

blaze

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Two scrolls, one degree

at inspiring convocation



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Australian honour for
Chancellor Jeffrey
Cheah

Sunway clinches
3 awards from
Canadian council

Meeting Hannah Yeoh
CIMP student is math wiz

blaze

Explanatory notes: "**Blaze**" was selected as its name signifies Sunway University College's burst of achievements in recent years. Sunway University College 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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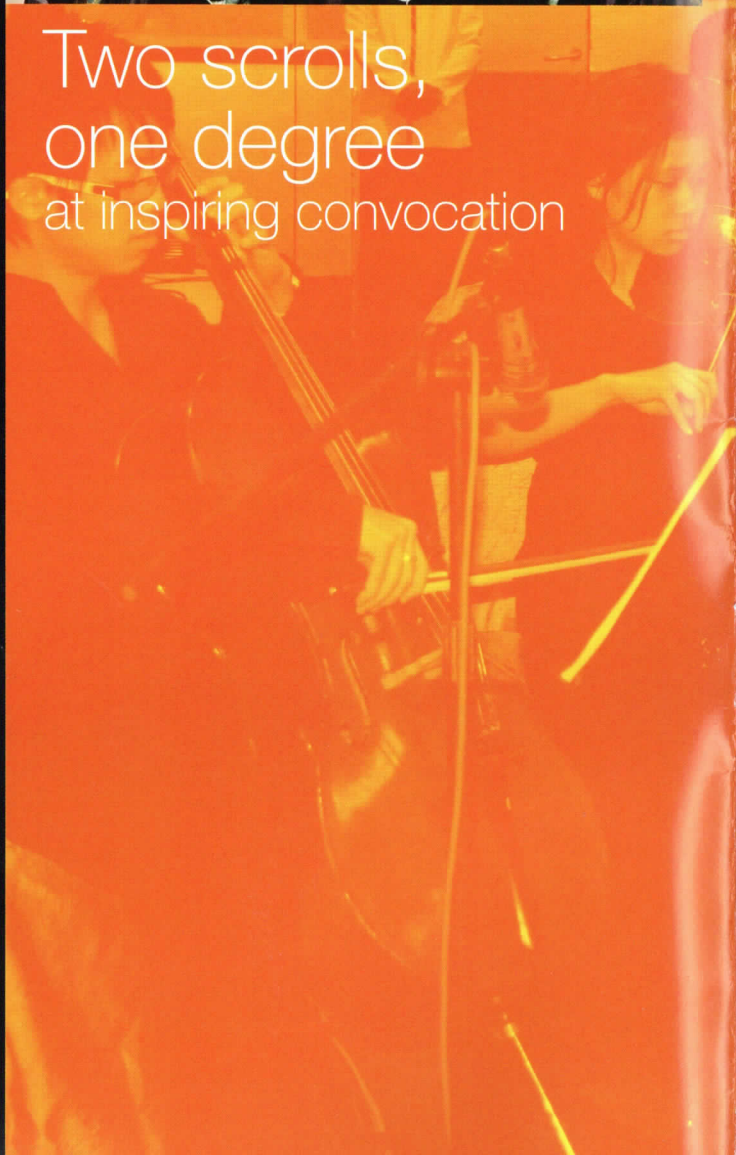
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Two scrolls, one degree

at inspiring convocation



The proud B.Sc Psychology first class honours.
Standing left to right, Chua Soo Imm, Jolyn Sia
Yun Yun, Low Sze Zen. Sitting left to right, Shalini
Loganathan, Yu Lee Mei Christine and Tan Kai Ling.



Patricia Yap Ching Yi flanked by mum, Benedicta
Perez (left) and grandfather, C.J Perez (right).



Jemima (2nd from right) with her parents, David Munusamy (right), Helen Premmah Samuel (left) and her sister.

Centre (left to right), in gowns, Yesotha Vellasami, Goh Kar Mun, Patricia Yap and Sangkari A/P Pranthaman; flanked by (left) Alvin Lim and next to him Joelin Lim, Sunway counsellor. On the right is Rev Esther (in red) and next to her, Lee Siok Ping, Director, Student Services Department, Sunway.

In a grand ceremony embedded in tradition, 700 graduating students of Sunway University College were presented degrees and diplomas for their achievements in Business, Computer Technology, Creative Arts & Communications, Health & Natural Sciences and Hospitality, Tourism & Leisure Management.



Joint degree excellence

It was a historic occasion as this convocation saw the first cohort of students graduating in the joint Psychology honours degree developed by Sunway and validated by its partner of two years, Lancaster University. The cohort revealed 6 first class honours and 12 second uppers testament to Sunway's capacity to meet the standards set by the distinguished university partner. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Lancaster University, Professor Robert McKinlay representing his Chancellor, Sir Chris Bonington gave away the Lancaster scrolls.

Tun Omar Ong Yoke Lin Community Scholars

Delivering on its promise to provide equal opportunities to the deserving, and bringing hope for the less-fortunate, five Tun Omar Ong Yoke Lin Community Scholars graduated in this ceremony. They were Yesotha Devi A/P Vellasami, Patricia Yap Ching Yi, Sangkari A/P Pranthaman (who

earned Diplomas in Hospitality & Tourism Management) and Goh Kar Mun, (a Diploma in Conventions & Events Management). Jemima Jothimalar D/O Munusamy graduated with a B.Sc (Hons) in Multimedia Systems. The community scholarships are funded by the Sunway Education Trust Fund, which has been responsible for providing over RM42 million in scholarships to date since its inception in 1997.

