

Sunway University e-Bulletin

September 2026

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 and would like to express our gratitude to all who have contributed articles to the bulletin.

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

This month's edition leads with the launch of the landmark Triple Alliance between Sunway University, Monash University Malaysia and Taylor's University, driving collaboration in education, research, student mobility and community impact.

Sunway University has also conferred the Honorary Degree of Master of Creative Arts and Media (Honoris Causa) upon Dato' Sri Siti Nurhaliza Tarudin during the 30th Convocation Ceremony, celebrating her three-decade legacy across music, entrepreneurship, and philanthropy.

Congratulations to all students and academics who won awards and recognitions from across the globe.

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 the College.

Sunway University enters landmark Triple Alliance partnership

09 September 2026



Sunway University Hosts Launch of Landmark Triple Alliance Partnership

Sunway University, Monash University Malaysia, and Taylor's University have formally launched the Triple Alliance, a strategic partnership designed to drive cross-institutional collaboration in education, research, student mobility, and community impact. The partnership officially debuted at the Jeffrey Cheah Performing Arts Centre in Sunway Square with an inaugural performance by the Triple Alliance Philharmonic Orchestra, featuring students and staff from all three institutions.

Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir attended the event, describing the alliance as an important milestone for Malaysian higher education that empowers leading universities to co-create and pursue greater societal impact.



Key Collaboration & Strategic Initiatives

- **Enhanced Student Life & Cross-Campus Learning:** Students across the three institutions will gain access to shared facilities, cross-campus mobility programmes, and collaborative initiatives spanning entrepreneurship, lifelong learning, leadership, volunteerism, and mental health support.
- **Targeted Research & Technological Innovation:** The alliance will pursue joint research grants, multidisciplinary projects, and industry partnerships focused on artificial intelligence, healthcare, climate change, sustainable development, smart cities, and digital innovation.
- **Greater Kuala Lumpur Innovation Hub:** Situated in Sunway City, the alliance leverages proximity to healthcare providers, industry, and local communities to establish a dynamic knowledge cluster serving over 64,500 students and 5,657 staff collectively.
- **Aligned with National Blueprints:** The partnership aligns with the Malaysia Higher Education Blueprint 2026–2035, encouraging agile cooperation across higher education, government, and industry to tackle complex global challenges.



Institutional Governance & Strategic Vision

Sunway University President and Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sibrandes Poppema noted that the Triple Alliance allows the three institutions to pool their complementary strengths across academic and research domains. Monash University Malaysia President and Pro Vice-Chancellor Prof. Emerita Datuk Dr Adeeba Kamarulzaman and Taylor's University Vice-Chancellor and President Prof. Barry Winn also highlighted the partnership's focus on interdisciplinary solutions and community engagement.

A dedicated Governing Council alongside thematic working groups will oversee the operational execution of the alliance, establishing sustained, long-term programmes that deliver tangible value across all three university communities.













20 Years, 1 Vision: Sunway & Lancaster celebrate landmark partnership

27 July 2026



During Sunway University's Convocation week, Sunway University and Lancaster University came together to celebrate a landmark milestone: 20 years of pioneering transnational education. Since 2006, this dynamic alliance has grown far beyond delivering world-class degree programmes to encompass impactful research, global student mobility, and a shared commitment to sustainability.

Celebrating Two Decades of Success

The week featured a 'Campus with a Conscience' public lecture delivered by Lancaster University Vice-Chancellor Professor Stephen Decent, titled Future Cities: Leadership and the Sustainability Challenge, which highlighted the vital role higher education plays in driving sustainable urban futures.

To mark two decades of collaboration, university leaders officially unveiled the Lancaster University–Sunway University 20th Anniversary Wall, a lasting tribute to shared academic excellence. The unveiling was witnessed by Tan Sri Sir Jeffrey Cheah (Founder and Chairman of Sunway Group), His Excellency Ajay Sharma CMG (British High Commissioner to Malaysia), Prof. Dato' Elizabeth Lee (Group CEO of Sunway Education), Prof. Sibrand Poppema (President and Vice-Chancellor of Sunway University), and Prof. Stephen Decent.

Shaping the Next Chapter

Guided by the Lancaster Sunway Partnership Co-Strategy (2024–2030), both institutions are advancing joint initiatives to address pressing global challenges, exemplary of which is the Future Cities Research Institute.

