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Cover Story

3 Sunway buddies were great hosts

Happenings

- 7 A head for business, A heart for the world
- 13 Learning while having fun
- 15 By the light of the silvery moon

Upcoming Events

6 25th Anniversary preview

Features

- 10 The 7 deadly sins
- 12 Re-entry

Graduation

8 It was all smiles at Sunway's graduation

Sport

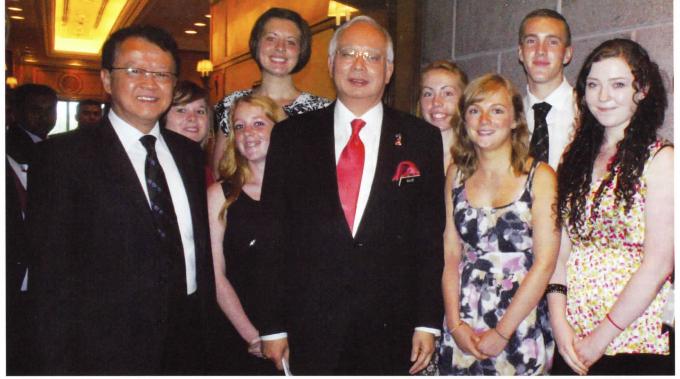
14 Sunway students are a sensation at the lanes

International Student

11 Newcomer to Sunway

Cover: Lancaster University students went local at Air Manis homestay, Kuala Selangor





The Founder and Chancellor of Sunway University, Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah AO (left) with the Prime Minister YAB Dato' Seri Mohd Najib and students from Lancaster University

Sunway buddies were great hosts

here is no better way to learn about other countries but to spend some time living there and mingling around with the locals. As such, 28 bright-eyed Lancaster University exchange students had the best part of the deal when they were hosted by Sunway University's Student Council 2011 on a 3-week Sunway-Lancaster Summer Programme in September this year.

These exchange students wanted to learn more about Malaysian culture. They volunteered themselves to help plant trees in peat land forest, and they even had the opportunity to go on









Helping out at the "I believe" benefit concert

a homestay trip to understand Malaysian culture. After spending three weeks in Malaysia, the students have many things to say about each of the activities.

Our Sunway students also had the opportunity to see what their counterparts in the United Kingdom enjoyed doing. The Lancaste University students were more than happy to sweat it out under the hot sun and get their hands dirty working in the fields. They also showed that, whether it is in Malaysia or in the United Kingdom, trees are important to help save our environment.

LIBRAR

A greener planet

Organised with the help of the Global Environment Centre (GEC), a Malaysian-based NGO committed to foster change in environmental issues, the annual tree planting campaign at the Raja Musa Forest Reserve saw Lancaster University students planting a total of 150 "Tengek Burung" trees.

These students did not care a bit having to dirty their hands. "In fact, the place which we went to was absolutely beautiful and unlike any place in the UK," quipped Adam Ford, a graduate in Management from Lancaster University. "I would have liked to spend more time there and plant even more trees. I hope the trees that we planted will do well and we will be able to make a return trip to see them in the future."

Fellow student, Billy Girow, a third year politics, philosophy and economics (PPE) student added: "What we have done here is very similar to what the Lancaster University Student Union does to help make a positive impact on the environment. We are really glad to be able to do this in Malaysia."



Efforts by the exchange students received thumbs-up from Sunway University Student Council 2011 president, Chiah Mun Mun, who joined in the fun in the tree replanting exercise. "We have one common objective, whether as Malaysians or British, we wanted to create more forest cover that removes more carbon dioxide and therefore reduces global warming," she said. "Also trees prevent encroachment into the forest, thus reducing the risk of fire which is another cause of global warming."

Thanks to the GEC, to date, more than 2,000 volunteers have planted as many as 30,000 young trees in an area covering 60 hectares, with the support from various stakeholders and corporate partners.



Relaxing over a game

They say, "All work and no play make Jack a dull boy," but for these students from Lancaster University, there was also time for them to relax in between the outdoor activities. They were made facilitators for a group of younger students enrolled in the Foundation in Arts (FIA) in a Business Simulation Game.

