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[VOL.56 DEC 2019](#)

# PEKAN REVIEW

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Bridging Universiti Malaysia Pahang to the world community

## Double happiness

Although his work as a special officer to His Royal Highness Sultan of Pahang kept him busy most of the time, Ahmad Norbadelin Murad, 50, managed to complete his Executive Master in Project Management together with his beloved wife, Zuriati, who is also an Executive Master in Business Management.

Both Ahmad Norbadelin and Zuriati work at the same place – the Office of His Royal Highness of Sultan of Pahang's masters' programme at UMP Advanced Education.

“I have long dreamed that one day, I will stand proud on the stage as a graduate.

“Alhamdulillah, our prayers have been answered and I shared the stage together with my wife,” he said.

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Ahmad Norbadelin also said he had not expected to attend his own graduation this time around as prior to this, his main duty was to escort Sultan of Pahang.

Ahmad Norbadelin said he was fortunate enough to have his family's support when he expressed his desire to attend his own graduation.

He added that there were constraints and these were not so much due to their young children but more to his work and studies because his duties were not exactly the nine-to-five-kind of work.

He still recalled having to rush to attend classes in UMP, dressed in full traditional attire - the *Baju Melayu*, to attend his own graduation.

As for Zuriati, she said age was not a factor for one to pursue their studies.

"At times, the atmosphere in the lecture room makes you very sprightly and positive, good vibes to see you are surrounded by young people," she said.

"Although my classmates are around the age of my children, they are very supportive and readily share their experiences with me," she said.

"What is equally important is to focus in class and complete assignments within the given time," she said.

For the couple, it was their most beautiful, memorable moment when they received their scrolls from His Majesty Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Mustaafiz during the 100th convocation that was held recently.

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## **Prof. Ts. Dr. Mohd. Rosli Hainin appointed as UMP Deputy VC (Academic & International)**

The Ministry of Education has appointed Professor Ts. Dr. Mohd. Rosli Hainin as Universiti Malaysia Pahang (Academic & International) for three years effective from November 1, 2019 until October 31, 2022.

Professor Ts. Dr. Mohd. Rosli Hainin, 52, who is from Temerloh, Pahang, has a Doctorate Degree in Civil Engineering from Auburn University, Alabama, USA - a prominent research centre in highway engineering and Asphalt Technology (NCAT), Auburn University, Alabama, USA - a prominent research centre in highway engineering.

He also has a Master's Degree in Civil Engineering from University of Kansas, USA (1996), a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from University of South Carolina, USA (1990) and Diploma in Science from Indiana University, USA (1987).

He has vast experience in academics and research and has worked with Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) for over 20 years.

Prior to this appointment, Professor Ts. Dr. Mohd. Rosli was the Vice-Chairman of UTM School of Civil Engineering and responsible for academic and student development.

He was also the Associate Research Fellow at UTM Tropical Geoengineering Centre (GEOTROPIK), Chief of Transportation Research Group Chief for five years and UTM Book Publication Panel Chairman for four years.

He was the Head of Department of Geotechnical and Transportation for five years and Deputy Academic Director for two years.

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He has published 400 articles including 260 journals with H-Index 26.

UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ir. Dr. Wan Azhar Wan Yusoff said the university was pleased and thanked Malik for the appointment.

“It is hoped that with the appointment, UMP will continue to be excellent and be a leading technology university especially in providing a solid and high level of Technical Education and Vocational Training (TVET) in the country.”

“UMP will always make certain that its academic curriculum is designed more innovatively and its academic standards are based on industrial needs and one that contributes to the efforts taken to communitise technology in the country.”

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## **Mitchell receives 2 awards - the Sabah Foundation Excellence Prize and Deutscher Ingenieure Excellence Award**

Translation by: DR.ROZAIMI ABU SAMAH, FACULTY OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY  
Photo by: ALUWI MOHD SIKAH, CENTRE FOR PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Although the 24-year-old Mitchell Enrique Kuansin grew up in a modest family, she is determined to succeed and has recently received two awards of the Sabah Foundation Excellence Prize and Dual-Degree Verein Deutscher Ingenieure Excellence Award.