Community scholarship recipients hail from charitable Homes or low income families. Yesotha is from Rumah Keluarga Kami. Her sister, Suseela was also a community scholar and has since graduated. The Trust has presented community scholarships since 2002 to 38 students. 9 have graduated since.

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Brandon Yim (seated centre) with his parents (standing, extreme left), Mr and Mrs Yim Kok Chiew, his 3 sisters, grandparents, relatives and friends.



The Sunway University College Resident Ensemble.



Yesotha (left) with her elder sister Suseela (right)

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Malaysian Care

Officers from Malaysian Care, Rev. Esther Alfred, Coordinator, Communications and Alvin Lim, Director, Finance & Communications were also present. Malaysian Care is a non-profit organisation which has been assisting Sunway to identify and encourage students from Homes to apply for Sunway's community scholarships.

Alvin Lim said, "I strongly believe that society should give those from the poor community a second chance. We will continue to play our part with Sunway to help these students. Through our joint efforts, there will be hope in the future for them"

Special graduates

Two graduates with physical disabilities who received applause were Brandon Yim Yong Kang and AK Hj Md Azizul Amri bin Pg Hj Sarpuddin. Amri is from Brunei and received the B.Sc (Hons) Multimedia Systems and Brandon graduated with the B.Sc (Hons) Information Technology.

Grand ambience

The Sunway University College Resident Ensemble made a stunning performance befitting the grand ceremony. The ensemble comprising students Noeleen Tong (ADTP), Melissa Mea (ACCA), Karen Lock (CIMP) and Mervin Yeow (ACCA) were led by Rockie Siew, the Resident Ensemble consultant.

Also present at the graduation was H.E. Boyd McCleary, British High Commissioner to Malaysia.

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Robert McKinlay said on Lancaster's affiliation with Sunway "We have a commitment to enlarging our involvement with Sunway, contributing not only to its development but also to engaging with Malaysia's ambitions to be a regional centre of excellence in the delivery of all kinds of high level educational services."

Sponsorships for aspiring Florence Nightingales



Sukhbeer Kaur A/P Darsin Singh, lecturer with Sunway nursing students.

A collaboration between Sunway University College and a sister company, Sunway Medical Centre allows Sunway University College nursing students to be fully sponsored by Sunway Medical Centre to pursue a Diploma at Sunway University College and students to undergo clinical attachments with the five-star hospital as part of the course requirements.

The full sponsorship includes accommodation for the 3 year programme. In return, the students will be bonded to Sunway Medical centre upon qualifying. There are currently 29 nursing students at Sunway University College who are all sponsored.

Sunway University College assures the integrity and quality of nurses produced by them. The entry requirements set for the programme by the University are stringent and additional criteria have also been set by Sunway Medical Centre to be eligible for the sponsorship, which is for prospective students to have a minimum of a credit in biology.

Professor Jarlath Ronayne said, "Sunway University College's nursing course is small and limited to 30 per intake, allowing closer student-lecturer contact and more guidance for students in their studies. I am glad to say that the programme is approved by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency and the first intake we admitted was in July 2008"

Upon completing the final exams with Sunway University College, students will be eligible to sit for the Malaysian Nursing Board Registration Examination. Upon passing, the students qualify as registered nurses or staff nurses. After this they may specialise or pursue further studies to graduate and post-graduate levels.

Sunway opens Lancaster University Centre



Launching the Lancaster University Centre, left to right, Elizabeth Lee, Professor Jarlath Ronayne, Professor Robert McKinlay, Tan Sri Dato' (Dr) Ramon Navaratnam, Pro-Chancellor and Lee Weng Keng.

A new Lancaster University Centre was officially opened by Professor Robert McKinlay, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Lancaster University. Professor McKinlay was in Malaysia to represent his Chancellor, Sir Chris Bonington, at the first graduation ceremony in which graduates of the joint degree programme received their scrolls.

As part of its commitment to continuously provide quality education in Malaysia, Sunway opened this new centre within its premises to further strengthen the affiliation between itself and its British partner.

The partnership between Sunway University College and Lancaster University, which was formalised in 2006, has already seen Sunway develop their own undergraduate courses in Business, Psychology, Computing and Hospitality Management which are validated by Lancaster University, one of the top 20 universities in the UK and top 10 in research according to the Times UK Good University Guide 2009.

The partnership has resulted in world class degrees and is an excellent option for students who want a good UK degree with the "Malaysian experience". The BSc (Honours) in Accounting and Finance at Sunway University College, developed in collaboration with Lancaster University, is officially accredited by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) and is one of two Accounting and Finance degrees in Malaysia, to

be given provisional exemptions in 8 papers by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW).

"We are very pleased at Sunway that we passed all the 'tests' which Lancaster University set, to establish a lasting and effective partnership. Of prime importance was our ability to deliver honours degree programmes in collaboration with Lancaster which matched the high standards of this distinguished institution. The results achieved by our first graduates, in the Department of Psychology, 6 firsts class and 12 second uppers, justify the confidence that Lancaster has shown in us," said Professor Jarlath Ronayne, Vice-Chancellor of Sunway University College.

In 2009, the postgraduate courses offered through the School of Business and Law and School of Computing Technology pending accreditation from the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA), will commence.

The Masters courses in Management, Management with Law as well as Money, Banking and Finance have been jointly developed by Sunway University College and the Lancaster University Management Schools (LUMS). LUMS is the 4th top business school in the UK and is the 22nd in the world according to the Financial Times Global MBA ranking for 2008. LUMS is also one of two UK management (business) schools acknowledged by the UK government as a six-star (6*) centre of world-class research in Management.

