

# Sunway University e-Bulletin

November 2024

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from all of us at the Branding and Corporate Communications Department.

We are pleased to be emailing you the latest e-bulletin for Sunway University.

Please do forward this e-bulletin to all your local and international business associates, colleagues, friends and families.

This month's edition leads with Sunway University rising to the 401-500 band in the 2025 Times Higher Education World University Rankings, becoming Malaysia's highest-ranked private, non-government-linked university.

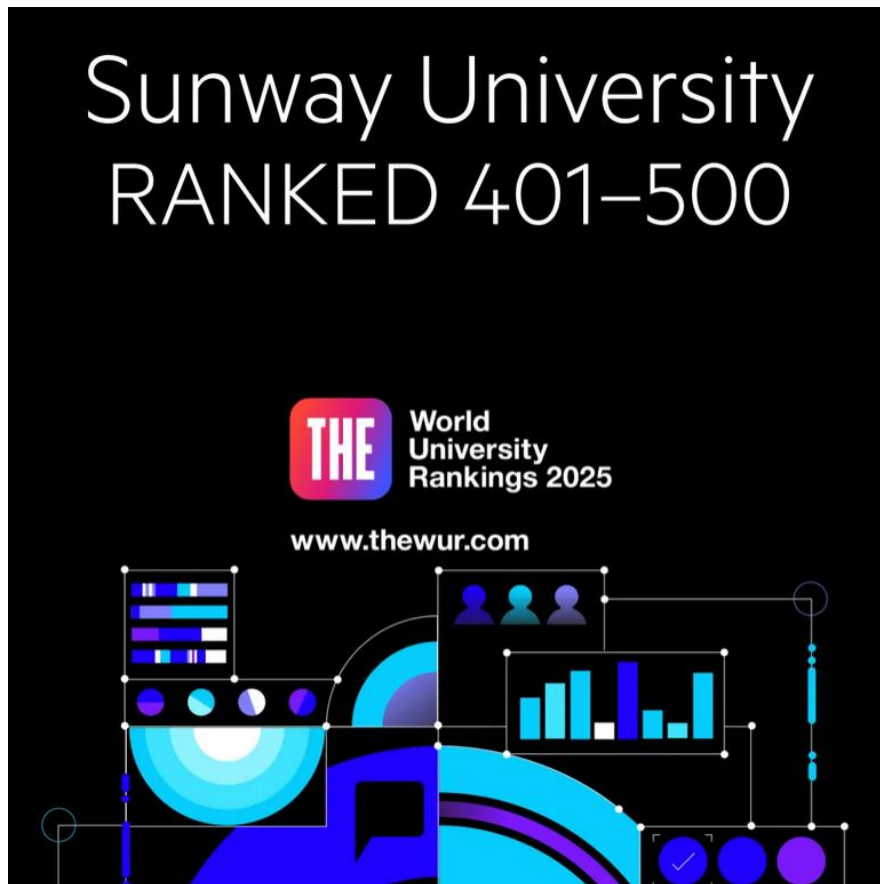
The Jeffrey Cheah Foundation proudly awarded RM75 million in scholarships during the Scholarships and Awards Ceremony 2024. To date, JCF has disbursed over RM745 million, empowering thousands of students in their academic journeys.

Sunway University is also pleased to have hosted the campus-wide Local Action for Global Goals event, uniting leaders, policymakers, academics, and advocates to explore solutions supporting the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

Please help to share the news of the great activities and achievements happening at our University.

The e-bulletin runs bi-monthly and alternates between the University and College.

**Sunway University breaks into Top 500 in THE World University Rankings 2025**  
**09 October 2024**



Sunway University has achieved a remarkable leap in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2025, advancing from the 601-800 band last year to the prestigious 401-500 band. This marks a significant accomplishment for the university and further cements its place among the world's leading institutions. The 2025 edition featured 2,100 universities from 115 countries and regions, making this achievement even more impressive.

In addition to this global recognition, Sunway University is now ranked among the top 3 universities in Malaysia and proudly retains its title as the number 1 private, non-government-linked university in the country.

The rankings, based on 18 performance indicators spread across five key pillars—teaching, research environment, research quality, international outlook, and industry engagement—provide a comprehensive evaluation of universities' overall performance and impact on both a national and international level.

Sunway University's ascent in the rankings is a testament to its ongoing commitment to excellence in education, research, and global engagement. This success highlights the university's continuous drive to shape the future of higher education and innovation. To learn more about the THE ranking system and Sunway University's achievements, visit the link below.

[Times Higher Education](#)

## Jeffrey Cheah Foundation Scholarships and Awards Ceremony 2024

### 22 October 2024

The Jeffrey Cheah Foundation (JCF) proudly awarded RM75 million in scholarships during the Scholarships & Awards Ceremony 2024. As Malaysia's largest education-focused social enterprise, JCF has disbursed over RM745 million to date, empowering thousands of deserving students in their academic journeys.

We were honoured to have Her Royal Highness Raja Permaisuri Perak Tuanku Zara Salim and Tan Sri Dato' Seri Sir Dr Jeffrey Cheah KBE AO, founder and trustee of JCF, personally present the scholarships and extend their congratulations to this year's recipients.

