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# PEKAN REVIEW

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Bridging Universiti Malaysia Pahang to the world community

## **UMP should seriously look into Artificial Intelligence development education - Chancellor**

The Chancellor of Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) and the country's reigning King, His Majesty Seri Paduka Baginda Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Mustafa

In his royal address at the recent UMP's 14th convocation – held at the Sports Complex of the university's

– His Majesty also called on the university to move rapidly forward and ensure the success of the Technical (TVET) programmes, in line with Malaysia's present aspiration on higher learning.

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His Majesty Al-Sultan Abdullah said he believed these two focus areas will elevate the country to a high level and continue to shoulder such national agenda to fruition.

“The close-knit collaborations between UMP and the industrial sectors, both domestically and globally, play a fundamental role in producing highly capable human capital to meet the country’s employment demand, as well as contribute to the nation’s economic growth,” he added.

His Majesty Al-Sultan Abdullah complimented the university’s administrative team on their plan to establish a social enterprise to help the less fortunate gain access and opportunities to finance their studies.

“This is truly hailed as a noble effort and should garner full support from all parties involved. Notwithstanding the challenges, the university must continue to explore opportunities to increase its endowments in its drive for excellence.

“Instead, the university should continue to identify new strategic business partners in its efforts to boost its endowments,” stressed the Chancellor.

Turning his royal address to the graduates, His Majesty Al-Sultan Abdullah advised them to utilize the knowledge and skills they have learned at the university for the benefit of the masses.

He also expressed his hopes that the graduates will tirelessly explore other opportunities that will lead them to success.

He stressed that aside from being responsible citizens who can contribute to the prosperity of the nation, the graduates must also take on the responsibility in shaping the future direction of the country and its people – they will be the new line-up of leaders.

Speaking of leadership role, His Majesty Al-Sultan Abdullah congratulated his son, the Crown Prince of Pahang, Tengku Hassanal Bolkiah, who had just been appointed his deputy and UMP’s Pro-Chancellor, along with Chairman of Heitech Pacific Sdn Bhd, Dato’ Dr. Nor.

The installation ceremony for Tengku Hassanal as the Pro-Chancellor will be held at a later date as his royal Highness is currently serving his military training at The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in the United Kingdom.

UMP’s two-day 14th Convocation saw some 3,782 graduates took to the stage to collect their scrolls – 1,000 for Bachelor of Science; 1,000 for Bachelor of Arts; 1,000 for Bachelor of Engineering; 100 for Bachelor of Education; 77 for Doctors of Philosophy; 158 for Master’s Degree; and 914 for Diploma under the executive and professional categories, as well as 100 for the students from the Lifelong Learning Centre of UMP Advanced Education.

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## **UMP to drive forward with ‘Social Enterprise Technological University’**

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Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) looks forward to move ahead with its 'Social Enterprise Technological University' concept, enhance its sustainability, and reduce its financial dependency on the Federal Government's annual budget provision.

According to UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ir. Dr. Wan Azhar Wan Yusoff, such concept is already embedded in the university's Strategic Planning, and its imminent implementation will help UMP be more independent in its drive for excellence in higher learning.

"Under the 'Social Enterprise Technological University' concept, UMP will further boost its strengths in research, teaching and high-integrity administration as we prepare for future challenges," said the Vice-Chancellor.

Speaking at the university's recent 14th convocation – held at the Sports Complex of the university's Gambang Campus, Professor Ir. Dr. Wan Azhar said UMP will also enhance its capabilities in the areas of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). The university is one of several institutions of higher learning pre-selected by the Ministry of Education to drive such initiatives.

In carrying out the Government's aspiration on TVET, he highlighted that UMP has initiated an organizational structure to facilitate the planning and implementation of several initiatives, to create a direct route for graduates with the Malaysian Qualifications Authority (MQA) to obtain their bachelor's degrees at the university.

"UMP now ranks as the 7th best university in the country and 271st in the world, for its engineering programme in chemical and pharmaceutical engineering and 271st in the world, for its engineering programme in chemistry among universities worldwide," said Professor Ir. Dr. Wan Azhar proudly.