In addition to that, the School of Computing Technology will offer the Masters in Network and Mobile Systems and MSc in Computer Science (by research). Ranked one of the top 200 universities in the world by the authoritative THES-QS Guide to the World's Top 200 universities 2008, Lancaster University also ranks no 1 in the Northwest of England (which includes Manchester, Manchester Metropolitan and Liverpool) according to the Guardian and Independent League Tables UK 2008.

continued on next page

Sunway clinches 3 awards from Canadian council



Sunway University College made a milestone achievement recently when it clinched three awards in the Malaysia Canada Business Council (MCBC) Business Excellence Awards (BEA) 2008 including a surprise Canadian High Commissioner's Award.

The awards were presented by Y.B. Datuk Liew Vui Keong, Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry (right) on behalf of the Minister of International Trade and Industry to Elizabeth Lee (centre) and witnessed by H.E. David B Collins, High Commissioner of Canada (left).

Sunway took home the Gold Award for the Industry Excellence in Education category. It's second Gold Award came from the Good Corporate Citizen category. The third and most prestigious award received was the High Commissioner's Award, the only award given for significant contribution to Malaysian-Canadian bilateral relations directly resulting from the course of its daily business that reflects the spirit of the Malaysia Canada Business Council.

"It is with great pride that I received the awards on behalf of Sunway. These awards are a tribute to the fine work of each and every member of Sunway staff and students. I would like to specially thank all colleagues who have helped with the compilation and documentation of our achievements. I was told it was a close fight all the way to clinch these top awards" said Ms Elizabeth Lee, Executive Director of Sunway University College.

Sunway University College has been offering the Canadian International Matriculation programme since 1991 and is one of the largest providers of this Canadian Matriculation (Year 12) in the world. As a result of Sunway's continual success and growth in delivering this programme, and because Sunway attributes great value to expanding the provision of the Canadian curriculum in Malaysia, it established the first Canadian international school in Malaysia. Sunway International School, a private co-educational institution, was launched in October 2007 and admitted its first intake of Grades 10 and 11 in January this year.

Dr Anindita's book on democracy

Dr Anindita Dasgupta, a senior lecturer with the American Degree Transfer Programme at Sunway University College has been awarded the Asian Scholarship Fund (ASF) Collaborative Works Grant funded by the Ford Foundation and administered by the Asian Scholarship Foundation in Thailand.



Proud collaborators Dr Anindita (left) and Neeta (right)

Dr Anindita who teaches Pacific Asian Studies, will use the grant valued at USD16,000 to produce a landmark edited book titled 'Resurgent Democracies: Experiences of South and Southeast Asia'.

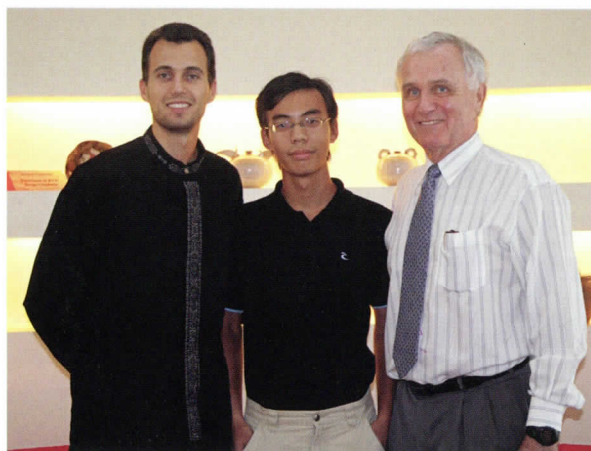
Seven scholars from around the world including Dr Maung Zarni from Oxford University, Dr Richard Whitecross from University of Edinburgh, Dr Stephen M. Lyon from Durham University, Professor Imtiaz Ahmed from Dhaka University and Neeta S Singh, a lecturer in Malaysian Studies at Sunway University College, were invited by Dr Anindita to write an 8,000-10,000 word chapter each for the book. Ms Neeta S. Singh will contribute a chapter entitled "Democracy: The Malaysian Enigma".

"There is little doubt that the restoration of democracy is imperative for the enjoyment of equal rights and liberties by the citizens of a country" said Dr Anindita. "The wave of popular movements or 'people power' demanding restoration of democracy that has swept across Asia in recent months provides the rationale for the selection of the seven case-studies for the book" she added.

The book will provide compelling chapters on democracy in Malaysia and six other Asian countries. The chapter on Malaysia will trace the development of democracy since independence and address whether people's power as seen in the March 2008 elections will lead to the return of true democratic principles. Dr Anindita emphasized "The contents of the book will reflect findings from new research and will be purely scholarly, without any political agenda and will provide a balanced and academic analysis of the recent burst of people-power across Asia". Dr Anindita added "More importantly, we hope that this book will be used as reference material for university students of political science and international relations as at the moment there is a lack of suitable books that cover this range of nations in South and Southeast Asia".

Dr Anindita was previously granted two other fellowships funded by the Ford Foundation and administered by the Asian Scholarship Foundation in Thailand in 2001 and 2003.

CIMP student is math wiz



Liu Yuan Ziu (centre) with his math teacher, Leon Varga (left) and Terry Boucher (right) Director of the CIMP in Sunway.

Canadian International Matriculation Programme (CIMP) student, Liu Yuan Ziu did Sunway proud by finishing in the top 2% bracket and bagging a Medal of Merit in the Euclid Math competition by the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada this year. 16 of his CIMP classmates wrote the test and 5 finished in the top 25%. 16,000 math students, from around the world participated. Yuan Ziu is currently pursuing engineering at Monash University, Sunway campus. CIMP is a Year 12 equivalent pre-university programme that is internationally recognised.