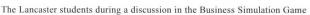
The game was designed to help develop communication, teamwork and entrepreneurial skills around challenging yet hypothetical activities of buying and selling. The participants also had to look for solutions to real-life problems and situations that can be found in Kuala Lumpur which forced the FIA students to think in a business fashion. The groups had to present their ideas to the rest of the participants at the end of the game. One of the tasks was to build towers of straw and paper that would be able to hold an egg.

One of the exchange students, Jemma Gaskell said she really enjoyed the business game, especially since the two teams she had coached came in second and third. "The Sunway students presented very well and I was impressed with their skills," she commented.

Kimberley Warrillow, an International Opportunities intern, who chaperoned the British students to Malaysia, explained that in Lancaster, the students also volunteered themselves to play similar games with school children in their community. It empowers the volunteer students, indirectly teaching them about social enterprise and the three "P"s (which stands for People, Planet and Profits) which are important to have in daily life.

"One needs to take into consideration the community and the environment while allowing the company to make profits. All 3 "P"s should ideally be combined," she said. "The most important thing is for students to have confidence and we definitely saw this in the FIA students during the business game. In future, I hope the students will continue their relationship with the community where they operate in."

4 biaze MAGAZINE





Buddies help

Before the 28 exchange students from Lancaster University even arrived, Sunway University's students were already interacting with them on Facebook.



Local "buddies" were assigned to host and look after the Lancaster students during their stay in Malaysia. A total of 15 buddies participated in the programme. Each buddy was assigned to a pair of Lancaster students after they arrived. The buddies put in their own time and energies to host the Lancaster students, and help them experience local culture.

The buddies joined most of the scheduled official activities of the programme, with one particular homestay event at Air Manis, Kuala Selangor, where they experienced many facets of traditional Malay village life from a "kompang" welcome to typical Malay cooking. Their day included learning to make Malay snacks, batik painting and playing "congkak". In the evening, they were treated to a unique firefly trip and even participated in a traditional Malay wedding. They were also given lessons on traditional dances and had the opportunity to comb the nearby beach.

Erica South, a graduate in Geography from Lancaster University said it was nice to see how the children in the home were so warm with all their family members. "They are so family-oriented," she quipped. "I enjoyed playing congkak and I can understand their lives much better now."

At a Career Fair, the local state assemblyman for Subang Jaya, YB Hannah Yeoh participated in a dialogue session on the political scene in Malaysia. They also attended a conference organised by the Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI) on "Making a High Income Nation a Reality" where they met with the Malaysian Prime Minister, YAB Dato' Sri Mohd Najib bin Tun Abdul Razak, who was the keynote speaker.

Many activities

Based on feedback from the buddies, one of the activities that the Lancaster students were proud to be involved in was when they volunteered as assistants for the Start Society "I believe" Benefit Concert. The Start Society is an arts academy that helps underprivileged children discover and develop their talents in fine art and the performing arts.

The buddies made sure the Lancaster students were well taken care of. They also arranged for them to experience local festivals such as a Hari Raya open house, Lantern festival dinner, a banana leaf meal -- and a favourite pastime, shopping!



On their third day of their stay in Malaysia, some of the buddies took them into the heart of Kuala Lumpur to experience city lifestyle and where they learn to appreciate the beauty of Malaysian architecture. They covered areas such as the National Museum, National Monument, Deer Park, Kuala Lumpur Twin Towers and Kuala Lumpur Tower.

It was raining cats and dogs when they were at the top of the KL Tower, but the foreign students were surprisingly excited about the downpour. Strange as it may seem, they practically went out under the heavy rain to take

photographs. "It was fun to see them enjoying the rain, which is not something they would experience back at home," said Nicholas Goh, one of the buddies, who is currently in his third year of Sunway's Bachelor of Science (Honours) Accounting & Finance.