Quoting the standings cited in the US News & World Report website, he said the engineering programme ranked 271st in the world based on global and local research credibility, number of publications and their percentages, as well as international citations.

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## **Tan Sri Dato' Sri Abi Musa Asaari proclaimed as the Pro-Chancellor**

Tan Sri Dato' Sri Abi Musa Asaari Mohamed Nor was proclaimed as Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) 14th convocation that was graced by UMP Chancellor, His Royal Highness Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Al-Mustafa Billah Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah A-Musta'in Billah.

The ceremony was held at UMP Gambang Campus Sports Complex on November 16, 2019.

He also conferred the Honorary Doctorate of Philosophy in Information Technology to President and Director of Maxis Berhad, Dato' Sri Mohd Hilmey Mohd Taib, who is also former UMP Board of Directors' Chairman.

The award was given in recognition of his stature, contributions and leadership in administration, organisational innovation, and development especially to the university, influences and inputs contributed over the years.

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In his speech, Al-Sultan Abdullah congratulated the graduates and their families who came to celebrate the

“Deepest appreciation is also conveyed to all the lecturers and teachers who have been committed to educ

“I also urge the students to make use of the knowledge and experience and to take advantage of every opportunity to contribute to the development and wellbeing of our beloved country and the future. Be a citizen who continues to contribute to the development and wellbeing of our beloved country and the future. Be a citizen who continues to contribute to the development and wellbeing of our beloved country and the future.

The King also expressed his hopes that serious attention be given on higher education in the country through the development of strategic areas including the Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the next higher level.

Top university awards were also given to outstanding students during the convocation.

For the Royal Academic Award (Excellent Medal), the recipient was Azriel Tan Zhe Khen, a graduate in Bachelor of Multimedia Technology (Hons.) with Honours and Umi Fatiha Md [Kosnin@Md](mailto:Kosnin@Md) Seropil, a graduate in Bachelor of Science in Computer Technology.

The Chancellor Award recipient was Khairun Nisa Mazlan, a graduate in Bachelor of Project Management with Honours.

Lai Chor Kiew, who graduated in Bachelor of Computer Science (Computer Systems & Networking) with Honours.

The University Gold Award was presented to Janet Jong Jin Joo, a graduate of B.Eng. (Hons.) Chemical Engineering and a graduate of Diploma in Computer Science.

The King also conferred a Posthumous Award to Roslan Jodin, father to the late Mohd. Hakim Roslan, a graduate in Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (Electrical) with Honours who died because of colon cancer on June 25.

The award was given in the Chambers of the UMP Sports Complex Hall.

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For the first time, 35 people would graduate from the Competency Based Talent Management Professional personnel who were directly involved with the talent leadership management and development initiative at t

It was a programme resulted from a collaboration between UMP Advanced Education (UMPA) and the Academy (AKEPT).

A total of 3,782 graduates received their scrolls during the convocation comprising 2,106 holders of bachelors' programmes, 77 doctorate degree holders, 158 masters' degree holders, 527 diploma holders and 914 study programmes – under the UMP Advanced Education who graduated on November 16 and 17, 2019.

Also present at the ceremony were UMP Board of Directors' Chairman Dato' Sri Ibrahim Ahmad and Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Wan Yusoff.

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## **Father receives posthumous award on behalf**

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

Roslan Jodin, 56, the father of Mohamad Hakim Roslan never expected to receive a posthumous award in Electrical Technology (Electrical) with Honours on behalf of his son during the first session of the UMP's 14th Convocation at the Sports Complex Gambang Campus on 16 November 2019.

To make it even more memorable, the award was bestowed by His Majesty The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Sultan Billah Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Musta'in Billah, the Chancellor of UMP.

Also in attendance were the Pro-Chancellor of UMP, Tan Sri Dato' Sri Abi Musa Asaari Mohamed Nor, Dato' Sri Ibrahim Ahmad and the Vice-Chancellor of UMP, Professor Ir. Dr. Wan Azhar Wan Yusoff.