She received the award from the Chancellor of UMP, His Majesty The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatullah Al-Muhammad ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Musta' in Billah.

She is from Kota Belud, Sabah and she graduated with a degree in B. Eng (Hons) Automotive Engineering (University of Applied Sciences, Germany) with a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 3.59.

Mitchell was among the 3,782 graduands who received their scrolls in the 14th UMP Convocation Ceremony at the UMP main campus on 16–17 November 2019.

She is the eldest of six siblings and she managed to obtain the Dean's List awards for five semesters.

“My friends and lecturers helped me greatly but the biggest factor for my success today is my family, especially my parents and siblings who supported me.”

“I hope to repay them through this success,” said the daughter to Kuansing Matindal, 56 and Mariah Rumahtani, 54.

During her studies in UMP, she also participated in kayaking, volunteering programmes and also a member of the UMP Student Council (UHCC).

She said, “One unique value of UMP is the close relationship with the industry partners.”

“The partnership does not only improve the graduate employability of UMP students but also provides various opportunities for them to gain practical experience.”

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“I look forward to applying all the knowledge gained in my career and my life.”

She shared that her biggest achievement was when she completed a semester at the University of Applied

“I am so lucky as not many students get the chance to experience that.

“It was an interesting experience that positively impacted my personal life when I was able to learn about Germans, to work and interact with students and lecturers at the university, and to spend time to travel,” she

She adheres to the principle of always do the best in everything. She believes UMP has many facilities to a

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## **Roommates awarded with Dual-Degree Programme Academic Excellence Prize**

Translation by: NADIRA HANA AB HAMID, FACULTY OF MANUFACTURING AND MECHATRONIC ENGINEERING  
Photo by: ALUWI MOHD SIKAH, CENTRE FOR PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

It is definitely the sweetest memory for two roommates to share the stage during the first session of the 14th UMP Sports Complex, Gambang Campus today.

Nabilah Rosli, 25 and Ong Kai Li, 24, dual degree mechatronics students from Faculty of Manufacturing and Mechatronics were awarded with Dual-Degree Programme Academic Excellence Prize - Verein Deutscher Ingenieure Award.

Terengganu-born Nabilah and Penang born Ong Kai Li expressed their gratitude and excitement for being awarded.

Cultural differences was never a reason for this two best friends to share their thoughts and ideas in carrying out their projects.

According to Nabilah, she has always adhered to the principle of ‘Hablum Minallah Hablum Minannas’ which is her relationship with Allah SWT and with other humans.

Daughter to Rosli Ludin and Rohani Mamat believes that UMP is the best place to develop self-identity and self-confidence.

It is also the place for the students to gain knowledge on the latest technology development.

For Nabilah, there’s no easy way to success. One must always look for opportunities to move forward and success comes easy.

Meanwhile, for six times dean’s award Ong Kai Li, she has always adhered to the principle of positive thinking.

She believes that “if we could have dreamed of success we would have achieved it”. As the saying goes, “v

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All the bitter-sweet memories gained throughout her studies years in UMP will be the most memorable moments during her six month mobility programme in Germany.

The opportunity to study in Germany has benefited her in learning more on the country's culture and teaching their methods in educating younger generation.

Ong Kai Li is now working at Vitrox Corporation Berhad as a Development & Research Engineer.

Besides Nabilah and Ong Kai Li, another recipient for this prize is Mitchell Enrique Kuansin, 24, who also received the Award.

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## **BID Excellence Award recipient, Christysterra Johnny gains**

Translation by: DR. ROZAIMI ABU SAMAH, FACULTY OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING T  
Photo by: ALUWI MOHD SIKAH, CENTRE FOR PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

“Being a temporary English teacher in Alt?nküre Okullar, Sakarya, Turkey was the most meaningful experience I had. I said Christysterra Johnny, 23, graduated with a degree of Bachelor of Applied Science (Honours) Material Science and received the BID Excellence Award at the 14th Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) Convocation Ceremony.

In Turkey, she had almost 200 students aged six to 14 years old to teach and interact in English.