MUFY student is Top Scorer again

Students of Monash University Foundation Year (MUFY) a pre-university programme, continually bag the Monash Excellence Award for achieving the highest total score among all the providers of MUFY in the world in Australia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Laos. In 2008, Herianto won the award, making it the seventh time that Sunway MUFY has received the award, which is all the occasions that the award has been given.



Mr. Lee Weng Keng (left), CEO Education & Healthcare Division, the Sunway Group presented the award to Herianto (right).



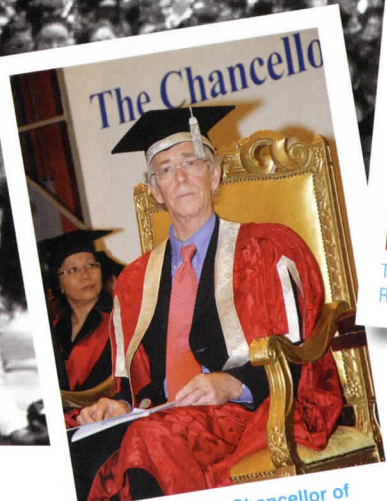
Rudra (left), Wei Han (centre) and Radin (right) with their awards.

AUSMAT students excel

In the recent Australian Matriculation (AUSMAT) Awards Night, Radin Faizal Arif received the Shield of Excellence for his all-round achievements. Radin said "AUSMAT has been a fun experience, where I was doing things I've never done before. It was an eye-opener. Interesting classmates and lecturers made it special. Our ideas were always encouraged and well-received"

Chua Wei Han bagged the Academic Achievement Award, subject awards for Applicable Mathematics, Economics and a distinction in the Business Educators of Western Australia (BEWA) 2008 accounting examination. Wei Han said of AUSMAT "It was life-altering. It equipped me with skills necessary to overcome obstacles in my life". Fellow classmate, Rudra Dewi Thavarajan had subject awards for Biology and Chemistry. AUSMAT is the Year 12 curriculum of Western Australia.

A proud and inspiring convocation



The Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Lancaster University, Professor Robert McKinlay.



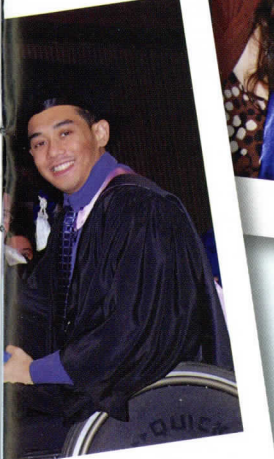
The Mace Bearer, Dr Khatijah Khalid, Registrar of Sunway University College.



Chancellor Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah.



A proud moment for Brandon Yim.



Amri Sarpuddin receiving his scroll from the Chancellor.



The Pro-Chancellors of Sunway University College, (Left) Tan Sri Dato' (Dr.) Ramon Navaratnam and (right) Datuk Razman M. Hashim.

Esther transfers to Ivy League institution

A proud occasion for Sunway's American Degree Transfer Programme (ADTP) this year was when Esther Lim Wei Yee recently transferred to Cornell University, ranked 12 in the US according to U.S News 2008 edition. Esther is studying Biological Engineering after completing the required credits.

13 students from the ADTP were given Presidential Scholarships by Western Michigan University in June 2008. The value of the scholarship is USD8,000 per annum. Most of the scholars are pursuing disciplines in engineering. Congratulations to R.S Vewen, Sim Chee Chuan, Chiu Wei Jian, Ee Mee Ting, Kong Ling Kit, Mark Nathaniel Barki (Indonesia), Kishaan Kumar Ganesh, Njoku Ugochukwu (Nigeria), Ryan Adidharma Amaram (Indonesia), Mohamad Belqaizi, Amin Nor Hafidz, Lai Ying Jiun and Paul Ngu.



Esther Lim (left) with Sumitha Ganesharatnam (right), Head of the ADTP at Sunway.



Left to right : Kevin Wong, Chow Chee Kai, Syed Fernash, Yap Kim Sung, Leong Choon Yew, and Sam Wotherspoon.



Gan Soon Bing with his winning watercolour entry.

Art & Design students show artistic excellence

Gan Soon Bing, a student in Graphic & Multimedia Design diploma programme at Sunway won First Prize in the Tanjong Heritage Art Competition 2008 (watercolour category) organised by the Tanjong Public Limited Company. He received a cash prize of RM3,000 for his pointillism painting of a Chinese temple scene.

Gan's peers from the same Graphic & Multimedia Design programme, won First Prize in the "My Life My Way Video Competition" organised by Media One Asia.

Top-of-the-World feeling among A-Level students

As the University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) hailed students who achieved “Top in the World” placings from their June 2008 Cambridge examinations three Sunway University College A-Level students amazed with their astounding results.



Yeo Jun Hau.

Yeo Jun Hau was awarded second placing in the world in the “Best across Three A-Level Subjects” and he was also “Top in Malaysia for Mathematics at A-Level”.

Yeow Xinyan and Nurul Azeem Bte Abd. Jamil were both awarded “Top in the World Mathematics AS Level”. Nurul Azeem is a Petronas Scholar doing the Arts combination. Xinyan is in the accelerated one-year Cambridge A-Level programme.



Yeow Xinyan (left) and Nurul Azeem Bte Abd. Jamil (right) with Dr. Wong Yoke Chen, the Director of the A-Levels at Sunway.

Yeo Jun Hau is currently reading Actuarial Science at Heriot-Watt University in the United Kingdom. Jun Hau shared on his studying experience in the Sunway A-Level programme, “My time in Sunway was the time of my life. It was a big and happy family and every unit was helpful and caring. Effective ways of teaching and strong encouragements by the teachers led to our successes”

Nurul is hoping to study Accounting and Xinyan plans to do Actuarial Science.