The late Mohamad Hakim was the eldest in the family and passed away on 25 June 2019 during his final year of

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According to Roslan Jodin, his son missed most of his classes during treatment.

"However, we are amazed at the supports given by his friends and lecturers. We still remember his friends on campus with our family," he said, who was accompanied by his wife, Siti Zanariah Mohd. Ripin, 46 and her

The fighting spirit of the late Mohamad Hakim was also shared by his lecturer, Dr. Abdul Nasir Abd. Ghafar Engineering Technology.

Dr. Abdul Nasir said that the spirit of the late Mohamad Hakim should be emulated by other students.

"As a lecturer and the advisor of the Shell Eco-marathon Asia 2018 electrical car competition, he was approached by the team members. He was interested in joining the team."

"He volunteered to do fabrication tasks and told about his experience in boat repairing with his father, a skilled boat repairer," Dr. Abdul Nasir said.

"However, about two weeks after the first team meeting, I received a phone message from him to withdraw from the team. He said that he was unable to go to the workshop to finish the tasks with his team members," said Dr. Abdul Nasir.

Also, a fellow lecturer said the late Mohamad Hakim was unable to attend his final year project presentation.

At the same time, he handled the electrical and electronic tasks.

The late Mohamad Hakim answered the questions from the panel online from the hospital.

Several lecturers verified that he managed to complete all his coursework and only had problems in terms of his health condition. He died in the hospital.

In the meantime, his mother told that the passing of her son is a great loss to the family, but they accept the loss and move on to other children.

"We are grateful to UMP for inviting us to the 14th Convocation Ceremony," she said.

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**MARii, UMP ink MoU to expand technology expertise through new research**

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) and MARii on November 18, 2019 at Kuala Lumpur.

The MoU outlined collaborations in research, academic and student exchange programmes and dual degree way for the establishment of smart partnerships in knowledge sharing between the two parties.

Today's MoU signing will be a breakthrough for UMP and MARii to introduce a Dual Degree Master of Automotive Academy of Technology in Rawang.

This Master's degree programme offers courses on topics like electrification of drivetrains, artificial intelligence system for modern drives, BUS Systems and diagnosis protocol and many other areas related to automotive.

The students will be taught by experienced professors from HsKA and UMP. They will also get the opportunity of supervision of German professors in Malaysia or Germany.

UMP was represented by its Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ir. Dr. Wan Azhar Wan Yusoff while MARii by Prof. Dr. Mohd. Sahari.

Also present at the event were Chairman of UMP Board of Directors, Dato' Sri Ibrahim Ahmad and Professor Dr. Peter Wenzel from Hochschule für angewandte Wissenschaften (HsKA) University of Applied Sciences Germany.

"The continuous advancement of technology has given birth to new trends that will change the way we approach mobility," said Prof. Dr. Peter Wenzel.

"New areas in the automotive industry such as next-generation vehicles (NxGV), Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) and the Internet of Things (IoT) will require a new set of skills and knowledge and familiarisation of expertise in order to smoothen the transition towards realising future mobility," he added.

He also said that, this dual master's degree programme will pave the way for our students and future professionals to gain practical experience in the automotive industry, especially in the areas of new mobility such as AI, automation and electric vehicles.

Meanwhile, Professor Ir. Dr Wan Azhar Wan Yusoff said, for ten years, UMP has built good partnership with HsKA through academic and research collaboration, students and academics mobility, conferences, and many more.

"We are not far away from achieving our target to emulate Germany's Hochschule education system. UMP has signed a memorandum of understanding with HsKA in 2016 to establish a dual degree programme in automotive engineering," he said.

To date, UMP has produced 57 automotive engineering dual degree graduates, many of them working with German companies. The others are undergoing their master's degree with full scholarships from German institutions.

Collaborations with HsKA have also enabled UMP students to find opportunities to go to Germany for study and research.

With this MoU, UMP and MARii hope to increase opportunities to contribute and collaborate with each other in areas of research, learning, services, professional development and other related activities and mutual benefits of both parties.

MARii, an agency under MITI, has been at the forefront of technology adoption within the automotive and manufacturing industries.