She gained a lot of new experiences and also learned Turkish.

As a proud Kadazan, she never forgets the supports of her family.

Her father, Johnny John, 50, is a General Assistant and her mother, Catherina Angkim, 52, is a nurse.

“They believed in me and always gave words of encouragement when I was down.

“My success today is because of them and I will strive to make them proud and pay gratitude for things that I have achieved in Sabah.

Christysterra excelled in her academics as she received the Dean's Award for seven semesters.

The second child of five siblings holds on to the words – hard work works.

“Success is the result of hard work, perseverance, tenacity and sacrifices in garnering knowledge and gaining experience.

“UMP offers a full range of soft skills from leadership to entrepreneurship and students are trained to gain experience in various fields.

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added.

She is currently working as an engineer in TG Porcelain Sdn. Bhd. She is responsible for the preparation and treatment of industrial wastewater.

In the future, she hopes to pursue her study abroad as she sees garnering knowledge is a lifelong learning opportunity.

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## **Chew Wi Kang recipient of Perodua Excellence Award**

Translation by: NADIRA HANA AB HAMID, FACULTY OF MANUFACTURING AND MECHATRONIC ENGINEERING

"To succeed, we need to focus and believe in ourselves. There are always obstacles in our path, but we need to overcome them for," said Chew Wi Kang, the recipient for Perodua Excellence Award at the Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP).

The Johore-born lass is the holder of B.Eng (Hons) Mechatronics Engineering with CGPA of 3.77.

He is not only outstanding in his academics as reflected in him being on the Dean's List six times through his studies, but he is also actively involved in research and university's programme.

The youngest child from three siblings says the campus life have changed him into a mature person.

"Although most of my times were occupied with all kind of activities, but I manage to allocate my time between them. I make sure to give full concentration in class to ensure better understanding of the subject," he added.

Since September, Chew Wi Kang has been working in Singapore, as a Mechatronic Engineer for AI-Sus Inc.

He thanked all the lecturers for their endless support in spreading the knowledge, not only in the area of academics but also teamwork and softskill.

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## **Chai Ly Min receives Telekom Excellence Award**

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By: SHALFARINA BINTI SHAHRIMAN, UMP PRESS

Translation by: DR. ROZAIMI ABU SAMAH, FACULTY OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING T

The dream of becoming an outstanding student finally came true when Chai Ly Min, 24, was awarded the Convocation Ceremony of Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) on 16 November 2019.

She is grateful for her sacrifice to succeed when receiving a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 3.

"I am delighted with this success and it is certainly coming from the encouragement of my beloved parents who have always supported me to study hard.

"I am also happy that I am now working as an engineer at a private company in Kulim, Kedah before gradu

"All the blood, sweat and tears finally had paid off," she said.

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## **Nasrul Arif Zakaria Puspanita Community Care Awa**

By: NUR SA'ADATUL AFZAN JUSOH, CORPORATE COMMUNICATION DIVISION

Translation by: AMINATUL NOR MOHAMED SAID, FACULTY OF COMPUTING

Time management is the key to the success for Pahang-born Nasrul Arif Zakaria, 23, Bachelor of Com Honours who holds the Dean's Award every semester.

The youngest of the five siblings never expected to be selected to receive the Puspanita Community Conc Convocation Ceremony on November 16, 2019.

While his friends were passionate about smartphones, social media, and online games, Nasrul Arif cho science new things such as graphic design or video editing and anything else that might be useful for the fu

In other words, he is preparing for new skills as technology advances.

According to Nasrul Arif, to the extent he is able, he will become accustomed to volunteering because, from made us realize that many people out there need help.

"If we have the advantage, help others who may be at a disadvantage so that the environment can be balanc

Besides, Nasrul Arif is also interested in public speaking.

He also participated in the I Am Survivor program organized by UMP Alumni for three consecutive years s learning methods at UMP.