Australian honour for Sunway's Chancellor

Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah (left) after receiving the AO from the Right Honourable Prime Minister Kevin Rudd (right).

It was 21 years ago when Tan Sri Jeffrey had a dream. A diehard believer in the immeasurable benefits of education, he founded Sunway University College in 1987. Today, Sunway and Monash University, Sunway campus stand proudly as a testament to his legacy of providing quality education to raise the level of human capital in Malaysia.

It was his extraordinary contribution to education and his business links to Australia that led to his appointment of the Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) recently. This eminent honour was conferred to Tan Sri Jeffrey, Chairman of the Sunway Group and Chancellor of Sunway University College by none other than the Prime Minister of Australia, the Right Honourable Kevin Rudd at the residence of the Australian High Commissioner to Malaysia, H.E Penny Williams.



Left to right: Prime Minister Kevin Rudd (2nd from left) with Mr Lee Weng Keng (left), Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah (centre), Professor Jarlath Ronayne (2nd from right) and Dr Goh Cheng Teik (right).

Greeja's Australian learning award



A senior lecturer with the Victoria University (VU) Bachelor of Business in Sunway, Greeja De Silva with her VU counterparts in Australia, Fiona Henderson and Alan McWilliams, won a Citation for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning awarded by the Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education, Australia.

Professor Jarlath Ronayne, Vice-Chancellor, Sunway University College (left) with Greeja De Silva (right) with her award.

This was the first time a VU Sunway lecturer won a learning award as part of an international team.

Alan McWilliams, Unit of Study Coordinator of the Faculty of Business and Law at VU and Fiona Henderson, Lecturer, Student Learning Unit at VU College in Melbourne, collaborated with Greeja in a project that showed excellence in curriculum redesign to support students' diverse learning needs. Greeja coordinated access to students and provided insider expertise to the teaching and learning conditions here. She has been with the VU programme since February 1999 as the principal

lecturer and tutor for the Management and Organisational Behaviour, a first year core subject in the VU business programme at Sunway.

Dr Foo Yin Fah, Head of the VU programme at Sunway, said "The Carrick Award recognised the untiring efforts of a team who have consistently worked at enhancing the quality of teaching and learning outcomes".

The award included a prize money of AUD10,000 shared among the team members.

Meeting Hannah Yeoh



Hannah Yeoh (in suit) with Lee Siok Ping, Director of Student Services Department (in white jacket) with students.

In conjunction with the Sunway University College Career Fair 2008, a personal sharing session was held for students with Subang Jaya State Assemblyman, Hannah Yeoh.

The no-holds-barred talk by Hannah Yeoh revealed the many challenges and rewards of being an Assemblyman. Third-year Psychology student, Felicia Chong, 22 said "I was deeply moved by Hannah Yeoh's talk as she spoke candidly and from the heart" Liew Coon Hui, a third year multimedia student shared "She was a very good speaker. It is not easy for a woman to be in politics but she has done the job well and I really admire her for her courage and the sacrifices she has made". The Career Fair, held annually, links final year students with employers and is part of Sunway's initiative to equip and prepare students for careers.



Chef Saiful with his culinary treasures.

Keeping cool in the kitchen

Saiful Azhar bin Mahamad Sharipp, a graduate of the School of Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure Management at Sunway became the 1st runner up in the prestigious "Commis Rotissuer 2008 for Malaysia" organised by the Chaine Des Rotissuer, held at Sunway University College in June this year. Saiful, a Chef de Partie at Trader's Hotel, had 45 minutes to come up with the recipes for the appetizer, main course and dessert before creating his culinary masterpieces. The winner was Ling Jenn Joe of The Westin.



Sunway students dazzled with their Rajasthani folk dance.

A night of culture and glamour

"One Global Village" was the theme this year of the International Student Carnival which was hosted by Sunway University College and jointly organised with the Ministry of Higher Education. 2,500 international students from 36 public and private institutions of higher learning participated in the 2-day carnival.

The highlight was the International Cultural Night in which some 100 international students showcased various performances. The Guest-of-Honour was YB Dr Hou Kok Chung, Deputy Minister of Higher Education. He was hosted by the Chancellor of Sunway, Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah.



Sunway University College international student organizers dressed in their national or ethnic attires.

Victoria University Chancellor speaks at TSJCDSS



Chancellor Frank Vincent with the VU Sunway students.

The Honourable Justice Frank Vincent, the Chancellor of Victoria University, Australia gave a talk on "The Globalization of Education – A Judicial Perspective" under the Tan Sri Jeffery Cheah Distinguished Speakers Series (TSJCDSS) recently at Sunway. Chancellor Vincent practiced as a barrister before being appointed one of Her Majesty's Counsels in 1980. The thrust of the thought-provoking talk was on the profound effects of internationalization of universities and the benefits of it, from his perspective as Chancellor of VU.

In conjunction with the talk, there was a VU Exhibition and student gatherings. VU has been a twinning partner for the VU Bachelor of Business at Sunway since 1994 and the VU Masters in Business Administration since 2004.

The ties between VU and Sunway go a long way. The Chancellor of Sunway University College, Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Jeffrey Cheah is a distinguished VU alumnus. He received his first honorary Doctor of the University from VU in 1993. All TSJCDSS talks are free and open to the public.

Students display flair for business

The winners of the second Sunway Apprentice Challenge (SAC), Team FUXION pitted their skills against Team EDGE in a bigger-than-life trading board game of Saidina, Malaysia's own version of Monopoly. The Sunway Apprentice Challenge (made up of 3 challenges) was organised by Sunway and sponsored by Alliance Bank Malaysia Berhad.