It has established numerous centres of excellence such as the MARii Design Centre, MARii Academy of Technology and MARii Centre to expedite the penetration of high value activities within the industry, which can be applied to other industries.

UMP is an established and competency-based technical university that specialises in the fields of engineering, technology and management. The university is committed to enhance and strengthen its international linkage.

The university has taken various initiatives to add to its educational excellence and has entered into various agreements with respectable parties to enrich its academic and research activities.

## **Flexible education - Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)**

The ASEM MOOC Stakeholders' Forum 2019 successfully gathered the expertise from the ASEM member universities for the development of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) involving universities and ASEM strategic partners.

More than 130 participants from the local and international academics including Japan, Korea, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam, and India gathered to discuss the challenges and opportunities of applying the concept of technology and innovation in teaching and learning via the use of information technology in the delivery of online learning.

The forum was officiated by the Director General of Higher Education, Department of Higher Education, Malaysia, Datuk Ir. Dr. Siti Hamisah Tapsir.

Also present were the Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP), Professor Ir. Dr. Wan Azizah binti Wan Ismail, Director of MARii Design Centre, National Institute of Lifelong Education (NILE), Ministry of Education Korea, Jaedong Cho, the Director of the Korea MOE, Associate Professor Dr. Wan Zuhainis Saad who is also a member of Board of Directors UMP and the Director of CIReL, Dr. Adzhar Kamaludin.

According to Datuk Ir. Dr. Sit Hamisah, distance and special learning has become a current learning trend in Asia and Europe.

"Students need to prepare themselves to develop skills and capabilities in gaining knowledge and adapting to the changes in the world," she said.

"The forum organised by MOE and UMP focuses on the development of UMP MOOC and Global Classroom, which is in line with the latest advancement of the education system," she said at the opening of the ASEM MOOC Stakeholders' Forum at Hotel Putrajaya on 7 November 2019.

She supports the efforts by UMP and Malaysian Technological University Network (MTUN) to implement MOOCs to enhance skills to meet the requirements of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in this country.

Meanwhile, Professor Ir. Dr. Wan Azhar said UMP had initiated a collaboration in this MOOC programme with the Tan Chong Group (TCAT) which enables the mechanics to participate in the Tan Chong Automotive Technology (TCAT) MOOC programme.

A total of 30 students enrolled in the Energy Efficient Vehicles (EEV) Hybrid System programme under MOOC. The students have participated in a 5-module training programme in Kota Bharu Training Centre for three months.

This flexible education provides an opportunity to the students to participate in the hands-on MOOC programme. The programme covers various topics such as Internet of things (IoT), robotic technology, data analytics, Arduino application and manufacturing integration related to Industry 4.0 (IR4.0).

Among the presenters in this forum were the representative of KMOOC, Professor Dr. Eunsil Hong and Dr. Hyunsoo Kim from Korea University, Korea, Associate Professor Dr. Jintavee Khiasang from the Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, and Dr. Somsak Luang University representing ThaiMOOC.

Dr. Gan Leong Ming (UMP) also shared about the MalaysiaMOOC, while JMOOC was represented by Dr. Somsak Luang University Jepun and PhilippineMOOC was represented by Dr. Ria Mae H. Borromeo from the University of the Philippines.

## **Azriel Tan, recipient of The Royal Academic Award (Medal of Excellence)**

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

'You only live once, live life to the fullest' is the philosophy held by the recipient of Royal Academy Award, Azriel Khen, 24, the son of 54-year-old Tan Chong Phor, who works as an administrator and his mother Leong Wan.

This Penangite holds a bachelor's degree in Computer Science (Graphics & Multimedia Technology) with honours in Systems & Software Engineering with a CGPA of 3.88.

In addition to receiving the Dean's Award for each semester of his study at UMP, the eldest of the two siblings also obtained a CGPA of 3.42 in the Malaysian High School Certificate (STPM) and 3A+, 2A, and 4A- in the Malaysian Certificate of Education (MCE).

His academic excellence did not impede his continued involvement in association and club activities.

