

SUNWAYIAN

Issue 04 | July-Aug 2023

The Sunway Campus Magazine

ECHO MEDIA:
**THE SIN OF
AUTHENTICITY**

“DID YOU KNOW?”
SERIES

**MERDEKA &
MALAYSIA
DAY**



STORY HIGHLIGHT

CAMPUS SAFETY

**COMMUNITY
IN
ACTION**

**SPECIAL
OLYMPICS
MALAYSIA
SEND-OFF
PARTY**

**INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS —
ASSIM & NAFISA**



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Please recycle!

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Student contributors are **ALWAYS** welcomed 🥰

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Hello
Sunwayians!

Welcome back to the latest blockbuster edition of the Sunwayian magazine, a magazine about YOU, for YOU and featuring YOU.

In this exciting issue, the overarching theme seems to be one of success and achievement both in and outside the classroom, as we celebrate and recognise the outstanding accolades of our proud medal winning alumni at the recent SEA Games 2023, gold medal winning Cheerleading team in Korea and of course the world beating A-Level students, coupled with the not-so-small matter of our University, once again, being recognised as Malaysia's No.1 University for Graduate Employability.

As always, a very warm welcome to the newest members of our Sunway community and we wish you a wonderful time at the #MostHappeningCampus and trust it will become your Home from Home.

We very much hope that the exciting experiences you will encounter at Sunway coupled with the new friends you will make along the way will ensure your time at Sunway is both a memorable and an enjoyable one. And believe us, time will fly, as we are already now embarking upon the second half of 2023 and the fourth issue of the all new Sunwayian magazine.

This issue's front cover story leads with the hugely popular "Community in Action", a campus safety campaign to promote personal safety, crime prevention and increase our own level of self-awareness among students and that of the broader community of Sunway City.

As part of the ongoing Campus With A Conscience initiatives, your safety is of paramount importance to us and if you were lucky enough to be able to sneak a good vantage point to view our forces in action at the launch, you will know that our local authorities team rocks and we are lucky to have them.

As an all-inclusive community, we are always keen to share stories from all corners of the campus - whether you are a determined changemaker of the future, a passionate club and society member, an aspiring writer, a budding photographer, an influencer or simply enthusiastic about life, the Sunwayian magazine is a platform where you can share your inspiration with the rest of the world, starting with the campus first and then the globe 🌍

You are part of a truly magical and unique campus community and we are delighted you are now part of the Sunway family. And while you might feel immensely proud and fascinated by the stories generated, never forget that YOU ARE A STORY to us. Share your story or contribute content ideas to our dedicated Sunwayian editorial team. We would love to hear from you.

The next time you pick up the Sunwayian, don't just read the article, BE THE ARTICLE.

Here's wishing all of you a wonderful second half of the year and a fantastic semester ahead.

We are a #CampusWithAConscience and the #MostHappeningCampus for one reason only, YOU 🥰

CAMPUS UPDATES

BE THE HERO OF SOMEONE'S TOMORROW

Do you know one pint of blood can save three lives? Sunway College Ipoh recently organised the blood donation campaign at the Ipoh Campus and AEON Station 18. Each donor received a Chief Kkuntalu (the Malayana Tribe Chief) plush toy as a token of appreciation.



GET REAL TALK SHOW

The Sunway Diploma Studies organised the 'GET REAL' talk show, giving students exposure to real-world encounters with insights from young people. Themed 'Passion and Purpose-driven Ventures', the panellists shared their pursuits in a relaxed conversational-style approach.



RIANG RIA RAYA CLUBS & SOCIETIES CARNIVAL

Over 70 clubs and societies booths, company partners and vendors came to the #MostHappeningCampus to celebrate Raya and Club & Societies Carnival, where students got to know more about the clubs and societies on campus, as well as to enjoy the live performances, pop up booths and many interesting activities.

MOU SIGNING CEREMONY FOR ACCA FIA PAPER EXEMPTION



Sunway TES CAE recently witnessed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony between ACCA and CAIE. As part of the MoU, students who have passed their Accounting subject in IGCSE examination are eligible for exemption from the FA1 Recording Financial Transactions examination when pursuing ACCA Foundation in Accountancy.

POWER OF MEDIA FORUM

In collaboration with Malaysian Digital Association, School of Arts organised a forum titled 'The Power of Media: Influence and Impact on Customers'. The enlightening and thought-provoking session explored the relationship between media and consumers with panel members: Kiron Kesav from Omnicrom Media Group, Jo-yee Lee from Nuffnang Malaysia, and Arif M from iWISERS. Through engaging discussions and insightful sharing by these three experts, participants productively delved into the various ways media influences our thoughts, beliefs, and behaviours.