The outing to Petaling Street's "China Town" and Central Market or "Pasar Seni" saw some of the girls having their hands painted with Henna Painting. It was a great shopping and delicious food experience for these British students. In particular, they enjoyed fried rice, served with chicken and ribs.

The buddies even organised a BBQ with mooncakes and tea to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival besides taking them out to try local food in the Bukit Bintang area. The female buddies lent their own traditional Malaysian costumes to the Lancaster students for them to wear during Cultural Night where the Lancaster students performed an original song they composed, "In Malaysia".

Candy Lee, a third year student in the Bachelor of Science (Honours) Accounting & Finance programme, said the buddy experience has given her a

> great exposure and an extraordinary opportunity to learn about the students from United Kingdom. "I enjoyed taking them to visit local attractions and trying out some local food," she said. "Apart from learning different cultures and beliefs from them, we also had a lot to share about our hobbies,

studies, family, societies, social life and even career! The experience taught me that we may have diverse backgrounds, but the differences should not be a barrier for interaction. We are still getting along very well together and I trust our friendship will last a long time."

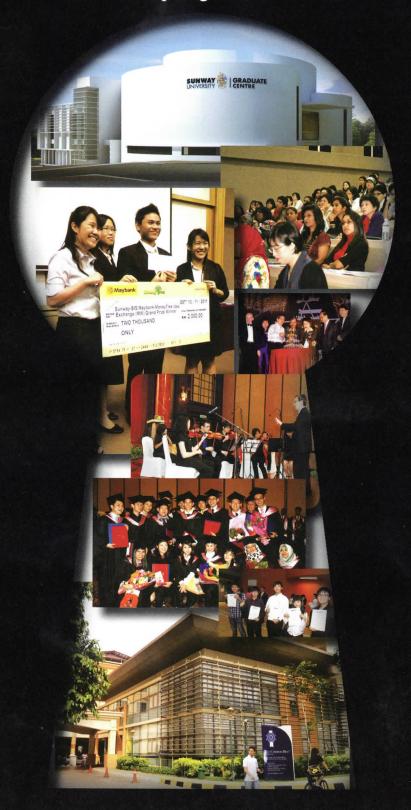


The Lancaster students and their buddies during one of the activities

Fellow student, Melissa Kow said that the Buddy Programme allowed her to present parts of Malaysia to the students from Lancaster University. "But most importantly, I was able to show our Malaysian hospitality," she said. "Besides that, this experience has also given me a more positive outlook on future international opportunities. All in all, this has been a mutually wonderful and memorable sharing experience for both parties and I would encourage my peers to take part as well."



Look out for more awesome news as Sunway ages into this inspiring number in 2012!



A head for business, A heart for the world

ith the spirit of caring and sharing, Sunway University's SIFErs have once again put into practice a famous saying, "Teach a man how to fish and feed him for a lifetime".

They decided to work on an innovative way of teaching various communities skills that will assist them as a survival kit instead of making a one-off donation. They were involved in two projects in the past – the Eco Soap Project and the Project Sounds of Silence (SOS).

The Eco Soap project was targeted at eleven Orang Asli women from the Kaum Semai society living in Post Betau, Kuala Lipis, Pahang to help them develop skills in making eco-friendly soaps. This eco-friendly soap has a pure palm old biodegradable base and does not cause harm to the environment. It also promotes a healthier looking skin by locking in moisture into the skin texture.

Another project the Sunway SIFE students worked on was the Project **Sounds of Silence** (SOS). This project is aimed at empowering refugee women in Malaysia, originating from different countries and cultures such as Somalia, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Afghanistan, to be self-sustainable and independent. As they are unable to work in Malaysia, they need a great support system.

Having to still bear the responsibility to support their own families, the Sunway SIFErs invented ways to help them upgrade and market their products such as the brightly coloured cupcakes and well-designed apparels to Malaysian consumers. The women also offer catering and tailoring services for those willing to give them the opportunity.

Sunway SIFE provides assistance and support from a business perspective to ensure they are able to generate an income as well as lessen the language barrier between the refugee women and the local community. The Sunway SIFErs have future plans to execute coaching for selected women to help them alter their products according to market standards.