Throughout his study years in UMP, he held various positions in association and club activities, including the President of *Kelab Alam Sekitar & Lestari* (EcoSiswa) UMP. He was responsible for planning and managing multimedia activities such as the Green Olympics, the Green Fair, the Green National Park in 2016 and Earth Week in 2017.

He was also the Head of Publicity Unit of the Pahang Engineer Run Program in 2018. His active involvement in the programme helped him to hone his leadership skill as well as highlight his potential and self-confidence.

This is evidenced by his appointment as the chair of the organising committee of the talk show 'ICT ke Arah' in 2018.

He was also active in sports activities by participating in various running events such as Sky Run, Crazy 8, and the Run for the Challenge: Survival of The Fittest, and Run for Life.

In addition to his hobbies, he also participated in hiking activities by joining the 'Hiking in Style' programme

He also took part in several programmes to increase his knowledge such as Industrial Talk in conjunction for Employability, Microsoft Campus Day (2017), Town Hall Forum: TN50 and Students, and cultural e Festival, Winter Solstice, Drum Night Carnival, Festival of Light, and Hanabi Night (2016).

His most exciting experience during his term as a UMP student was when he successfully presented 'Intelligent Waste Management Robots for Open Public Spaces'.

Graduating from UMP has provided very invaluable experience. To him, UMP is an institution that offers education and master knowledge and skills, and train themselves to be more independent and mature physically and mentally.

Adhering to the principle of 'Meeting the challenge with dedication and not giving up' and his strong desire to be an expert, he is now pursuing a master's degree in Computer Science at the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM).

He hopes that all the knowledge gained could be leveraged to assist in the development of information technology.

He hopes to continue to contribute his services and reward his parents who have been the pillar and catalyst for his success.

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## **Umi Fatiha farmer's daughter wins Royal Academic Medal of Excellence**

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

Umi Fatiha Md [Kosnin@Md](mailto:Kosnin@Md) Seropil, born in Sungai Balang, Muar, Johor, is the recipient of the Royal Academic Medal of Excellence at the 14th Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) Convocation Ceremony.

She attributes her success to her parents, Md Kosnin @ Md Seopil, 71, a farmer and Nurmah Sukarmi, 68. She has two siblings and was born on 7 January 1996, at the Sultanah Fatimah Specialist Hospital, Muar, Johor.

Her success is driven by the sacrifices of her parents. She hopes to make her whole family proud of her achievements.

Umi Fatiha holds a bachelor's degree in Materials Technology from the Faculty of Industrial Sciences & Technology (FIST) and was on the Dean's List for seven semesters and has also won a gold medal at the Creation, Innovation & Technology Exhibition (CITREx 2019) and a silver medal at the 30th International Invention, Innovation & Technology Exhibition (IITEX 2019).

Her passion is also reflected in her active involvement in various associations and clubs. She had served as a committee member of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission UMP (SPRUMP) in 2015– 2017, committee member of the International Conference on Information and Communication Technology (i-FINOG 2017), Deputy Director of Secretariat for Malaysian Anti- Corruption Commission UMP, and a member of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission UMP for Bowling for Fitness and Bonding in 2015.

She was also involved as one of the main committee members in *Minggu Induksi Siswa* (MINDS) and appointed as the Secretary of Freedom Run 1.0: Free from Corruption (2016) and the Secretary of Corruption was also assigned as the Exco for various programmes such as *Bayu Kenyalang Festival* (2017), *Led Darul Desa* (2019).

While studying at UMP, she was delighted with the facilities provided. She also acknowledged that the lecturers were among the best in producing knowledgeable and ethical students, especially the lecturers of the Faculty of Industrial Sciences.

To her, they were among the most influential educators in teaching and producing excellent graduates involved in the off-campus activities with the students and the community.

She works as a Junior Quality Control Executive responsible for quality assurance in manufacturing at Pahang Alami, Selangor.

“Do your best and Allah will do the rest” is what she holds dearly in her life. She aspires to acquire additional areas she enjoys most.