BAH! MARI PIGI SABAH & LABUAN

The #MostHappeningCampus welcomed the team from Tourism Malaysia and Sabah Tourism Board for organising the 'Mari Pigi Sabah & Labuan' Roadshow, promoting sustainable tourism while exploring the beauty and diversity of Sabah, Malaysian Borneo, and Labuan Island. The roadshow was graced by YBrs Mr Saidi Bundan, Senior Director of Strategic Planning Division, Tourism Malaysia; Madam Hajah Safina Yaakob, Chief Executive Speaker of Future Forest International Sdn Bhd; and Professor Sibrandes Poppema, President of Sunway University.

SUNWAY UNIVERSITY & CARSOME ACADEMY PARTNER TO ENHANCE EMPLOYABILITY

The partnership will co-develop soft skill modules for automotive as well as Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) for *Sijil Kemahiran* Malaysia programmes and will aim to develop automotive talent by equipping them to be industry ready with critical soft skills and training.



SAND MANDALA OF COMPASSION FOR WORLD PEACE EXHIBITION

The exhibition, crafted by the Buddhist Culture Preservation Society and Sunway Buddhist Society, featured the ancient Tibetan art form of creating mandalas out of coloured sand. It aimed to promote cultural awareness and appreciation, as well as peaceful and compassionate values, while working towards the Sustainable Development Goals of Good Health and Well-being, Quality Education, and Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions.

SUNWAY UNIVERSITY LAUNCHES “COMMUNITY IN ACTION” CAMPAIGN



Sunway University announced the launch of its “Community In Action” campaign to promote crime prevention and awareness among students and the broader community. The campaign includes various crime prevention and awareness sessions, exhibitions in partnership with Malaysia Crime Prevention Foundation (MCPF), Royal Malaysia Police (PDRM), National Anti-Drugs Agency (AADK), and other agencies.

The University aims to instil in its students a sense of responsibility as active and responsible citizens within the community. The launch was graced with presence of Founder & Chairman of Sunway Group, Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Dr Jeffrey Cheah AO, Chairman of Malaysia Crime Prevention Foundation (MCPF) Selangor, YDH CP Dato’ Hussein bin Omar Khan, Selangor Police Chief, Dato’ Seri Ayub bin Yaakob, Malaysia Crime Prevention Foundation (MCPF) EXCO members and Subang Jaya State Assemblywoman, YB Michelle Ng.



PROMOTING CRIME
PREVENTION AND AWARENESS



Situated in Sunway City and as part of the Sunway Education Group, Sunway University and Sunway College have over 21,000 students. With the presence of other private higher educational institutions, international schools, public primary and secondary schools in the vicinity, the collective student population in and around Bandar Sunway reaches 60,000. These students play an integral role in the broader community of Sunway City.

The concept stems from Sunway Education Group’s initiative to raise awareness among its students, as well as students from neighbouring institutions, on crime and crime prevention in the community. The campaign aims to be an integral part of community-based activities.

By emphasising individual actions and responsibilities, students are encouraged to prevent crime by acting as witnesses, intervening in appropriate situations, taking precautions to safeguard their property, practising online safety, and respecting their fellow students. Sunway University also intends to engage with the broader community through various activities, demonstrating their commitment to being an active participant in community-building efforts.

In his welcome speech, Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah emphasised the importance of community engagement in crime

prevention. He highlighted the rise of technology-enabled crimes such as online fraud and identity theft, emphasising the need for law enforcement to stay equipped and trained to counter such threats. He also expressed his gratitude to the Malaysia Crime Prevention Foundation, the Royal Malaysia Police, and the National Anti-Drugs Agency for their support in this mission.

Sunway City Kuala Lumpur, with its annual 42 million visits and a vibrant community of over 200,000 residents, prioritises the safety and security of its students, residents, and visitors. The city has long-standing partnerships with the Malaysian Crime Prevention Foundation and has implemented advanced security measures such as over 5,000 CCTV cameras with facial recognition capabilities. The security personnel, alongside the auxiliary police and the Royal Malaysian Police, conduct regular joint-patrol sessions to ensure a safe environment.

The launch of the “Community In Action” campaign is a testament to Sunway University’s commitment to long-term crime prevention efforts. Through collaboration with stakeholders, including students, faculty, law enforcement agencies, and the community, Sunway University aims to build a safer, more secure, and harmonious Malaysia.

SUNWAY UNIVERSITY TOPS MALAYSIA'S GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY RANKINGS FOR 2ND YEAR RUNNING



Sunway University has been awarded the number one Graduate Employability among all universities in Malaysia by Talentbank for the second consecutive year. The University received 6 Stars Employability Rating in 25 different fields of study including Accounting, Actuarial Science, Engineering, Hospitality Management and many more. The recognition provides confidence for school leavers and parents who are considering university options with employability upon graduating in mind.

Established since 2011, Talentbank Group is a mover and shaker of employability ecosystem focused on producing career-ready candidates and helping them with better career paths, by connecting them with industry leaders that welcome prime talent. They recently conducted a survey on the preferred recruitment choices of the leading graduate employers such as Coca-Cola, Huawei, Nestlé, Petronas, Unilever and many others in Malaysia. The survey gauged the employability rate of graduates from universities all across Malaysia, highlighting Malaysian Universities that have produced the most highly sought-after graduates.