Celebrations will continue later this academic year at the Lancaster campus, where the Lancaster University Library will host Impact 20: The Power of Two, an exhibition exploring the partnership's rich

history, meaningful impact, and future vision. Twenty years on, this collaboration continues to demonstrate the transformative power of long-term international partnership in higher education—and this is only the beginning.





Sunway University Awards Dato' Sri Siti Nurhaliza Tarudin with Honorary Degree
24 July 2026



Sunway University has conferred the Honorary Degree of Master of Creative Arts and Media (Honoris Causa) upon Dato' Sri Siti Nurhaliza Tarudin during our 30th Convocation Ceremony, celebrating her three-decade legacy across music, entrepreneurship, and philanthropy.

Beyond her music career, Dato' Sri Siti has long served as a cultural ambassador, championing Malaysian creative works globally while connecting with generations of fans. Accepting the honor, she shared her hopes for the local creative community:

"I hope this award will serve as a source of inspiration for the younger generation and local arts practitioners to continue producing work of the highest quality, guided by strong ethics, while elevating our cultural heritage and creative arts to even greater heights."

To mark the occasion, she surprised our graduating class and guests with a special live performance. Commending her journey, Sunway University President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Sibrandes Poppema noted that her career stands as a clear example of "the transformative power of talent guided by purpose"—a fitting takeaway for our new graduates as they embark on their own careers.



Sunway University student Ng Jing Xuan breaks SUKIPT record



National women's javelin thrower Ng Jing Xuan presented a meaningful "gold nugget" to Sunway University in conjunction with the National Day celebration by successfully breaking the 2026 Higher Education Institutions Sports Games (SUKIPT) meet record. The 22-year-old athlete recorded a throw of 46.92m in the final event, erasing the old record of 44.41m held by Nur Fatin Adibah Suharman from Universiti Malaysia Perlis set during the 2016 edition. Sunway University is proud of Jing Xuan's outstanding achievement and dedication to sporting excellence.

Sunway Alumnus Kevin Khaw return to campus for CWAC series
29 July 2026



Sunway University had the privilege of welcoming Sunway alumnus Kevin Khaw, Director of Technical Programme Management at Waymo, back to campus from San Francisco as the speaker for the Campus With A Conscience (CWAC) Series, "Nobody at the Wheel: The Age of Autonomous Vehicles". Kevin shared insights into how Waymo is shaping the future of transportation through safe, reliable and accessible autonomous driving technology powered by advanced AI. The session offered our community a fascinating glimpse into the transformative potential of autonomous vehicles.

Thank you Kevin for returning to your alma mater to share your expertise and inspire our community with your knowledge and journey.







SAE Award Ceremony 2026

31 July 2026



Sunway University School of American Education (SAE) proudly celebrated the achievements, milestones and journeys of our students at the SAE Awards Ceremony. This special occasion brought together our students, staff and community to recognise academic excellence and celebrate the exciting journeys ahead. We are proud to celebrate our students who will be transferring in Fall 2026 to leading universities across the United States, United Kingdom, New Zealand, Canada and Malaysia.

From years of dedication to the moment their names were called, the SAE Awards Ceremony 2026 celebrated students who have embraced every challenge and opportunity throughout their academic journey. Here's to the milestones you've reached and the many more waiting for you beyond Sunway.



















Congratulations to Chong Jun Wei on achieving two professional certifications
11 August 2026



Congratulations to our School of Computing and Artificial Intelligence (SCAI), Bachelor of Software Engineering (Hons) student - **Chong Jun Wei** for reaching another remarkable milestone by earning the Certified Professional for Requirements Engineering – Foundation Level (CPRE-FL, IREB) and Certified Tester AI Testing (CT-AI, ISTQB) certifications. These achievements come shortly after successfully attaining the Certified Tester Foundation Level (CTFL, ISTQB) certification, demonstrating an exceptional commitment to continuous professional development.

The BSE programme is designed to equip students with industry-recognised competencies, with both CPRE-FL (IREB) and CTFL (ISTQB) embedded within the BSE curriculum. These certifications strengthen students' knowledge in requirements engineering and software testing, ensuring they graduate with skills that are highly valued by the software industry.