## **7 times Dean's Award Khairun Nisa was awarded Chancellor Award**

By : SHALFARINA BINTI SHAHRIMAN, UMP PRESS

Translation by: DR. ROZAIMI ABU SAMAH, FACULTY OF CHEMICAL & PROCESS ENGINEERING TECHNICAL

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

With the rising cost of living, Khairun Nisa, 23, used to work as a part-time banquet crew at one of the hotels. That was the experience of the recipient of the Chancellor's Award at the 14th Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP).

That experience had been a turning point in her success today to prove that determination and perseverance is the key to a difficult journey to success.

Khairun Nisa was born on 23 November 1996 at the University of Malaya Medical Centre (PPUM). She was born into a family of four. Her mother, Noorasiah David, 45, died when she was 12 years old. Her beloved father, Mazlan Bidin, due to leukaemia, at her age of 12 became a bitter blow for her.

Since then, she has been determined to study diligently after witnessing her mother, Noorasiah David, a single mother, work hard to support the family and help her to raise four siblings.

She pursued her study in Project Management at the Faculty of Industrial Management (FIM), UMP. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Project Management in 2019. She studied part-time for seven consecutive semesters.

Despite struggling to adjust from studying Science at Banting Matriculation College, Selangor to Project Management, she did not give up. She always believed in her mother that nothing is impossible if we work hard.

As a result, she achieved CGPA 3.70 and subsequently awarded the Chancellor's Award at this glorious ceremony. She believes that good deeds will be well rewarded.

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She does not have any secrets to staying successful every semester. She just made sure that every time she set a goal, she would work hard to achieve it. She believes that once you set a goal, you must work hard to achieve it. She also believes that once you have achieved a goal, you must set another goal to challenge yourself. She does not have any secrets to staying successful every semester. She just made sure that every time she set a goal, she would work hard to achieve it. She believes that once you set a goal, you must work hard to achieve it. She also believes that once you have achieved a goal, you must set another goal to challenge yourself.

Her focus on academic achievements did not deter her from engaging in co-curricular activities. She had participated in various activities both inside and outside UMP.

To name a few, she was appointed as the Director of the Closed Netball Tournament organised by UMP, Deputy Director of the Final Year Exhibition 2017, the Programme Coordinator for an Industrial Revolution 4.0, the Secretary of 10,000-Step Walking Program for Zero HIV organised by GENESIS, the Secretary of the invited panel for Circle Talk Forum 3.0 hosted by the PMSB club, as well as the Exco of various activities organised by the university.

As a world-class university student, she is proud to be a UMP alumnus. For her, UMP is a comfortable place where she can continually be challenged and upgraded.

Now, all the hardships she endured had paid off when she was hired to work as the Commodity Controller at HSBC Data Processing (M) (HDPM) before graduating.

The message is that to succeed in life, you must always set goals and plan carefully to achieve them. Regularly setting goals is the key to success.

She also believes that it is vital to maintain our relationship with the Creator and the people around us.

Not to forget, the parental blessing is also crucial as a guide to progress in life. Lastly, share your knowledge with others and you will get.

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## **VC Award recipient Lai Chor Kiew attributes his success to family support**

By: SITI NURFARMY IBRAHIM, CORPORATE COMMUNICATION DIVISION

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

Lai Chor Kiew, 24, who covetted the Vice-Chancellor Award at Universiti Malaysia Pahang's (UMP) 14th Convocation on November 16 & 17, 2019 – Lai Chor Kiew said family's support and encouragement were the key factors that helped him to persevere came from his mother, Loh Kwai Fong, 48, who had to raise her children single-handedly after her husband passed away.

Speaking to UMP's Corporate Communication Division after the recent convocation – which took place at the university's Gambang Campus on November 16 & 17, 2019 – Lai Chor Kiew said family's support and encouragement were the key factors that helped him to persevere came from his mother, Loh Kwai Fong, 48, who had to raise her children single-handedly after her husband passed away.

As the eldest of four siblings, the Vice-Chancellor Award recipient was also on the Dean's List for every semester he studied. He graduated with a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 3.85 in Computer Science (Computer Systems & Networking) with Honours. He graduated with a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 3.85 in Computer Science (Computer Systems & Networking) with Honours.