In the final challenge, Team FUXION again emerged the winner in a corporate setting whereby the teams went to Alliance Bank to perform a case study analysis and the next day, presented their analysis to an expert panel of judges at Sunway. Paul Ngu was the overall best participant and winner of the Sunway Apprentice Challenge 2008. The objective of the SAC is to expose students to entrepreneurship and real work experiences and to hone leadership qualities. It was inspired by Donald Trump's "The Apprentice" reality show that identified individuals with an outstanding caliber for business.



Left to right : Rebecca Ng, Tang Wai Hoe, Muhammad Faisal, Paul Ngu and Khor Jia Na.

Sunway gives HOPE

A free clinic in the city recently received a pleasant surprise after it approached Sunway University College intending to purchase a library software system. The institution decided to take the opportunity to provide the free clinic its software at no cost; as an extension of Sunway University College's commitment to the community.

Sunway presented the SyLibs library system software developed by its School of Computer Technology students and enhanced by staff of its Research & Development unit to HOPE Worldwide's Free Clinic & Centre of HOPE in Jalan Sentul. This will enable the NGO to archive its medical research work and create a database that will help advance the good work HOPE is doing.



Mrs. Lim Tiew Ming (right), Director of Undergraduate Studies, Sunway University College handed over the SyLibs library system to Mr Darick Wong Kai Ying (left), Program Director of HOPE Worldwide Malaysia.

China and Chinese students raise RM11,000

Darren Wang, a student in the American Degree Transfer Programme, who hails from China, is an accomplished artist who graduated from the Guangxi Fine Arts Institute and Qinghua University. He donated his talent and time to produce a number of masterpieces and made a brisk sale to staff and students of Sunway. He and other members of the China Students Association (made up of students from China) and the Chinese Cultural Society (comprising local Chinese students) raised a total of RM11,000 for the Sichuan quake victims through their various efforts.

The cash was presented to World Vision in Malaysia and the Chinese Embassy in Malaysia in equal amounts by Ms Elizabeth Lee, Executive Director of Sunway University College.



Darren Wang with his paintings.

Melvin has the Midas touch

Grace and power in the pool.

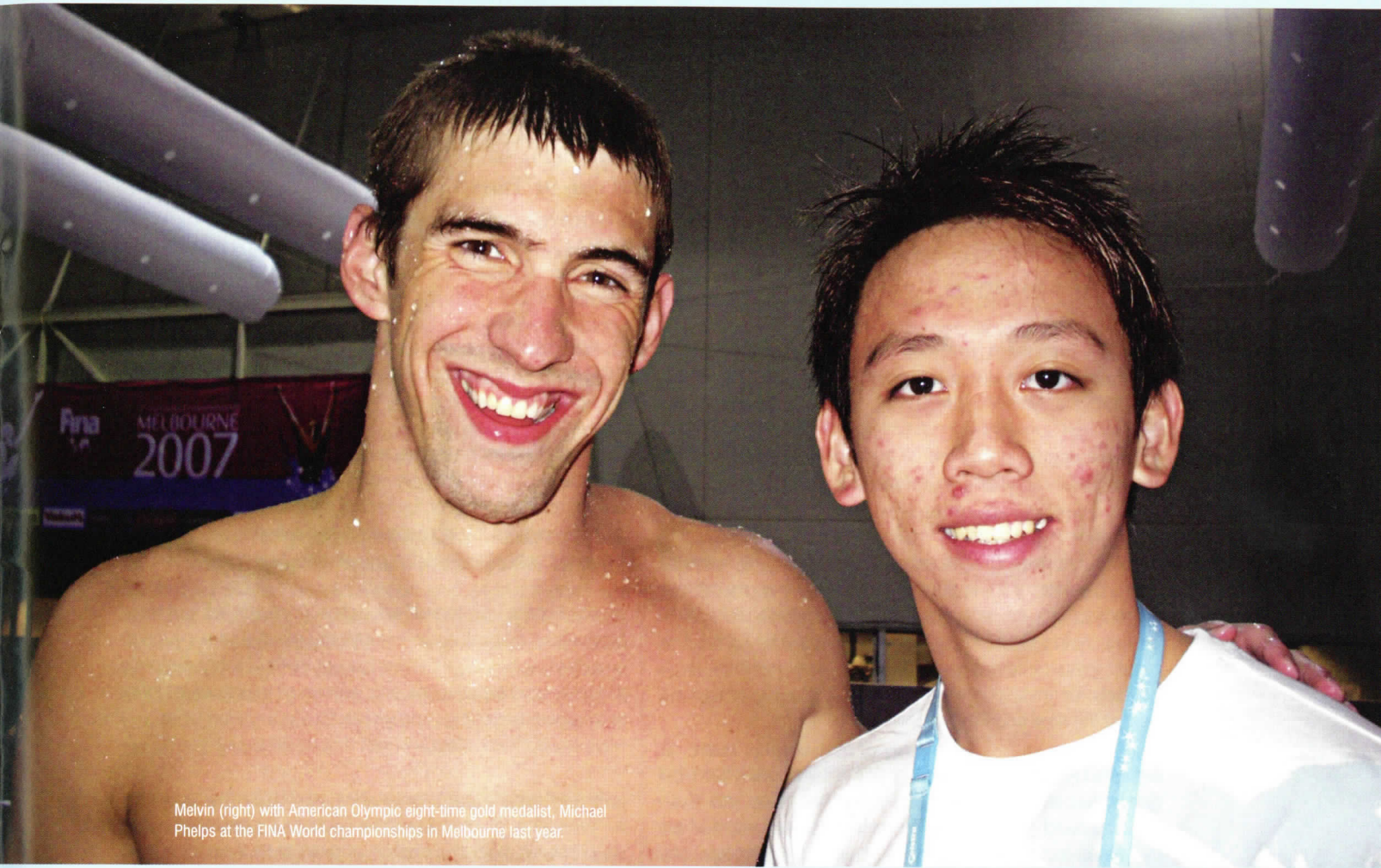
He surfs the net, hangs out with friends and watches movies in his spare time but that is where the similarity with 19-year old Melvin Chua Bao Quan, a student of Sunway's Monash University Foundation Year (MUFY) and other youngsters ends.



Melvin is always at home near a pool.

Melvin storms up the pool in squad training twice a day from 6.30 am to 9 am and from 4pm to 6.30 pm, clocking up about 6-7 kilometers each time. "That's about 240 laps a day" said Melvin. As most of us are studying our eyelids at 6.30 am, Melvin is psyching himself before he plunges into the icy pool at Bukit Jalil. He was training once a day before he joined the National squad and since 2006, two sessions a day is his normal routine. But Melvin thoroughly enjoys it. "When I win, it is all worthwhile" he said and added "I love the atmosphere at international meets which you won't find in Malaysia. The crowd is very appreciative. That rush keeps me going too"

From the time a tutor spotted him and encouraged him to take part in interschool swimming competitions, Melvin has represented Malaysia in the SUKMA Games in 2007 and 2008, SEA Games 2007 and FINA in 2006. His sport has brought him to Hong Kong, Australia, Japan, Thailand, Indonesia and Brazil and he has amassed around 39 gold medals.



Melvin (right) with American Olympic eight-time gold medalist, Michael Phelps at the FINA World championships in Melbourne last year.

This backstroke and medley specialist is well-focused on studies and swimming. He plans to pursue Psychology or a double degree in Biotechnology and Biomedicine. Most national swimmers in Malaysia retire after SPM to concentrate on studies but Melvin is still doing both. This exemplary student was given the Sunway University College Sports Scholarship and the Sunway University College Sportsman Award, all in 2008. He is tinkering with the idea of perhaps doing some part-time coaching in future.

What advice would he give to others who find life too challenging? "Always have a goal in mind. Mine is to make a mark in swimming including representing Malaysia in the Olympics in 2012. Having a goal to focus on just makes things easier when you go through rough times" said Melvin. He adds "In Malaysia, sport is not important enough but I hope things will change". As Melvin continues to pound the pool to meet the demands of his favourite sport, we wish him all the best.



Melvin winning a gold at the SUKMA 2008 Games.

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Interview with Evan Cheah

Blaze spoke to alumnus Evan Cheah, General Manager of one of the companies in the Sunway Group and son of Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Jeffrey Cheah, Founder and Chairman of the Sunway Group and Founder and Chancellor of Sunway University College.

B: What year were you in Sunway College (then) and what programme did you read?

EC: I did the AUSMAT pre-university course before joining the Monash Sunway twinning programme in 1997. I then got a double degree in Commerce and Business Systems from Monash's Clayton campus in Australia.

B: What was it like studying in Sunway?

EC: Well, I hope to sound totally unbiased here! I think people make the institution and I felt it was a great experience interacting with the lecturers and students back then. Each lecturer holds his or her own unique style and I think that made things interesting. The on-campus facilities for a privately run institution were probably one of the Malaysia's best at the time and I think it still is.

I enjoyed my student life a lot because it was back then that I met many of my good friends. All one had to do was study and you could do well, it is different from the real world where there are many more variables to achieve success, and you can't really be 100% sure of the results of a particular project you're working on as there is much more complexity involved.

I think someone mentioned that in school, you just need to know all the material, score 100% and get a High Distinction. However, in business, you need to know all the material and more, scoring maybe 130% just to qualify for a Distinction!

B: What was your most memorable moment in Sunway College?

EC: I can't say there was one particularly memorable moment but there were happy memories throughout.

I remember I performed in a band for our Ausmat dinner once as the drummer (which was uncharacteristically cool of me). I set the pace of the performance and I kind of sped up because I was nervous, then the rest of the band had to speed up to catch up with me. It was like we were in chipmunk mode, which was funny. I also remember cramming for my exams (which I wouldn't suggest to anyone of course), but things always seemed to turn out well for me when I crammed because I think I have a reasonable capacity to remember things short term.

B: What did you pursue after you left Sunway College?

EC: I did a double degree in Monash, as well as the CPA and CFA professional programs.

Next year I'll probably be looking at brushing up on my Mandarin Chinese as that will be an investment that will deliver returns to me for the rest of my life. Maybe much later on I may look at joining an executive education program at a business school to broaden my perspective of the world.

In addition to my formal education, I also read business books and magazines to expand my mind. There's a huge wealth of high quality knowledge out there of other people's thoughts and experiences and we can all make use of them to improve ourselves, I know I am. Doing anything when you have the right knowledge is just that much easier.

I often tell people that I strive to be a person that accumulates a "collection of best practices" where I persistently pick up practices from the best in a given field. Acquiring best practices also means cutting away any of the bad or dysfunctional habits that I may have unwittingly acquired through my life.

B: Describe your role now in your position as General Manager in the Sunway Group?

EC: It's really quite a challenging and exciting job where I evaluate and recommend investment proposals to management. This role lets me utilize many of the skills I've picked from the courses I've done.

