## UCSI College®

# UCSI WINGS

### THE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

#### **REFLECTIONS ON 2020 AND BEYOND**



UCSI Group CEO and Founder Dato' Peter Ng shared this quote by Jonathan Ive (former Chief Design Officer of Apple Inc.) some time ago: "It is very easy to be different, but very difficult to be better". We are all different, but are we better?

At our December 2020 Annual Programme Review Meeting (APRM), I shared this quote by John Maxwell, the famous American author: "The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails". Are we the pessimist, the optimist, or the leader?

2020 was a strange year for all of us; it came and went with most months in the Movement Control Order (MCO, CMCO, RMCO, then CMCO again) but through it all, we learnt to adjust, balance and be flexible with all these changes. We have also learnt to cherish the time spent with our families over many meals together. I am glad that through the difficult months, I have seen some staff learn to adjust their sails, show good leadership qualities and were committed to seeing things through with passion and enthusiasm. My sincere appreciation to all who rose to take on these challenges.

Some highlights at UCSI College in 2020 included:

- 1. Launching in March and starting of the first batch of students for the Oxford Brookes 3+0 programmes in September
- 2. Going fully online in our teaching and learning from March

- 3. Closing of the Damansara Utama campus in June and moving the Executive Diploma in Real Estate programme back to the KL campus
- 4. Relocating from NW to the new College building next to UCSI University in November/ December
- 5. Achieving 5 stars in our first ever MyQuest rating in December

Now we are starting to operate at the new college building which is located just next to the University, where college staff and students can make use of shared resources of the wider UCSI Group. We can also enjoy a variety of good food within our surroundings including that at our own Le Quadri Hotel! Although we are once again facing another MCO and still learning to cope and live with COVID-19 in our midst, we look back at what we have learnt in 2020 to make wiser decisions in 2021.

I share this story of a Korean American man named Jonathan Kim, a Harvard doctor and an ex-Navy SEAL, who has a Mathematics degree from the University of San Diego, and recently graduated from NASA's astronaut programme. This means he can participate in missions to the International Space Station, to the moon, and even to Mars. If we are saying WOW to all his accomplishments, Jonathan Kim has this to say, "All things that are worthwhile are very difficult to obtain", which means all of us have to work very hard to achieve our dreams.

At the January 2021 orientation, I ended my welcome speech with this simple formula for all the new students and staff present: passion + talent + hard work = achievement. So for 2021, we must continually remind ourselves to be better, to adjust our sails, to work very hard to achieve our dreams with all these three ingredients: passion, talent and hard work. Above all, we thank God for leading us through 2020 and we look forward to a better 2021; for *Nisi Dominus Frustra*, without God all is in vain.

Associate Professor Dr Mabel Tan Hwee Joo President and Chief Executive Officer, UCSI College



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#### UCSI COLLEGE NEW PREMISES AND SHARED FACILITIES



Digital image of the UCSI College campus.

UCSI College students can now share and utilise the facilities at UCSI University such as:





Squash court

Library



Swimming pool





Multipurpose hall

Basketball court

#### UCSI COLLEGE OFFERS THE SACE INTERNATIONAL

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UCSI College is offering the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) International in light of its move towards internationalisation and broader educational objectives.

Through the SACE International, UCSI College will also spearhead its efforts towards an increased global outlook integrating its goals of producing capable, confident and industry-ready graduates with values of diversity and inclusiveness. The SACE International (formerly known as the South Australian Matriculation) programme is equivalent to the Year 12 Australian high school course.



Students who have completed this programme are eligible for entry into universities in Malaysia, Australia, Singapore, Hong Kong, the UK and the US. UCSI College celebrated its first cohort receiving the SACE International Certificate in December 2020. Subsequently, UCSI College also received the Recognition of Excellence based on the excellent results received by SACE International graduates in 2020, endorsed by the Government of South Australia.

"I found the final exams to be both challenging and exciting, as rather difficult application questions in Chemistry and Specialist Mathematics were asked. This required a firm understanding of the subjects," said Gokarnath Lingam, who obtained an ATAR score of 93.40, placing him in the top 6.55% of students who took the SACE International examination.

Cathy Schultz, Director for SACE International, South Australia, congratulated UCSI College on the achievements of its inaugural cohort in this Australian matriculation programme: "The high academic standards you have set for your students, and your forward-looking

approach to education allowed students to make the most of the contemporary curriculum the SACE International provides." In December after the results were released, the College announced that 44% of its first cohort scored an ATAR of 80 and above, with an overall pass rate of 90%.

#### WALL OF FAME

These are some outstanding achievements of UCSI College in 2020:



#### **VOCATIONAL INTERNSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING GRADUATION**



Contributors: Nurliyana binti Salikin and Nurul Fatihah binti Suhaini

This vocational internship was designed for teens and youths who attend secondary school at any learning centre in Malaysia. It facilitates learning about the concept of sustainable living by focusing on the inculcation of positive character values, well-being and lifestyle, and developing competencies in engaging and contributing to the diverse societal backgrounds as well as caring for the environment. The internship covered face-to-face and online classes, experiential and self-directed learning. The general learning objectives were derived from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) education guidelines for the UN 2030 Agenda and the United Nations SDGs.

