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**Volkswagen and UMP form partnership to strengthen ties betwe**

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Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) and Volkswagen Group Malaysia (VGM) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) marking a milestone in strategic initiatives between the world's biggest automotive brand and one of Malaysia's leading universities.

The agreement was signed by UMP's Vice-Chancellor, Professor, Dato' Sri Dr. Daing Nasir Ibrahim and Volkswagen Group Malaysia's Danny Auerswald in a ceremony held at UMP's Pekan campus on April 30, 2019.

Also present at the event were Deputy Dean Associate Professor of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, UMP, Zuki Nik Mohamed and Pekan Volkswagen Head of Pilot Hall, Nor Hayati Othman.

This partnership aims to boost advancement in the fields of education, research and technology, especially in the automotive sector, to create a skilled workforce in the country, with a focus on students mainly from electronic and programming streams.

This collaboration will see both parties working closely together as a platform to connect the automotive industry with local researches.

It will also pave the way for various programmes such as exchange of staff, academic material as well as collaboration in the technical, engineering and vocational education (TVET).

VGM will be sharing its expertise, resources and knowledge on German engineering and its technologies through this MoU.

As part of the agreement, Volkswagen Pekan Plant will be offering UMP students internship placements as well as practical understanding of what is learnt in the classroom. There will also be workshops on new technology and innovation.

VGM's Danny Auerswald said that a collaboration such as this provides many benefits to both parties.

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“We are very pleased to partner with UMP and we are looking forward to working closely with the students in

“Talent cultivation is something that is actively practiced at Volkswagen AG, and it is great that we are able

“We are confident that the students at UMP will have plenty to learn and benefit from this collaboration,” he

In his speech, Professor Dato’ Sri Dr Daing Nasir said UMP was listed in the rating of the QS World Mechanical, Aeronautical, Manufacturing, Chemical Engineering and Technology programmes.

“These achievements simply highlighted UMP’s excellence in teaching and learning in various technical and

On the MoU, Professor Dato’ Sri Dr. Daing Nasir said this partnership would help establish a sustainable vocational automotive engineering.

“This would help facilitate UMP students when seeking industrial training or job placements.

“UMP offers world-class engineering programmes, the dual-degree programme and the dual-masters’ degree of Applied Sciences (HsKA) and Reutlingen University (RU),“ he said.

Volkswagen’s Pekan plant currently assembles four models sold in Malaysia - the Polo, Vento, Passat, and the line-up of Volkswagen cars available in Malaysia, alongside the Golf family and the Beetle.

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## ***Jalan Yang Kalsom* musical entertains theatre**

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP), in collaboration with the state's Department of Broadcasting, Radio & Television, presented a solid musical performance on '*Jalan Yang Kalsom: Sebuah Muzikal*' (JYKSM) on April 14, 2019, for the multi-racial residents at *Jalan Yang Kalsom* in Ipoh, Perak, circa 1970s.

The performance saw 60 production crew from the Senandika Theatre Group and Kencana Pawana Dance Troupe put up an interesting and entertaining show on the harmonious atmosphere of a multi-racial society in the present-day example and guideline to all.

According to Production Advisor, Noor Afiza Mohd Asmi, the original script was written by Syafiq Ziazan, while the lyrics were by Theatre Director, Rizal Ali, who is a junior (Year 3 undergraduate) at the Faculty of Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering.

"All the actors, dancers and even coordinators behind the curtain were UMP undergraduates, while Pahang and Fatin shouldered the master of ceremony and background voice-over tasks," said Noor Afiza, adding that Md Nor Shahar, was also on hand to ensure the successful production of JYKSM.

As for the musical arrangements throughout the show, they were jointly performed by UMP Culture Division and the latter's Music Director, Anuar Chacho. The staging of JYKSM saw successful rendering of two new songs and an Original Sound Track (OST).

Noor Afiza remarked that all the participating undergraduates showed high-level of commitment, having spent several months – in terms of editing the original theatric scripts into a musical performance, role-plays of characters, costumes, wardrobe, among others.

"Actors also took on a challenging task in their selected characters and nurturing their roles, as well as ensuring the story line according to the story line."

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“On this note, we truly appreciate the support from UMP residents and the commitment displayed by several departments including Sports & Culture, Department of Student Affairs & Alumni, Vice-Chancellor’s Office, Department of Facilities Management, Information Technology & Communications, Security Division and Bursary,” she emphasized.

According to Aznorizamin Ismail, who presently shoulder the responsibilities of the Director of Center for Student Development, the talents and capabilities of the undergraduates to put up a two-hour performance, especially when not from a performing arts background.

“They are undergraduates pursuing studies in engineering and technology, and yet, they can also stage an impressive stage management,” he said.

Over 500 people attended the musical performance – including students from Sekolah Kebangsaan Seri Melayu. The performance fees is charitably contributed to Casa Harapan Women & Children Nursing Centre.

Also present were Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs & Alumni), Professor Dato’ Dr. Yuserrie Zainal, RTM Pahang Deputy Director, Rida Suziwati Muda; and RTM Head of Channel, Jaya Brabu Balasubramanian.

One of the theatre-goers, Al-Zahari Awang Samah, who is also an activist from Anggun Performing Arts in Kuala Lumpur, said the impactful performance, with strong acting, interesting props and a story line that matches well with the social issues, ‘entertained’.

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[Sharing@BookCafe](#): **10 minutes spared to inculcate responsible citizenship**

In the continuous efforts to inculcate reading habit among campus residents at University Malaysia Pahang, the 'Baca Bersama Untuk 10 Minit' programme under its [Sharing@BookCafe](#) activities.