I find with each proposal, whether we actually end up investing or not, I always learn something new which I can add to my repertoire of knowledge. Each time I meet with management, I consciously try to understand why this works and that doesn't, analyzing their experiences to improve my chances of making a better decision the next time.

A way I internalize these snippets of experience is by trying to reflect upon recent events and discussions as much as I can, as soon as I can.

Experience definitely counts and I try to make sure I constantly seek the views and advice of the people who have it (they're

usually older) to improve whatever I'm working on. In my view a person only knows as much as he has personally experienced but if we can have access to and apply the knowledge stored in others, we will have an unlimited amount of expertise at our disposal.

B: What are some of the challenges, if there are any you face in your job?

EC: Personally, when I try something new (be it recommending a new industry, business or structure), uncertainty and its best friend, worry, sometimes crop up but I deal with it by taking steps to make sure decisions or recommendations are based on the best information from most reliable sources I can find. Sufficient information removes some of the uncertainty and makes me more confident of my actions. When I'm uncertain, it just means I haven't looked hard enough for the decision making information I require.

B.: Has your father's remarkable achievements been an influence in your life? Could you elaborate on this?

EC: I would say he has had a good amount of influence in a lot of lives, not only mine. There are many things that he does that are not readily apparent and it takes a lot of observation and careful thought to understand it. I have had the privilege of having a closer view of the action and I think that has had a positive long-term impact on me and how I view things, both personally and work-wise.

B: What are your views on leadership? How can one strive towards becoming a leader?

EC: I would encourage people who want to be leaders to look deep into their core to understand what their own motivations are. The key is to find out what all this self-motivation talk is all about. Once that is answered, things become a lot easier. No one's going to help you to be a leader, you have to help yourself. There is no one-size-fits-all formula. It's got to be adapted to your own circumstances. Draw on your own strengths and interests. Be good in your field. Find your own way to manage human relationships as all leaders interact with people. In my opinion, the ability to manage human relationships to achieve a desired outcome is really the archetypal definition of being a good leader. Once we know ourselves, we know how what kind of leadership style we need to adopt.

I think in the end, leaders are noticed by delivering results, be it a community or business project. In school it's easy, just study hard you'll get the results. At the workplace or in society, it's more difficult as it's not just about studying (though it helps), it's more about getting everything in place, everyone working together, so that things get done. There are many ways of getting results and I would encourage reading about and observing how people have done it to customize a style that fits you.

B: What do you do in your free time?

Globalization means free time is a luxury. We are competing with the other brains from around the whole world. Slacken and you'll be overtaken. In this type of environment, we really have to focus on our comparative advantage as a Malaysian white-collar workforce. Constantly invest in improving ourselves. Once we are clear on that, we can rest a little. Personally, I do believe in a little work-life balance, in a recent article, the management guru Jim Collins mentioned that 50% of successful executives (I think he was referring to Fortune 500 CEO's if I remember correctly) have no life, the rest do have a life, and he concludes that it's really is a matter of choice. You can still deliver results if you work smart, and rest a little.

So in my free time I do get in some one on one time with American pop culture. You know, like movies, music and all that kind of stuff, it's enjoyable and keeps me happy.

B: What is your guiding motto in your life?

EC: Dare but do it wisely. Be circumspect. Contribute your strengths. Deliver high quality results. Understand trade-offs and the law of reciprocity. Think and plan a few steps ahead. Respect my own principles. Remember the past. Work smarter each time.

B.: What is important to you?

EC: I think we are all made up of cells that oxidize and age each day and we should take care of ourselves so that we can live the happiest life that we can. So health would probably be the first thing I would think of. With health, we will have to take care of people we care about and this includes family and friends.

Once that is in equilibrium, or a state that you are happy about, then comes achievements. If there is a lack of achievement, a person cannot be fulfilled or have any sense of belonging. Therefore, I believe I am driven by achievements as it gives me a sense of purpose. Without which, what's the point really?

**Are you a former Sunway student?
If you wish to join the Sunway University
College Alumni and enjoy privileges
such being able to access the Alumni
Portal, please register at
<http://alumni.sunway.edu.my> or
call 03-74918622.**



Chef Edgar Leal and Chef Mariana Montero with Sunway's hospitality students.

A taste of Venezuela

The students of the School of Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure Management at Sunway were lucky to host Venezuelan Week. This event commemorated Venezuela's Independence Day and held in conjunction with a range of activities across Kuala Lumpur.

Around 40 hospitality students attended a Cooking Workshop by Venezuelan Chef, Edgar Leal and his wife, Mariana Montero De Castro, a French-trained pastry chef, at Sunway. Chef Edgar, who studied the culinary arts in New York, is a world-renown Chef who was the

first Venezuelan to prepare a dinner at the James Beard Foundation House in New York City. He owns "Cacao" a restaurant in Miami that specialises in Venezuelan and South American cuisine.

Guests were treated to a Venezuelan lunch during the opening prepared and served by the students under the direction of Chef Edgar and Chef Mariana. The event was graced by the Ambassador of the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, His Excellency Manuel Antonio Guzman Hernandez.



Students celebrate Indian Cultural Week.

India comes to Sunway

Sunway students were treated to a colourful week of Indian activities when the multinational Indian Cultural Society decided to create more awareness for Indian culture found not only in Malaysia but in other parts of the world including the Maldives, Sri Lanka, India and elsewhere.

The students set up booths showcasing the food and cultures of the various ethnicities. There were traditional Indian games and a kabaddi match between students and Canadian lecturers. Speakers were invited to share about Indian fine art and the importance of education. Special guest and Pro-Chancellor, Tan Sri Dato' (Dr.) Ramon Navaratnam gave a motivational talk to the students.