In the following year, 2018, Nasrul Arif was involved as a facilitator of the program and in 2019 as the forum

Nasrul Arif is currently a research assistant for Dr. Munira Abdul Razak, senior lecturer of Centre for Moder

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Currently, he is also a Freelancer. Nasrul Arif aspires to grow his own business, Nazethics Solution in t which is currently in the process of registration.

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## **Recipient of 7 Dean's List Awards, Nurul Nadiah receives 2**

By: NUR SA'ADATUL AFZAN JUSOH, CORPORATE COMMUNICATION DIVISION  
Photo by: ALUWI MOHD SIKAH, CENTRE FOR PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Nurul Nadiah Abdul Halim, a graduate of Bachelor of Civil Engineering from the Faculty of Civil Engineering, parents proud when she obtained the Dean's Award for seven consecutive semesters.

She is the eldest daughter of Abdul Halim Abdul Hamid and Hayati Mohd Yusoff and she has a philosophy person who can contribute to the nation.

Her secrets of excellence are early preparation, ask diligently, be resourceful, committed, focused and leave

She was chosen to receive the UMP Holdings Sdn. Bhd. Excellence Award and Matahari Srikandi Award d recently.

Nurul Nadiah actively participated in co-curricular activities. She held the position of Vice-President for E Interaksi with EOSH Secretariate USM 2017.

She loves volunteering work and involved as a volunteer in Bank Rakyat Sports Carnival, Program Koi Sa and Replanting Forest Trees Programme with Bera District Phase 5.

She also joined research competition such as Creation, Innovation, Technology & Research Exposition (C on Green Technology & Ideas (i-FINOG) and International Innovation & Technology Exhibition (ITEX).

"My proudest achievement was when my team and I managed to bag a gold medal in CITREx 2019.

"We sent two projects and the other project won a bronze medal. All the efforts and hard work of all the tea said.

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She is currently working as a civil and structural engineer at a consulting firm in Kuantan.

Nadiah also aspires to pursue her study in the future.

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## **Nor Syahirah attributes her success to consistent Dhuha and Tahajjud**

Photos by: ALUWI MOHD SIKAH, CENTRE FOR PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) graduate, Nor Syahirah Mahmudin, 23 – one of this year's recipients at the university's recent 14th Convocation – humbly attributed her secret to success to her consistent daily prayers of Dhuha and Tahajjud.

According to Nor Syahirah, she strongly believed that the routine practice of praying Dhuha and Tahajjud was especially helpful when it comes to concentrating on her studies.

"We can never depend solely on our efforts, but must definitely couple them with a strong faith in the Almighty. This is the secret to my success," the award winner proclaimed.

"And for this success, all credits and praises go to the Almighty. I could have never imagined of being a recipient, as I had anticipated there are many more qualified candidates.

"My heartfelt gratitude also goes to my parents and family, for their blessings and prayers as well as for the support of my lecturers. I have expressed the elated Nor Syahirah.

She happily pointed out that her parents have always been the push factor for her success, always encouraging her to uphold good relations with the Almighty, her lecturers and peers.

The Bentong, Pahang-born graduate graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering Technology (Infrastructure Management) from UMP.

She was also a six-time recipient of the Dean's List throughout her pursuit of tertiary education at UMP.

Nor Syahirah is now enrolled in the Shariah Graduate Trainee Programme at Hong Leong Islamic Bank in Kuantan. The programme provides an opportunity to fresh graduates to gain valuable knowledge and working experience.

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The youngest of five siblings was also a proponent of volunteer activities – avidly believing that such participation and endears one to the surrounding communities.

Aside from Nor Syahirah, four other recipients of this year's Yayasan Pahang Award were S Thamarasi – B.Eng. (Hons) Chemical Engineering; Sho Yun Feng – Bachelor of Project Management with Hons.; Nur Farzana Husein – B.Eng. (Hons) Manufacturing Engineering; and Nur Farzana Husein – B.Eng. (Hons) Manufacturing Engineering.

