he/she skillfully maneuvers the car in front of yours (B) roll down your window and yell "I know karatel!" (C) Play an inching game to

ensure he/she doesn't move in (D) Sit back and meditate.

General kindliness and consideration:

We've been in situations where we know we should be helping the poor sod who slipped and fell hard on his posterior, but we were laughing too hard to be of any help at all. And how are we in terms of politeness? Are our conversations peppered with "thank you-s" and "please" or do we use four-letter words as part of our pre-fixes and suffixes? How considerate are we to the needs and comfort of others? Are we brought up that way?

It is interesting to mull about people's attitude, and wonder what actually makes them tick. A lot stems from our own upbringing, and if it is the norm in the family for a parent to casually toss rubbish out of the car window while driving, then we cannot expect the child to grow up thinking otherwise. However, schools, colleges, universities, companies, government departments and the media can help to ingrain the practice of courtesy by implementing campaigns and awareness programs throughout the year. This continuous effort will not be a wasted endeavor; when the present and new generations raise their young, the correct and proper values would be handed down.

Curious to know how Sunway staff and students rate...? Check this out!

What do they say?

71% of our staff would NEVER be caught dead littering, while students who share the same thought rate 54%. The rest? 21% of both categories say they RARELY litter. Well, keep it up - let's work on getting a full 100% on maintaining a clean campus.

On littering

What do they say?

We are proud that a hefty 89% of staff and 85% of students would ALWAYS set their mobile phones on silent mode if requested to. Would they move away from the crowd if they need to take a call? 39% of staff and 35% of students would ALWAYS do so.

On mobile phone etiquette

On elevator etiquette

What do they say?

57% of SyUC staff who participated in a survey say they ALWAYS hold the elevator door for others, and 64% say they ALWAYS make way for people who are exiting the lift before they enter. How do our students who participated in the survey feel about that? 64% would ALWAYS hold the elevator door for others (sadly, 3% would RARELY do it. We would like to think its because their arms are weighed down with books perhaps?). As for making way for people who are exiting the lift, 50% of our students say they ALWAYS do it.

On cutting a queue

What do they say?

SyUC staff have an equal score of 32% in NEVER and RARELY cutting queue in traffic, and 93% NEVER cut into an existing queue while making payment. 39% of students however, feel they need to cut into traffic queues SOMETIMES, while 25% would NEVER do it. As for cutting into an existing queue while making payment, 61% of students would NEVER do it. Interestingly, we find 7% who say they SOMETIMES do it, so we figure you are highly confident people who do not fear being given a public dressing down.

How to improve

When asked what sort of measures can be taken to improve courtesy, students and staff had these opinions to give:

What do they say?

64% of staff say they ALWAYS indicate their thanks when others allow them to pass through while driving; students who ALWAYS do that stand at 43%. 64% of staff say they RARELY hog a table after a meal when there are others waiting, while 35% of students say they SOMETIMES continue to hog the table, while 43% would RARELY hog the table. While using the public mode of transportation, 71% of staff ALWAYS offer their seat to the elderly, the physically-challenged and pregnant mothers, while 35% of students ALWAYS do so, with 50% of them who do so FREQUENTLY. As to whether they would spontaneously extend help to a stranger, 21% of staff and 28% of students would do so ALWAYS, with the bulk of others preferring to extend their help only sometimes (with crime rate on the rise, it is wiser to extend help cautiously when in public places).

On consideration for others

What do they say?

How polite are we in our daily language? 54% of staff ALWAYS use polite phrases; 35% of students respectively use polite phrases ALWAYS and FREQUENTLY. On whether or not you would say "thank you" when paying for purchases or services rendered, 79% of staff would ALWAYS say thank you, and 64% of students would do it ALWAYS.

On being polite

What do they say?

40.4% feel that parents and teachers should lead by example in inculcating the right values in children, and educate the young about discipline and good manners. 30% think that courtesy campaigns through the government and various media can play an effective role in promoting public awareness. 19% believes that courtesy is something people can put into practice if they set their mind to it. In daily interaction, treat one another with respect, smile and greet people around us, be appreciative when courtesy is extended to us and so forth. This positive affirmation of courteous behavior should continue until it becomes a social norm. The remaining 10.6% confess to having zero tolerance for inconsiderate and bad behavior, and feel the best way to get the message across is by ticking off the culprit.

Editor's Comments: A courtesy survey was recently done at our campus, comprising a small group of students, academic and administrative staff. The result of the survey is an indication of the courtesy level at SyUC. It is gratifying to note that the level is relatively high. Let's keep this up, and make the campus a friendly place to be in. To those who took part in our courtesy survey conducted in July 2006, thank you for your participation. Malenee Jinadasa is an Executive and Assistant Trainer, Sunway International Business & Management Sdn Bhd.