(Sunway University SIFErs, which stands for 'Student in Free Enterprise', is part of an international organisation that brings together the top leaders of today and tomorrow to create a better and sustainable world through the positive power of corporate social responsibility. Aside from giving back to different communities, Sunway SIFErs is an appropriate environment for students to develop innovative and creative thinking to build their customised projects in a team).



(from left): Learning how to make eco-friendly soaps: Chew Shen Lieng; Sykin Mustaffa; Ho Huei Wen; Yee Jun Hou (Zann); Cheng Siew Ming, VP. Marketing; Nabilah Mohamad, President and Heri Gunawan



Nabilah Mohammad, President of Sunway SIFErs showing the Kaum Semai Women how to make the eco-friendly soaps during



Products during Project SO



Heri Gunawan; Student Advisor of SIFE, Adeline Loh; Vice President, Agency & Branch Channel Management; Chartis Jake Ooi, VP. Project

It was all smiles at Sunway's graduation

speech, the audience gave him a standing ovation.

The valedictorian of the year, who graduated with first class honours in the Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Business Management, said he views Sunway as his second home.

"I am from Pakistan, and although I am away from home and my family, it was for my own betterment. Nonetheless, I have grown so fond of Sunway that I feel it is a home to me."

The former President of the Student Concilium of Sunway University Business School and a student committee member, Mamoon said he could see how change became an integral part of Sunway University, especially through his involvement in the clubs and societies.

"What I noticed is that student's views on academic matters were always taken into consideration and changes were made accordingly," he

Mamoon was selected as Valedictorian of the Year based on his personal merits. The selection process shows Sunway's philosophy in providing quality education for all and its commitment to a merit system, which gives fair and equitable treatment to all its students.

A total of 405 graduating students from the Sunway University Business School, School of Computer Technology, School of Creative Arts and Communication,

School of Health and Natural Sciences and the School of Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure Management also received their testamur from Sunway University's Pro-Chancellor, Tan Sri Dato' Dr. Ramon Navaratnam during the 2011Graduation Ceremony held at Sunway Resort

Also present was Professor Steve Bradley, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Lancaster University, who conferred the Lancaster scrolls to graduating students from the Business, Computing, Hospitality, Tourism, and Psychology disciplines for the honours degree developed by Sunway University and validated by Lancaster University.

Sunway University was also proud to award 30 graduating students with first class honours degrees and three community scholars under the Tun Omar Ong Yoke Lin community scholarship funded by the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation.

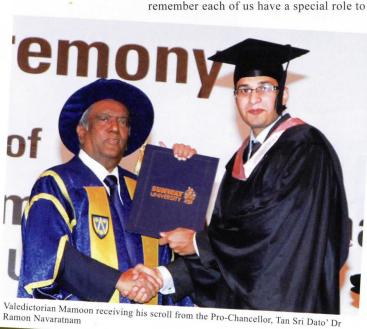
In his speech, Tan Sri Ramon Navaratnam said to the graduates: "You are now ready to face many challenges and obstacles. While success is not always guaranteed, life itself is not a test of success. As you venture into the world, remember each of us have a special role to play in this life."











The 7 deadly sins

Deadly Sins is a project by 25 Final Year students from the March 09 class, who are pursuing the Diploma in Performing Arts, Sunway University.

The project, which was presented recently at the Rooftop Theatre of Sunway University, emanates all the conflicts that are present when 7 deadly sins – Gluttony, Sloth, Wrath, Lust,

Greed, Envy and Pride - was addressed. It shines into the dark nooks and crannies of human nature by telling stories of characters forced to face their own shadows.