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## **Wan Hamizan receives BASF Petronas Chemicals Excellence Award**

By : SITI NURFARMY IBRAHIM, CORPORATE COMMUNICATION DIVISION  
Photo by : ALUWI MOHD SIKAH, DEPARTMENT OF PROPERTY MANAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT  
Translation by: DR. ROZAIMI ABU SAMAH, FACULTY OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING

Wan Hamizan Wan Zainal, 24, a graduate of Bachelor of Chemical Engineering, received the BASF Petronas Chemicals Excellence Award at the 14th Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) Convocation Ceremony in Sports Complex, UMP Gambang on 12th October 2017.

The son of Wan Zainal Wan Mat and Noraini Abdullah Chong said that the definition of success in life is to be able to contribute to the society and to be able to help others.

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success of someone else inspires us to succeed.

“Success will not be a reality without tireless efforts.

“I strongly adhere to my parents’ advice, never stop seeking knowledge, and always ask anyone,” he said. the 11th UMP Convocation Ceremony.

He is the third child of five siblings. He believes that students can be an all-rounder with good facilities, professional and proficient lecturers.

Wan Hamizan currently works at Lotte Chemical Titan (M) Sdn. Bhd. as a Trainee Engineer (Production).

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## **Laylatun Qadrina UMP Sportswoman and YSS Volunteer**

By : SITI NUR AZWIN ZULKAPRI, CORPORATE COMMUNICATION DIVISION

Translation by: DR. ROZAIMI ABU SAMAH, FACULTY OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING T

Good time management, hard work and stay focused are the keys to the success of the 2018 Univers Laylatun Qadrina Amrizal who received the Malakoff Corporation Bhd. Excellence Award.

This award is the first to be introduced in the 14th Convocation of the UMP on 16 November 2019.

She is actively involved in sports and volunteering activities, and she is representing UMP in petanque. (Category of Sports and Recreation) for her outstanding achievements in university and national levels com

Laylatun Qadrina won a bronze medal in the 2016 and 2018 Institutions of Higher Learning Games (SUKIF Petanque Championship and several other successes. She also represented the Federal Territory at the SU

She is grateful for completing her study in the Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) of Electrical Engineering (P of the award based on her outstanding results and active involvement in co-curricular activities.

“I am the alumna of the Student Volunteers Foundation (YSS), a foundation under the Ministry of Education

“Volunteerism is the best platform to develop good self skills, improve the quality of leadership and challenge global community,” she said.

She had contributed in the 2017 International Students Volunteer Mission in Sabah, SCI-Germany W represented YSS as a delegate in the 15th IAVE Asia Pacific Regional Volunteer Conference 2017.

When she was in the final year, Laylatun Qadrina was named as the recipient of the award of Outstanding sponsored by the IEEE-PES Malaysia Chapter 2019 in the Exhibition of Senior Projects on Electrical & Elec

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Laylatun Qadrina graduated with a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 3.84 over the three and a half years and received a merit scholarship from the Gamuda Berhad Foundation.

She is currently working as an engineer for the Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) Underground Line 2 under Gamuda Berhad.

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## **UMP–HsKA Dual-Degree graduate, Mohammed Shafiq is**

By : SITI NURFARMY IBRAHIM, CORPORATE COMMUNICATION DIVISION

Translation by: DR. ROZAIMI ABU SAMAH, FACULTY OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING T

The programme of Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) Automotive Engineering, a collaboration programme with Hochschule Karlsruhe (HsKA), Germany, is often considered a rather difficult programme for some.

However, Mohammed Shafiq Abd Salim, 24, managed to prove that it is not an obstacle for him to excel academically while being active in sports.

He received his dual-degree at the 14th Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) Convocation Ceremony in Sport and Recreation on 14 November 2019.

This graduate from the Faculty of Mechanical & Automotive Engineering (FTKMA) is also a silver medalist at the 2019 DBKL World Cup Archery Championship this year.

He also won the 4th Place Compound Men in the Johor International Archery Open, a bronze medal in Corus Archery Championship (SIPTAR), a bronze medal in UMP Indoor Open, top five in Compound Men, Macau Indoor Archery Open, Malaysian University Sports Council (MASUM) Championship and a bronze medal (mixed team) in Universiti Malaysia Pahang Archery Open.