These included practising and fostering peaceful coexistence; increasing self-reliance; participating actively in communities (local, global and digital); serving as environmental champions for their communities; contributing to an increasingly digitalised word both economically and socially; benefitting from a sense of belonging wherever they live and becoming critical consumers and creators of media in a variety of forms. The internship was from 14 September to 18 December and the graduation took place on 20 December 2020 with a certificate giving ceremony by Dr Mabel Tan.



Group picture of the event.

#### **OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY INDUCTION**



Contributors: Umaimah binti Kamalludin and Tan Kwe Lu

The 3+0 Oxford Brookes University's Degree (Accounting and Finance as well as Business and Management) induction programme was organised on 15 September 2020. Students were formally welcomed and introduced to the culture of the College. The induction was conducted in a dual mode due to the CMCO. Representatives from Oxford Brookes University also participated in this event.

The induction programme was officiated by Associate Professor Dr Mabel Tan, Associate Professor Dr Chong Aik Lee (Vice-President, Academic Affairs), Dr Kriztina Ford (Head of International Partnerships), Dr Syamarlah (Senior Lecturer in Accounting), Dr Rachel Wang (Senior Lecturer, Oxford Brookes Business School), Tan Kwe Lu (Head of Programme for UKDTP, ADTP and Oxford Brookes Business and Management), Umaimah (Head of Programme for ACCA, Diploma in Accounting and Oxford Brookes Accounting and Finance), the Student Enrolment Centre (SEC) and students.

Dr Rachel Wang explained the programme structure and the 'Brookes Graduate Attributes' to the students. She also advised the students to be more attentive, focused and independent. Besides that, Dr Syamarlah motivated students to actively participate in college activities so that they could bolster their social engagement and interaction skills.

The induction programme ended with a selection of mentor-mentee and student representative sessions beneficial for the students' self-development.



#### **DELTA INSTITUTE MOA E-SIGNING**



(I to r) Sean Calvin Yong (Director, Global Engagement Office), Koomaren Pillay Guillaume (Founder and CEO of Delta Institute (on TV), Kevin Gourapa (Associate Director, Construction and Built Environment (on TV), Dr Mabel Tan (President and CEO, UCSI College) and Dr Chong Aik Lee (Vice-President, Academic Affairs, UCSI College).



Contributor: Nurliyana binti Salikin

UCSI College has signed a virtual Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Delta Institute, a partner, to offer the Executive Diploma in Real Estate programme in Mauritius. The programme will be offered by Delta Institute and the awarding body will be UCSI College. With this new collaboration, UCSI College will be able to expand its network, building new ventures to broaden its horizons and making its presence felt on a global scale.

#### NATIONAL UNITY ACTION PLAN FEEDBACK SESSION

Contributors: Fadillah binti Muhamad and Nurul Fatihah binti Suhaini



The Department of National Unity and National Integration of the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur has organised community feedback sessions for people from various

backgrounds in relation to the National Unity Action Plan (Pelan Tindakan Perpaduan Negara, PTPN). Sekretariat Rukun Negara from UCSI University and UCSI College were invited to give feedback on the PTPN.

In the third term of the 14th parliamentary session, His Majesty the King has said that he welcomed the implementation of the PTPN to ensure that the national unity agenda can be fully implemented through the elements of trust and identity based on the principles of Rukun Negara.

The recent developments of the PTPN by the Ministry of National Unity will result in the implementation of the Rukun Negara as a strategic core. It is the Ministry's effort to restore the spirit and principles of Rukun Negara in the form of implementation by various government agencies. These include five new strategic thrusts based on the preamble which is the first part of the Rukun Negara.

It is envisioned that this effort will have a positive impact on the unity of the country, thereby making Malaysia a peaceful and prosperous country.



Ministry representatives with UCSI College students during the feedback session.

#### 16 MAX JESTICE AND STREME NUTIONS

THE MYRUKUNEGARA COMPETITION

Contributor: Fadillah binti Muhamad

In conjunction with Malaysia Day, the myRUKUNEGARA competition was held with the theme of the five principles of Rukun Negara. The competition was hosted by UCSI Group and supported by UCSI College and UCSI SDG Office.



NurSyafiqah (middle) won the third place in category A.

There were three categories; Photography, Short Video and Poetry Writing. UCSI College students participated in all categories and were very creative in expressing the themes through their artwork. Nur Syafiqah Syazwina Binti Zolkifli from the Diploma in Business Administration programme won third place for category A by submitting a photo with the caption "Achieving a greater unity of all her people". The photo reflected the diversity of harmonisation.

The runner-up and the third place for category B was won by Chooi Xian Wern from the Foundation in Science programme and Nur Syafiqah Syazwina Binti Zolkifli respectively. In their short videos, they emphasised the importance of morality and courtesy when living in a diverse country like Malaysia. Lastly, category C was won by Chooi Xian Wern in the third place with her poem entitled "The Fifth Pillar" where she also emphasised the importance of the fifth pillar, the morality and courtesy in her writing.

With active participation from both UCSI College and UCSI University students, undoubtedly the competition ignited patriotism as well as contributed to a sense of peace and harmony.

Visit UCSI College Kuala Lumpur campus to learn about the programmes available. To find out more, log on to www.ucsicollege.edu.my, email to enquiry@ucsicollege.edu.my or call 03-9078 2033.

#### WHAT'S NEW IN UCSI COLLEGE

- FUTURE PROGRAMMES:
- Oxford Brookes University (March and May Intake)
- 3+0 BA (Hons) Business and Management
- 3+0 BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance



#### FREE UCSI SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE