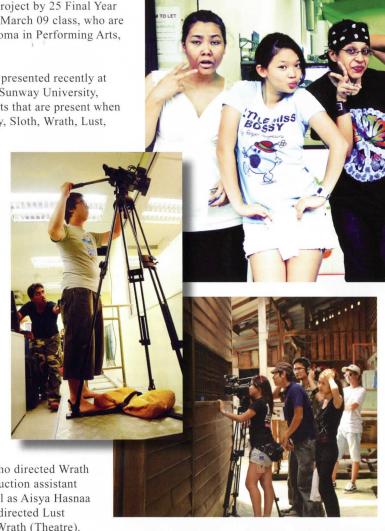
The 7 Deadly Sins was a collaborative effort of all the students and was presented as four theatre pieces and four film pieces. Each work was a duration of 10 minutes.

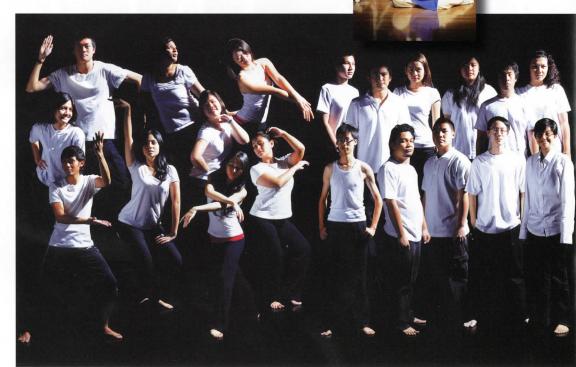
Among the students were celebrity starlets, Liyana Jasmay (actor in Papadom, Pisau

Cukur and Khurafat) who directed Wrath (Theatre) and was production assistant for Wrath (Film) as well as Aisya Hasnaa (pop/jazz singer), who directed Lust (Theatre) and acted in Wrath (Theatre).

All the students provided physical and mental labour to create, publicise and present their collaborative stage and screen works. They did their own writing, cinematography, sound, engineering, producing and stage managing.

"This is a huge and daunting theme to tackle by anyone, even seasoned professionals and artists. The project gave an opportunity for exposure akin to the real world, where performing arts professionals' capabilities and knowledge would be challenged," said Leow Puay Tin, Head of Department and Brenda Danker, lecturer in Film, both of the Department of Performance and Media, Sunway University.







Newcomer to Sunway

The next time you meet this lady on campus, say, "Hi!" and make her feel comfortable studying here in Malaysia. Blaze caught up with her six months after she arrived in Kuala Lumpur

eing away from home, which is Fiji, Elizabeth Joana Melanie Rokosuka, has to be independent and learn about the culture of her host country.

"I can understand that we come different backgrounds," she says. "So, we are bound to learn to do things that are acceptable in another culture, and avoid offending someone with our way of life. I have learnt to get along with people of other races, but there is still a lot to learn about the people around me - on what is acceptable and what's not."

Her friends and classmates are from mainly from Malaysia, Iran, Vietnam, Indonesia and Myanmar.

The 19-year-old lass from Serua Province in Fiji Island, who is currently doing her Diploma in Hotel Management, says she is already thinking of pursuing her degree when she completes the diploma programme in 2014. "However, we can make plans, but ultimately, it is God who will decide my next step. I leave it to God's will for my next course of action. If it is not His will, then, I will just start working."

With a Diploma in Hotel Management from Sunway University, Elizabeth says she can opt for any other field apart from working in the hotel industry. "What I am most excited about is that, eventually what I will be getting is a certificate which is recognised in a number of countries around the world," she says. "I guess I have got a bargain as it is relatively cheaper to study here in Malaysia. For that I am grateful to the representatives from Sunway University, who came over to Fiji this year to hold an expo. I attended the briefing session on the last day and I just loved what I saw."

According to Elizabeth, she has already adapted very well to the learning environment at Sunway. "Everything is so accessible," she says. "I would never have to walk into a computer lab and complain that there are not enough desktops. No particular lecturer comes to mind, when speaking of her favourite. I like all of them. I also make friends with everyone in my class."

Since arriving in Kuala Lumpur on Aug 14 this year, she has only taken a drive through the city of Kuala Lumpur, especially Ampang and Bangsar. "Coming from a very small island, I thought the place was too big for me," she quips. "Apart from that, I think Kuala Lumpur is a beautiful city, and its development is way ahead of Fiji."