Referring to his mom's strong spirit, Chor Kiew reflected that there are parents who would reprimand their children for failing an exam, but that was not the case with his parents.

"My parents would, instead, continue to encourage and spur me to do better and improve, and this formed the basis of my attitude towards learning and life, generally," he highlighted.

"I will work hard to ensure that every goal I set my sight on will be achieved," said the Award recipient. "The accomplishment is in itself considered a success."

"My principles, which are never to give up, always be inquisitive and continue to acquire new knowledge, are what I have emphasized."

The Kampar, Perak-born graduate commended that UMP is a great university, which has significantly helped him to choose the relevant and interesting courses to pursue for their tertiary studies in.

Chor Kiew, who now works as an Automation Engineer, was also active in co-curricular activities at the university, including various clubs and programmes, like the Millennium Exploration, Chinese New Year Cultural Night 2017 and Motorola Wicom Modules A & B).

## **35 pioneer graduates of UMP and AKEPT collaboration programme**

A total of 35 graduands for the collaboration programme between Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) and AKEPT, Ministry of Education Malaysia (MOE) received their diploma from the Vice-Chancellor of UMP, on the second day of the UMP's 14th Convocation Ceremony on 17 November 2019 at the UMP's Sports Complex.

The pilot programme is offered through a lifelong learning centre, UMP Advanced Education (UMPA) which is a three-year Diploma in Competency-Based Talent Management (CBTM).

The human capital development and talent management are in line with the importance of human resource development in the scholarly world towards enhancing the high-performance job delivery in the future.

The Director of AKEPT, Professor Dr. Nordin Yahaya holds a view that management agenda and empowerment of the ecosystem of organisations and institutions of higher learning.

"AKEPT's aspiration in providing a platform for CBTM is realised via a strategic partnership between AKEPT and UA, a pillar in nurturing credible talent management in Public Universities (UA)."

"The first alumni of AKEPT–UMP CBTM Professional Diploma is a valuable investment for MOE in general and the country."

"The exposure to the knowledge of human resources in 10 modules successfully produces a more competent and credible talent management," he said.

He added that the first CBTM cohort would empower a more transparent, holistic and objective leadership to manage the ecosystem of organisations and institutions of higher learning.

"AKEPT and UA walk hand in hand and this strategic networking is also a continuous platform for knowledge exchange and development."

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competency-based leadership talent management.

"I hope this AKEPT-UMP effort will continue to manoeuvre the agenda of UA credible leadership continuous education.

"This comprehensive programme through a blended learning approach is under the supervision of the CBTM, AKEPT and UMP being the strategic partners.

"Blended learning is a method that combines face-to-face and online learning modes," he said.

The Director of the Centre for Academic Excellence and Scholarship, Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka, Dr. Shahbodin said that CBTM is an important programme not only for university's managers but also to comprehend competency and talent development.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Director of the Centre for Talent & Training Management, Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin, Dr. Mohd. Zaini Rahman said that learning while working is a new experience that specifically benefits his duties and responsibilities.

"This programme provides exposures and latest information on human resources talent management and development for UA talent managers," he said.

According to Azizi Ismail, the Head of Succession Planning Section in Registrar Office, Universiti Putra Malaysia, the programme is a result of the joint effort and commitment from AKEPT and UMP's original and creative idea to improve the competency of UA talent managers through a blended learning approach.

At the same time, a book entitled '*Memimpin Yang Terpimpin: Model Kompetensi Sumber Manusia Untuk Pengurusan Perkhidmatan*' was launched. The book was developed by a team of experts from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), UnisZA and AKEPT, led by Dr. Mohd Rozi Hassan, a lecturer from the Faculty of Business Administration, UnisZA. The book was launched at the 2nd Annual Conference on Competency and Talent Management organised by UMPA at Vistana Hotel, Kuantan.

A series of books, journals, articles, modules and other publications will also be published as references for the programme.



# PEKAN REVIEW

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## MAJLIS KONVOKESYEN KE-14

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