“Many people assume that it is difficult to focus on academics while being active in co-curricular activities. However, it is crucial to balance both and maintain a healthy lifestyle.”

“Trying to discipline yourself by following the schedule and finishing tasks within the stipulated time are the key to success.”

For him, nothing is impossible if it is done properly and passionately.

This Mersing-born Mohammed Shafiq also received the Dean's List award twice during his studying at UMP.

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Talking about his future plans, he is still contemplating whether to proceed to the next level as he had just c

His focus will be on the competition which will take place at the end of November, the 15th Sarawak Indoor International Indoor Archery Championship 3.0, along with several national competition circuits.

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## 9 in a family graduate at the same time

Translation by: DR. ROZAIMI ABU SAMAH, FACULTY OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING T

“People who succeed in life are those who see the direction. Strength comes not only from a physical star never give up.”

This saying is the life philosophy of Datuk Mokhtar Samad, 73, who is the Honourable Advisor for the Ma (PKBM).

His busy career in the construction field since 46 years ago is not an obstacle for him to gain knowledge at

He managed to complete his study in the Executive Master in Project Management under the UMP Ad Lifelong Learning Professional Award at the 14th Convocation of the UMP on 16 and 17 November 2019.

It is a glorious moment for his family when he is sharing the stage with his wife, Datin Neng Hayati Hayatu two children-in-law.

“The young generation today must possess the spirit of lifelong learning,” he said.

His wife, Datin Neng Hayati Hayatullah Md. Ali, the Chairman of the Bureau of Women and Welfare of Mal also expressed her gratitude when she managed to complete her study with her family. She was also proud

Their son, Mokhzani Mokhtar said, learning together made their relationship to grow stronger, and they ma

Apart from Mokhzani, the convocation stage was shared by Nurrul Maria Mokhtar, Mokhzairi Mokhtar, Mokhtar, Natasha Dhabitah Mat Piah and Muhammad Hafizal Mohamad. They also completed their Execut

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# Executive Engineer receives Lifelong Learning Professional Award

By: SITI NURFARMY IBRAHIM, CORPORATE COMMUNICATION DIVISION

Translation by: DR.ROZAIMI ABU SAMAH, FACULTY OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

“No pain, no gain”, these words portray the recipient of Lifelong Learning Professional Award, Lim Poh Ann.

Although he is bound by his current role as an Executive Engineer, it does not stop him from graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management (Majoring in Industrial Operations) at Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP).

He was born in Muar, Johor, and he shared that the secret of success lies on perseverance and determination.

“The lesson for failure is fatigue and easily concede, but those who dare to fight and sacrifice will surely succeed.”

“There are many definitions of success, but only one explanation about failure, when one fails to achieve his goal.”

“I believe that when we do something, do not look back and focus on the finish line,” he said.

He admitted that studying at UMP is the most memorable experience in his life.

“UMP has all the facilities suited to the needs of the industry,” he added.

He plans to continue his study in Master Executive in the pursuit of becoming a lecturer as he intends to contribute to the Industry Revolution (IR 4.0).

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## Muhammad Nur Alif Re'dzuan sacrifices for below

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Translation by: DR. ROZAIMI ABU SAMAH, FACULTY OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING T

Muhammad Nur Alif Re'dzuan, 24, quitted his job as a programmer and graphic designer in a company Re'dzuan Yusof, 59, who underwent a brain surgery due to aneurysm last April. The story of this graduate (Engineering) went viral in social media.

“As the eldest of two, it is my responsibility to look after my father.

“Especially since our mother left us, my father had sacrificed a lot to take care of us.

“I still remember the words of my late mother during the registration day at UMP.

“She wanted to see me succeed and change the fate of our family.

“My father always encourages me to pursue my study even if my mother is no longer with us,” he said.

Holding to those words, he successfully completed his study and offered a position in a company in Cyberjaya.

But soon after, he was startled by the news that his father had a fever. His father’s high blood pressure had caused his brain to enlarge.

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After brain surgery, his father's worsening condition needed full-time care, and he decided to quit his job.

"It needs the patience to look after my father. Sometimes it requires two people to lift him during an appointment, and he always uses a wheelchair," he said.