Congratulations to all the scholars—your hard work and dedication are truly inspiring!















## Campus With a Conscience hosts UN Festival

26 September 2024



As part of the ongoing Campus With A Conscience initiative, Local Action for Global Goals 2024 was held from 23-25 September, marking the 9th anniversary of the United Nations' SDGs launched in 2015. The event featured daily flag parades, performances, workshops, and a sustainable marketplace. Highlights included corporate displays from pioneering brands like HP, Decathlon, Blueshark, Uniqlo, Origins, The Body Shop, BloomThis, and many more, alongside a sustainable fashion show by Sunway College and Stylo, Fashion Design Technology Hub.

Joining the excited visitors on campus was a host of regional heads from UNICEF, United Nations, World Health Organization, members from the European Union (EU), as well as ambassadors from over 12 nations.

[Business Today](#)

**Professor Angela Lee Siew Hoong wins Asia Pacific SAS Distinguished Educator Award 2024  
for excellence in data science and AI  
27 September 2024**



Congratulations to Professor Angela Lee Siew Hoong on receiving the prestigious Asia Pacific SAS Distinguished Educator Award 2024 for her exceptional work in Data Science and AI!

This remarkable recognition, awarded by YB Gobind Singh Deo, Minister of Digital, alongside Febrianto Siboro, Managing Director of SAS Malaysia, Indonesia, and Vietnam, celebrates her significant contributions to advancing AI and Data Analytics education. The award recognizes Professor Lee's dedication to preparing students for careers in these cutting-edge fields, shaping the future of technology and innovation.

Selected from a distinguished group of participants from leading universities across the Asia Pacific region—including China, Taiwan, Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, India, Korea, Singapore, and Thailand—Professor Lee has consistently demonstrated her passion for expanding education in AI and Data Science at her institution and within the broader community.

We are incredibly proud of her continued excellence, as this marks the second time she has been honored with this award.

Under her leadership, Sunway University's Analytics and Computing & IT programs have achieved an outstanding 6-star rating (out of 6) and Analytics is ranked as the Best in Class Field of Studies at the National Graduate Employability Index (4th Edition) 2024, making them the best in their field. These remarkable achievements further solidify Sunway University's reputation for excellence in preparing students for the future of AI and data-driven careers.



Bravo, Professor Angela Lee, on this well-deserved recognition!



**Sunway University Student Council welcomes new executive team with Leadership Development Program**  
**25 October 2024**



The Sunway University Student Council is pleased to officially welcome its new executive members. Over the past two weeks, these members participated in the General Executive Orientation sessions, aimed at equipping them with the essential skills needed to excel in their roles within the council.





In the first week, the focus was on team building through interactive activities and station games, while also introducing key skills such as minutes and proposal writing. These competencies will be vital as they step into their responsibilities within the council.

During the second week, attention shifted to leadership development. A special session on leadership qualities was led by Eizaz Azhar from the Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute, leaving a significant impact on the team and preparing them for the journey ahead.



The Sunway University Student Council remains committed to fostering leadership and personal growth, ensuring its members have access to the best development opportunities. With this new team, the future holds exciting possibilities!

**Sunway supporting student wellness**  
**30 September 2024**



Sunway Counselling and Wellness team and Tun Hussien Onn Sunway Library recently hosted the “Bookmark This: Your Mental Health Matters” exhibition. This month-long showcase highlighted the importance of reading for mental health in our student community.

The exhibition was attended by YB Puan Lim Yi Wei, who toured the exhibition with Ms Joyce Chao, a clinical psychologist at Student LIFE, gaining insights into the valuable mental resources and support services available. They were joined by Ms. Lee Siok Ping, Chief of the Student LIFE department, and Dr Janaki Sinnasamy, Chief Librarian.



**Professor Dr Ker Pin Jern wins the Best Oral Presentation Award at the Malaysia-Japan Visionaries Conference (MJVC) 2024**  
**07 October 2024**



Congratulations Professor Dr Ker Pin Jern from Department of Engineering on winning the Best Oral Presentation Award at the Malaysia-Japan Visionaries Conference (MJVC 2024) organized by Malaysia-Japan Academic Association which held at The University of Tokyo, Hongo Campus, Japan on 14th-16th September 2024. The title of the presented paper is “Revealing the Secret Behind Chicken Comb: Detecting Chicken Disease Infection through its Optical Chromaticity”.

## Symposium on Fostering Research Integrity at Sunway University 27 September 2024



Sunway University recently hosted an impactful Symposium on Fostering Research Integrity, moderated by the University's Provost, Professor Abhimanyu Veerakumarasivam. The event welcomed esteemed guests from Taiwan, Japan, and the Republic of Korea, representing various universities and ministries. Researchers and students gathered to engage in discussions centred on education and research, emphasising the core values that drive their work and the importance of impactful contributions to society.

Prof. Abhimanyu kicked off the event with an invigorating speech, welcoming the guests and reiterating Sunway University's core values of Integrity, Excellence, and Humility. He also described the University as 'research-focused' and 'impact-driven', which made the symposium's topic even more relevant.