Currently, she is still exploring food. "I enjoy eating crispy pandan kaya puff," she says. "The reason why I am not really into any particular dish is because spicy ingredients totally mess up my system."



Asmadi with his architectural and 3-D design drawings that will be featured in the space animation movie, "Re-entry".

Re-entry: Behind the scene of Malaysia's first space animation movie

adies and gentlemen, please buckle up! This space shuttle will be landing soon!"

The voice over the personal address system sounded Malaysian – and indeed, it was a Malaysian astronaut who had taken the space tourists to visit other parts of the universe.

Malaysia's first space animation movie, "Re-entry", will be produced locally. It is the result of many hours of hard work by one of Sunway University lecturers, Asmadi Jusoh.

Together with six others including Norul Rafidi, the School of Creative Arts and Communication (SCAC) lecturer will oversee this project in making this space adventure thriller animation that will depict human life making their way to space in 50 years from now.

Asmadi, who hails from Terengganu, will be involved in contributing ideas in architectures and 3-D designs. He is a fan of figurines from the popular Manga series Naruto and Gundam.

Asmadi's brief profile: After obtaining his

Bachelor of Science in Housing, Building and Planning and Bachelor of Architecture from University Sains Malaysia, Penang, Asmadi started working as an architect. He then joined University Tun Abdul Razak where he spent two years as a part-time lecturer before joining Sunway University. He also took up the Unitar Multimedia Coursewave, a twinning programme with an MSC company from India.

"I have always had a passion to do 3D and Animation," he quips. "Therefore I took an interest in learning software programmes such as 3D Max and AutoCAD, among other programmes."

This project came about when Norul Rafidi was introduced to Patrick Collins, a space programme professor at Azabu University Sagamihara City in Japan, by his brother Norul Ridzuan, the founder and president of Space Tourism Society (STS) Malaysia Chapter of the International Association for the Advancement of Space Safety (IASS).

Patrick Collins was trying to spread the idea of space tourism and life in space through his comic book in Japanese and he was interested to turn that into an animated movie. Norul Rafidi had a team of animators including Asmadi that possessed different skills and expertise that would benefit this project. The rest was history.

Asmadi's contribution to the project vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL), caught the attention of the IASS and Asmadi has been appointed the official illustrator on behalf of Sunway University for the Space Tourism Society (STS) Malaysia Chapter.

The animators have since presented their work at the International Association for the Advancement of Space Safety (IAASS) conference in October 17-19 in Paris, France. The trailer was presented to representatives of NASA, ESA and Japan Aerospace Agency (Jaxa).

Learning while having fun

ne sign that the momentum had picked up from last year is the response from the audience. The hall was packed, when 2000 people attended the two-day convention, which was held concurrently with the Malaysian Info Toys Fair and the Anicom: Cosplay Competition.

Besides the many competitions such as the Animangaki Idol, Cosplay, Art, Yonkoma and Omatsuri competitions, music aficionados were delighted to see performances from Desu, a pop punk nerd band, Flying Pan, essentially a merger of two different bands Zeolite and Lost Decibels, who are influenced by Japanese rock music and others. The Anime Music Video Competition (AMV) was also held to encourage the creative and talented participants to showcase their work.

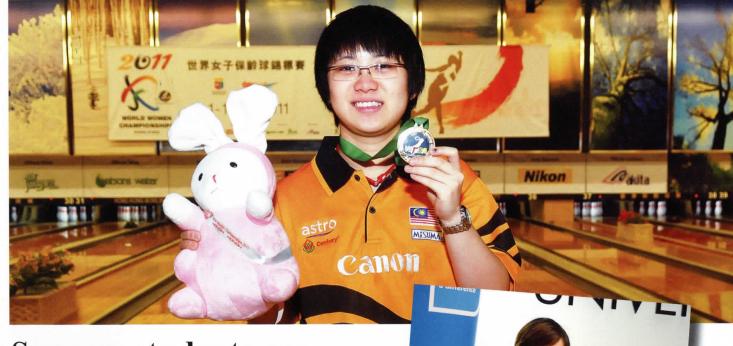
Themed "Summer" to illustrate the fun and excitement that accompanies the summer festivals in Japan, Sunway University's Anime Club (SUAC) the passionate crowd.