He has to forget his wish to celebrate his graduation with his father and other family members and friends as he has to be left behind.

However, his relatives were so adamant about seeing him receive the scroll during the 14th Universiti Malaya Convocation Ceremony recently.

They even collected some money for him and took care of his father during the ceremony.

While other graduates attended the convocation with their families, Muhammad Nur Alif took a bus alone from Ipoh to Kuala Lumpur.

He was very grateful for his friend, Helmi Hanoin, who offered him to stay at his house before the ceremony.

Leveraging his expertise in graphic design, he is currently working on graphic design and multimedia at his own business.

At the same time, he is grateful for the assistance from the Hospital Raja Permaisuri Bainun Ipoh, Department of Health, Perak and others.

"My father is now recovering and is undergoing physiotherapy treatment. I really hope he will recover soon."

"This situation is daunting, but I believe every cloud has a silver lining," he said.

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## **If mom is still around, she's the happiest person –**

By: SITI NUR AZWIN ZULKAPRI, CORPORATE COMMUNICATION DIVISION

Translation by: DR.ROZAIMI ABU SAMAH, FACULTY OF CHEMICAL AND PROCESS ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Celebrating success without loved ones is definitely sad. That is the feeling of Nur Shairah Yahya, a graduate of Universiti Malaysia Perlis (Pharmaceuticals) with Honours at the 14th UMP Convocation Ceremony on 16 November 2019 at Sports Centre.

Nur Shairah, 23, said her late mother died in October last year due to a stomach problem that had lasted for over a year.

"Since then, we depend solely on our father. Today, my father, Yahya Deraman is here to witness this great moment."

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"It is heartbreaking to be reminded of my mother's passing.

"But I know she would be the happiest person today to see this success," she said.

To make things better, Nur Shairah was the recipient of Dato' Majid Mohamad Manufacturing Engineering Award with a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 3.77.

She added, "Mom really wanted to see me receive an award, but she did not get to see me wearing this cor

"However, I really feel her presence.

"I owe this success to my sacrifice for my mom when she was still around.

"Our success is not only because of our efforts and wisdom, but also thanks to those who shed tears prayin

Nur Shairah is currently living with her father and siblings. She intends to pursue her study in the field of products.

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## **The South China Sea is not a barrier for Dr. Mohd**

By : SITI NURFAHMY IBRAHIM, CORPORATE COMMUNICATION DIVISION  
Translation by: AMINATUL NOR MOHAMED SAID, FACULTY OF COMPUTING

Being a thousand miles apart from the Peninsula does not discourage Ts. Dr. Mohd Hafizil Mat Yasin to continue his Mechanical Engineering (Fuel Combustion) at the Faculty of Mechanical and Automotive Engineering Technology (UMP).

Dr. Mohd Hafizil, who served as a lecturer in Terengganu at first, was reluctantly being transferred to Kota Kinabalu for a reshuffle.

Unstoppable, he finally enrolled as a postgraduate student in the year-end 2014.

Adhering to the philosophy of 'It doesn't matter where you come from, what does matter is YOU', made it possible for his years' study in UMP with total support from his beloved family.

"It undeniable hurtful upon receiving word that I had failed to obtain the Federal Training Gift (HLP), Minister's Scholarship during the interview," he said.

However, the eldest of these six siblings eventually rose to continue his studies despite having to pay his expenses.

Through patience and perseverance, he eventually was offered as Industrial Lecturer Attachment (SIP) as a lecturer in Kota Kinabalu and had the opportunity to provide his engine test rig for fuel testing purposes.

According to him, UMP is a university under the Technical University of Malaysia Network (MTUN) with its focus on Science, Management and Technical with staff and infrastructure capabilities and collaborate with world-class institutions to meet the needs and communities locally.

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Dr. Mohd. Hafizil also completed his part-time Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering at UMP.

He also expressed gratitude and especially thanks to his supervisor who kept him focused on his studies.

Dr. Mohd Hafizil will eventually return to the Peninsula after almost six years of living in Sabah.

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