This was followed by a short speech by Professor Chai Lay Ching, the Pro Vice-Chancellor of Education, who briefed the guests about the ASEAN Young Scientists Network (YSN). Launched in Cebu, Philippines, in October 2018, the ASEAN YSN serves as a platform for regional collaboration among young scientists under 45 from the ten ASEAN states. She also shared stories about how the initiative has adapted to the online era, particularly during the pandemic, facilitating connections and exchanges among researchers across the region with online meetings.

### **Plenary Speakers Highlight Research Integrity**

The symposium included a series of plenary sessions with distinguished speakers, each addressing critical aspects of research integrity.

Prof. Khatijah Yusoff from Malaysia discussed efforts to promote responsible research conduct, highlighting issues of misconduct in research practices. As the Chair of the National Committee on



Research Integrity (NCRI) and a member of the Young Scientists Network-Academy of Science Malaysia, she emphasised the importance of the Malaysian Code of Responsible Conduct in Research (MCRCR). Prof. Yusoff unveiled the development of a self-paced online MCRCR course, aiming to embed responsible research practices as a cornerstone of higher education.

Prof. Jun Fudano, representing the Toyota Foundation, shared insights on the promotion of research integrity in Asia through the Asia Pacific Research Integrity (APRI) initiative. He discussed the common challenges faced in establishing misconduct guidelines and the problems associated with e-learning. His presentation outlined major initiatives aimed at developing laws, policies, and guidelines to strengthen research integrity across the region.

Prof. In Jae Lee from the Seoul National University of Education provided an overview of governance in promoting responsible conduct of research (RCR) in South Korea. He highlighted the country's national laws, guidelines, and the role of research ethics committees, showcasing promising progress in enhancing ethics regulations within the research community.

Lastly, Prof. Chien Chou addressed the importance of research integrity in Taiwan, particularly as a relatively new economy. He underscored the various strategies employed to promote integrity, including innovative approaches like gamification, and shared examples of how past misconduct cases have been handled to foster a culture of accountability.

### **Engaging Audience Forum**

The symposium concluded with an engaging forum, moderated by Professor Abhimanyu Veerakumarasivam, allowing audience members to pose questions to the speakers. This interactive session facilitated valuable discussions and exchanges of ideas, reinforcing the collective commitment to advancing research integrity in the region.

Overall, the symposium served as a vital platform for sharing knowledge, addressing challenges, and fostering collaboration among researchers dedicated to upholding integrity in their work. Sunway University continues to champion these principles, ensuring that research remains a force for positive impact in society.

**SOA celebrates Brazil's National Day with the Embassy of Brazil in Kuala Lumpur**  
**26 September 2024**



Sunway University recently took part in a celebration of Brazil's National Day with an event organised by EUROASIA in collaboration with the Embassy of Brazil in Kuala Lumpur. The gathering was honoured by the presence of several distinguished guests, including Tunku Zain, H.E. Ary Quintella (Ambassador of Brazil to Malaysia), H.E. Eugenia Barthelmess (Ambassador of Brazil to Angola), H.E. Florentino Batista Gonzalez (Cuban Ambassador to Malaysia), H.E. Jaime Munoz Sandoval (Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Chile), H.E. Lisualdo Gaspar (Ambassador of Timor-Leste to Malaysia), H.E. Valeria Csukasi (Ambassador of Uruguay to Malaysia), along with representatives from ASEAN and the UN. Special thanks were given to Angel Lee for coordinating the event.

The School of Arts at Sunway University showcased its talented students during the celebration, with performances by Lim Zhi Hsuan (violin), Gan Wen Qin (piano), Sonia Rai (piano), Alyssa Chong (violin), and Eason Lai (piano). Dr Poom Prommachart played a key role in organising the performances, and Dr Tom Pierard contributed with his musical talent. Attendees were treated to a delightful repertoire of Brazilian music. Parabéns!





## Sunway University participates in World Singing Day 2024!

22 October 2024



Sunway World Singing Day was held in partnership with Sunway Business School (SBS), the School of Medical and Life Sciences (SMLS), and the School of Arts (SOA) at Sunway University, receiving enthusiastic support from both staff and students. It was wonderful to witness everyone relaxing, singing, dancing joyfully, and creating an inclusive atmosphere.

We were thrilled by the incredible participation in the 13th annual World Day of Singing! Celebrated on the first Saturday of October, World Singing Day is a global initiative that encourages people from all walks of life to come together and sing, fostering a sense of community and connection. This year, Sunway University proudly served as one of four hosts for this international event in Malaysia. By joining in, we contributed to a global celebration of unity expressed through the simple yet profound act of singing together.

The event aimed to honour our shared humanity and strengthen connections within communities through the joy of music and Mental Health Awareness. Studies have shown that singing can enhance mental well-being, reduce stress, and promote social bonds, making it a powerful tool for mental health advocacy. Thank you for using your voice to support this vital cause and for championing mental health through the spirit of song. Together, we made a meaningful impact.