Fellow committee member in-charge of securing corporate sponsorship, Jowena Kok, who is an ICAEW student, added: "We ensured prompt replies in our exchange of e-mails to show our initiative and working style. It was fun and educational as I learned how to approach people from different organisations. It also gave me an opportunity to mentor new committee members into executing different tasks."

Muhammad Hazwan from the School of Computer Technology (SCT), who also assisted in organising the event said that he had to incorporate his skills in designing to invent various attractive designs for the website, posters, pamphlets and t-shirts. "It was quite an exciting experience and a platform for me to exercise my skills as I was given no limit, but an inexhaustible virtual canvas to portray my creativity. It served as a jumpstart for me and my career," he said.

This year, the Touhou Room was introduced, where participants could play games, check out figurines, purchase posters as well as partake in mini-games.





Sunway students are a sensation at the lanes

undreds of hours of training at bowling alleys have indeed paid off for Jacqueline Jenelee Sijore and Sin Li Jane.

The steely 19-year-old Jacqueline, who is currently studying in the American Degree Transfer Program (ADTP) at Sunway University, was crowned world champion at the Women's World Championships 2011 in Hong Kong in September. She bagged Gold for Malaysia in the women's doubles at the 26th SEA Games in Palembang, Indonesia recently (with partner Zandra Aziela Ibrahim Hakimi). Jacqueline also won a Bronze in the women's team bowling event for Malaysia.

Despite the wins, Jacqueline says things have not changed much. "I will still be myself and hope for more winnings in the future," she says. "Although people turn their eyes on me everywhere I go, I always believe that it is hard work and sacrifices that have helped me reach this level of performance. Talent, without the sweat, is not enough!"

In recognition of her successes, Jacqueline was presented with an upgrade of her Sunway Talent Scholarship – Sports from 50% to a full scholarship recently.

Another student in the American Degree Transfer Program, Sin Li Jane also made Malaysia and Sunway University proud when she won silver in the women's individual bowling event and a bronze in the women's team event, both at the recent SEA Games.

Li Jane, 19, who is from Ipoh, Perak was presented with a Sunway Talent Scholarship

Sports for her outstanding efforts. The scholarships were provided by the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation.



By the light of the silvery moon

They say the moon is the same anywhere you see it on the Earth.

hether you are watching it - from Pakistan, Yemen, India, Iran, Botswana, Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Kazakhstan or Indonesia - you are looking at the same moon as someone living in Bandar Sunway. After all, there is only one moon.

For many centuries, people in many parts of the world have celebrated the full moon. Even in

Elizabeth Lee (second from right) hosting the international students during the Mid-Autumn Festival

modern times, some international students were recently spotted parading around with lanterns under a full moon at the Sunway South Quay. This is one lantern walk of the Mid-Autumn Festival that they will bring home with them when they graduate.



Still holding a lantern, Madhiya, who hails from Pakistan, said: "The lantern festival is special and I particularly enjoyed the cruise. It was fantastic!" Her fellow student from Yemen, Ali Abdullah interrupted: "You know what? It is great to enjoy the lanterns, the company and the view. The dinner is delicious and we have a generous hostess, our Executive Director, Ms Elizabeth Lee. I will never forget this event."

To be exact, there were 34 of these students. They started off on a cruise on board the South Quay Princess on the lake that is central to the Sunway South Quay development, before adjourning to Elizabeth Lee's home nearby for a lavish Chinese dinner.

To many of them, this was their first time trying out moon cakes. And it was simply fun parading around the lake with their lanterns under the full moon. So, if you had seen these young people recently, relax – it's just our students, not a vampire's prowl!



Parading with their lanterns around the lake after a hefty meal at Elizabeth Lee's





SUNWAY UNIVERSITY GRADUATION CEREMONY 14th OCTOBER 2011