Linoth of the School of Computer Technology is airborne while Kumaran Krishnan from the Chartered Institute of Marketing programme, holds the bats (right)



Monash University Foundation Year student, Husna "launches" off. Waiting in line is Yap Chai Yi a Chartered Institute of Marketing student and Soo Wei Ann, Taekwondo Club President. Soo is a Victoria University, Bachelor of Business student.

SyUC Tops Inter-Varsity Taekwondo Tournament

In the first ever Inter-varsity martial arts tournament organised recently, SyUC successfully defeated five other higher institutions to reach the top of the medals tally with 7 golds, 7 silvers and 6 bronzes.

The standard of competition was intense with many participants impressing the judges as they competed in good form. INTI College (5 golds, 5 silvers and 6 bronzes) were the runner up and Asia Pacific University College of Technology & Innovation (UCTI) came in at third place (4 golds, 4 silvers and 4 bronzes). The other institutions who took part were Kolej Damansara Utama (KDU), Sepang Institute of Technology (SIT) and Monash University Malaysia.

All the students who represented SyUC are members of the Taekwondo Club of SyUC. The members of this club, comprising students only and numbering more than fifty, train every Wednesday and Friday evenings. The students proved that the regular training sessions they had undergone

and a strong determination is a factor for the good performances. "Poomsae", which is a sequence of specific actions and "Sparring" were the two events of the tournament.

Taekwondo instructor Tony Lee who holds a black belt with 6 dans and others from the Malaysian Taekwondo Federation were the judges for the tournament. Staff Adrena Sicilza Abdul Rahim from the Professional Courses Department, was the Technical Advisor for the event.

SyUC students were involved as timekeepers and made up the majority of the organising committee, showed they were capable of hosting a memorable event that effectively promoted this sport among the student community.



Wen Xue, ACCA student, kicks while Mohd Ebrahim Sedeghianfimuabd from the 'A' Levels, waits his turn. Kumaran Krishnan holds the bat.

Fast and Frenzied Football Daze in 2006

The best teams that Sunway University College had to offer took centre stage at the Inter-Programme Football Tournament 2006 held in April. This was a great opportunity to handpick a selection of players for the Sunway University College Football team. A total of 162 players from 9 teams took part in this major annual event.

The event began in the group stages, with all teams setting their sights to go through to the Quarter-Finals. Come rain, come shine, the players trooped down to the field to strut their stuff for the honour of their departments and schools. As the tournament progressed, 4 teams were singled out to be favourites to take the SyUC Cup, ACCA, School of Computer Technology (SCT) A, School of Computer Technology (SCT) B and Victoria University (VU). However the A-Levels team pulled an amazing upset over SCT B team in penalties.

In the Semifinals, A-Levels was up against ACCA while VU was up against SCT A. However ACCA was too strong for the A-levels as they whipped them 5-0. In the other semifinals, there was more competition as the VU team put up a strong challenge before going down 2-1 to SCT A.

The teams that made it to the finals were a deja vu scenario of the 2005 finals, SCT A versus ACCA. ACCA won the tournament in the last three years and last year they defeated SCT to take the Cup by just one goal. The match

The players put in their heart and soul to the end



The action heats up on the pitch

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The Champs from the SCT A team



The Runner-up team from ACCA

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began with lots of excitement. It was fast paced and frenzied. Both teams were determined and it was difficult to produce a breakthrough. Then in the 28th minute, Reuben from the SCT A team took a beautiful free kick to put his team 1 up. However their joy was short lived as a minute later, SCT A fell victim to their own goal.

The score was 1-1 and in the final 3 minutes, SCT A fullback was shown the red card for his outburst towards the opposition team. The last 3 minutes was intense as ACCA pushed hard against the ten men to score. However the score remained tied and the teams were off to a penalty shoot-out to decide on the winner. The penalty shoot out was one sided as SCT A held their nerves to convert 4 penalties while ACCA only slotted home two. The final result, SCT A emerged the Champions of 2006.

After 13 days, 17 games, 56 goals (excluding penalties), 1 red card, 23 yellows and 3 penalty shoot-outs, another amazing Inter-Programme Football season is over. With an average of more than 3 goals per game, this year's tournament has indeed been an exciting and enjoyable one to watch as the football fanatics geared up for another great football fiesta - THE FIFA WORLD CUP 2006 which followed soon after.

Contributed by Muhammad Izzat, 'A' Level student & President of the SyUC Football Club and Jeremy Ian Hendricks, Sports Advisor, Student Services, SyUC



Football fans stayed up to catch a live match at the Monash University students lounge during the FIFA World Cup 2006.