The programme was conducted in conjunction with the celebration of the World Book & Copyrights Day on April 23, 2019. It was also a response to the call by and objective of the Ministry of Education (MoE) to encourage reading to the general public.

During the programme, which began at 11am, Deputy Head of Librarian, Siti Aishah Ghani, took the opportunity to discuss library and investment topics.

According to Siti Aishah, who also manages <http://blog.ump.edu.my/> at UMP, she would read at least three books a month and wishes to review before blogging on it.

"To inculcate reading habit, we need to carry at least one book wherever we go, so that we can utilize any spare time and not let time waste away," she highlighted.

"As a display of the university's commitment to the importance of reading throughout our lifetime, the Library aims to encourage campus residents and the surrounding communities," Siti Aishah remarked.

During the programme, five books were reviewed – among which were '*Revolusi Wang*' by Alwi Adam; '*101 Cara Menanamkan Anak*' by Zaid Mohamad; '*Panduan Pelaburan Unit Amanah*' by Razali Razman; '*Panduan Lengkap: Pelaburan Saham*' by Azizi Ali and Bill Wermin.

According to Siti Aishah, '*Revolusi Wang*' is a simple financial management book for school students to understand financial management. '*Bijak, Anak Mewah*' touches on tips and strategies on how parents can educate their children to be financially responsible.

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She said the book on '*Panduan Pelaburan Unit Amanah*' explains the fundamentals of unit trust investment in the Malaysian market. Potential unit trust investors are encouraged to read the book before making any investment.

Meanwhile, the reviews on '*Panduan Lengkap: Pelaburan Saham*' and 'How You Can Get from Rich to Poor' are recommended for readers who are looking for guidelines before delving into capital market investment. The book provides an enhancement on the subject matter.

According to Siti Aishah, based on her personal experience, potential investors should avoid indulging in investments that are already set aside for other financial commitments, like monthly instalments for housing and hire-purchase, to avoid the burden of financial risks.

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## **‘Spreading The Love’ with children of Permata Al-Insyirah**

By: SITI NURFARMY IBRAHIM, CORPORATE COMMUNICATION DIVISION

A total of 19 Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) students took part in a programme called, 'Spread the Love', at Permata Al-Insyirah Orphanage in Sungai Isap, Kuantan that was held on April 13, 2019.

The programme was organised under the UQP 2071 co-curriculum subject (Section 1G of Event Management).

The objective was to motivate the children to be diligent in their studies as some of them would be taking the *Pencapaian Sekolah Rendah* (UPSR) and *Pentaksiran Tingkatan 3* (PT3) this year.

Programme Director, Muhammad Shafiq Alamin Shafia'I said they were very excited to be given the opportunity to interact with the children, helping them to gain confidence in getting good results and eventually, pursuing their studies in higher education.

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“The programme helps to instil the spirit of volunteerism among the university students as well as for orphanage,” he said.

Event management coach and Industry & Community Network Department (ICoN) Manager, Mohd Raizal, evaluated from various aspects including on knowledge, innovation and creativity in solving problems and actual situation.

“This course provides exposure and experience and thus, teach the students how to manage events especially

“It also helps to lift the spirit of the children at the orphanage and inject something different in their daily lives

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## **STARS Project lends exposure to campus**

By: NUR SA'ADATUL AFZAN JUSOH, VICE-CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

The three-way collaborative effort between Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) and selected schools and STARS, or loosely translated as the Sparkling Pearl Project (STARS) – has given the opportunities experience life as an undergraduate on campus.

Jointly conducted by UMP InSmartive Club and BP Petronas Acetyls Sdn. Bhd. (BPPA), in collaboration Alumni (JHEPA), the project was held at the university's Pekan campus on April 20, 2019.

The three-day programme saw 30 undergraduate facilitators from UMP InSmartive Club share their on-school students, comprising Forms 1 to 5, from Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Dato' Engku Bijaya Sura (SMKDBS).

Among the many programmes in which both facilitators and students actively participated were campus Classroom as well as to the laboratories at the Faculty of Electrical & Electronics Engineering (FKEE) and Manufacturing Engineering (FKMP).

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“The implementation of all modules and activities lined up during the three-day programme, underpinning the goals to be achieved under this STARS Project – namely, exposure to campus life, road-mapping of academic, career and life goals among the participants – all of which were carried out in a university life ambience,” remarked Project Manager, Mr. M. A. a freshman at the Faculty of Engineering Technology (FTeK).

One particular programme that truly intrigued the participants was the 'Hi Professor!' slot, where the Deputy Dean, FKEE, Associate Professor Dr. Hamdan Daniyal, shared his life-long experience on academic and career advancement.

During such slot, the Deputy Dean also emphasized the importance of having good command of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects among the secondary school students.

Meanwhile, BPPA Manager of Human Resources & Administration, Shamsul Raji Jaafar – who was present at the Banquet Hall, Tun Abdul Razak Chancellery at UMP Pekan Campus – highlighted that all of the 51 secondary school family group, as beneficiaries of the many corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives conducted by BPPA, were present.

During the closing ceremony, Muhammad Haikal Danial Mahadi, 13, and Nurfaizah Insyirah Mohamad Farhan were selected as the Best Participants of the STARS project.

Also present were SMKDEBS Senior Assistant of Administration, Che Mohd Yusri Che Hashim; UMP InSmartive Club President (of Research at the Vice-Chancellor's Office), Wan Nazrul Helmy Wan Mohd Zain; and InSmartive Club President.

Moving forward, UMP InSmartive Club, BPPA and SMKDEBS have collectively agreed to coordinate a forum for the school district's Council of Counseling Teachers to tackle the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) examination papers on May 3 till 4 at the university's district's Council of Counseling Teachers.

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