Building upon this strong foundation, Jun Wei took the initiative to go beyond the programme requirements. Drawing on the testing principles, software engineering knowledge, and AI-related competencies developed throughout his studies, he challenged himself to pursue the CT-AI (ISTQB) certification independently. His success reflects not only technical excellence but also a proactive learning mindset and readiness to embrace emerging technologies in AI-enabled software testing.

Jun Wei's accomplishments exemplify the spirit of lifelong learning and professional excellence that we strive to cultivate in our BSE students. We are proud of his dedication, perseverance, and drive to continuously upskill in preparation for the evolving demands of the software engineering profession.

Special appreciation is extended to Prof. Ts. Lee Yun Li from the School of Computing and Artificial Intelligence (SCAI) for her guidance and mentorship in supporting this remarkable achievement.

Congratulations once again, Jun Wei! We look forward to seeing your continued success and future contributions to the software engineering and AI testing communities.

Sunway students shine at National Championship

11 August 2026



Congratulations to Sunway University School of Hospitality & Tourism Management Team A - Wong Xin Yi, Yung Zi Lia, Irene Jessica Theios and Chia Gavin - for emerging as Champion at the Malaysia Business Events National Challenge Championship. Their victory earns them the honour of representing Malaysia at the AFECA Asia MICE Youth Challenge in Xiamen, China, where they will compete against top teams from across Asia. We also commend Sunway University Team B - Gan Yu Min, Chan Suenmin, Yen Thung Chong and Khor Yu Xuan - for their dedication, teamwork and perseverance throughout the competition. A special thank you to our dedicated coaches Ms Ng Siew Cheng and Ms Ng Wai Yee, as well as Ms Hairani M Nur, Ms Suhaini Ibrahim and Ms Belinda Fong, for their guidance and support throughout the journey.

Congratulations once again to both teams! We look forward to seeing Team A represent Malaysia on the Asian stage.



Sunway University Press celebrates the launch of *The Anatomy of Online Communities* 03 August 2026



Sunway University Press celebrated the launch of *The Anatomy of Online Communities* by Prof. Bradley C. Freeman and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zuhaili Akmal Ismail at The Sunway Library by BookXcess, Sunway Square Mall.

The book explores the increasingly important role of online communities in shaping culture, connection and public conversations. From fandoms and interest groups to neighbourhood chats and viral discussions, digital communities have become spaces where people connect, exchange information and navigate complex social issues.

During the launch, Prof. Bradley C. Freeman and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zuhaili Akmal Ismail, together with Mediha Mahmood, CEO of the Communications and Multimedia Content Forum, shared insights into the dynamics of online communities, including digital power structures, community rules, misinformation and the future of digital interaction.

The event brought together distinguished guests, academics, students, industry professionals and members of the wider Sunway community, including Prof. Dato' Elizabeth Lee, Prof. Abhi Veerakumarasivam, Prof. Lay Ching Chai, Prof. Mahendhiran Sanggaran Nair and Prof. Mayco Santaella.

Organised by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), Sunway University, and Sunway University Press, the launch provided a platform for meaningful discussions on how online communities influence society and how individuals and organisations can better understand the digital spaces they participate in.

Sunway University Press thanks all guests, speakers and participants who joined the celebration and contributed to an engaging afternoon of discussion and exchange.

The Anatomy of Online Communities offers readers an opportunity to look beyond the surface of online interaction and examine the structures, behaviours and social forces that shape the communities we create and participate in every day.





Sunway alumni share entrepreneurial journeys at IMPACT IGNITE26

28 May 2026



It was a full-circle moment to welcome Sunway Alumni, Jeff Chua and Rachel Tan, back on campus as panellists for Impact Unplugged, held as part of Social Enterprise Engagement Day: IMPACT IGNITE26 organised by the Yunus Social Business Centre, Sunway Business School.

Together with other panellists, Rachel (Founder of The Nurts) and Jeff (Co-Founder of opackmy) shared their inspiring journeys of turning ideas into meaningful impact through their purpose-driven businesses. From the challenges and rewarding moments of building their ventures to the future impact they hope to create, their stories offered valuable insights and inspiration.



Thank you, Rachel and Jeff, for giving back and inspiring the Sunway community!