The National Graduate Employability Index (GE Index) is a benchmark used to measure the employability of graduates of higher education establishments in Malaysia. The GE Index research, based on votes cast by employers, focused on some key questions such as employers' opinion on their preferred universities, the number of graduates hired from these universities, and if the employers will continue to hire graduates from the same universities they had previously chosen.

Professor Sibrandes Poppema, President of Sunway University shared, "The combination of research-infused knowledge, superb communication and digital skills, the right values and a sustainable development, planetary health and entrepreneurial mindset, supplemented with career preparation activities through all study years, results in Sunway graduates being optimally prepared for employment."

Ben Ho, Chief Executive Officer of Talentbank shared his congratulatory message, "Following a comprehensive evaluation, we applaud the academic programmes at Sunway University that have garnered unanimous support from employers, reinforcing its position as one of the most sought-after educational institutions in the region."

The nation's youngest Professor according to the Malaysia Book of Records and the Dean of Sunway Business School, Professor Lim Weng Marc said, "Sunway University's unparalleled success in achieving the No. 1 Graduate Employability ranking for two consecutive years is a shining example of our relentless pursuit of academic distinction, ground-breaking research, and robust industry partnerships. Our exceptional faculty and staff are devoted to equipping our students with the necessary tools to excel in the dynamic global job market, and this noteworthy recognition reflects their dedication and our students' accomplishments."

One of the world's top 2% scientist and currently the Professor at the School of Engineering and Technology, Professor Angela Amphawan added, "The University is committed to fostering real-world experiences through internships, industrial placements, and professional networking opportunities, paving the way for our students' success."

In addition, according to Student Barometer 2022, Sunway University scored higher satisfaction rate compared to Malaysian and Global average satisfaction score in all the Employment Support Category. Sunway University's industry-aligned curricula ensure that graduates possess the essential skills and expertise that employers demand in the current and future competitive landscape.

AVENUE OF ACHIEVEMENTS

VICTORY AT KOREA OPEN CHEERLEADING



Congratulations to the Sunway Cheerleading team for winning the first place in the 2023 Korea Open Cheerleading Championship, Coed Elite Large division that took place at Seoul Jangchung Arena. The team's hard work and dedication have paid off beautifully and we are so proud to have this talented team representing Malaysia!

A-LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT

In the recent Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards Ceremony, 14 Cambridge A-Level students were recognised with 15 awards including Top in the World, Top in Malaysia, High Achievement and First place in Malaysia. Goh Kai Jet received the First Place Best Across Three in Malaysia, while Chow Yue Yao received the First Place Across Four in Malaysia. Congratulations to all award recipients!



STUDENT ATHLETES SNAPPED MEDALS AT SEA GAMES 2023

Congratulations to all the medal winners representing Malaysia at SEA Games 2023!

Shamalarani Chandran Master of Science in Actuarial Science	• Karate Women's Kumite-under 55 kg	Gold
	• Karate Kumite Team	Bronze
Choong Javen BSc (Hons) Information Technology	• Table Tennis Team	Silver
	• Men's Double Table Tennis	Silver
Danny Ng Wann Sing Alumni - Diploma in Information Technology	• Table Tennis Team	Silver
Chin Ken Haw BSc (Hons) in Computer Science	• Taekwondo - Men's Individual Poomsae	Silver
Madgelene Low Phey Chyi Alumna	• Women's basketball 5x5	Bronze



SUNWAY TES ICAEW STUDENT WON WORLD PRIZE IN ICAEW PROFESSIONAL EXAM



Sunway TES Centre of Accountancy Excellency (CAE) Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) student, Mandy Lai was awarded the International Subject Orders of Merit, First Place and the Watts Prize for Audit and Assurance, Professional Level for the March 2023 examination series.

A 3-time world prize winner, Mandy was awarded the First Place in the ICAEW Certificate Level Annual Order of Merit 2022, World Prize for Principles of Taxation for June 2022, World Prize for Financial Accounting and Reporting for December 2022 examination series.

CWAC: CULTIVATING A GIVING GENERATION



Campus With A Conscience: Cultivating A Giving Generation was a month-long festival of events and activities aimed at fostering the Heart of Giving within the Sunway Education Group Community. Designed for staff, students, and alumni, this festival inspires and engages participants through the three pillars of Giving - Time, Talent, and Treasure - creating a culture of compassion and generosity.

In collaboration with Student LIFE, Sunway Student Ambassadors, Sunway Student Volunteers, Peer Counselling Volunteers, and Sunway Sports Council, this joint initiative aims to foster leadership development, community engagement, and the spirit of giving among students. The campaign was launched by Mr. Chan Soon Seng, CEO of Teach for Malaysia.

This was a week to recognise and express gratitude to the essential workers. As part of Appreciation Week, a Gratitude Tree was created for Sunway students and staff to write and hang thank-you messages to express their heartfelt appreciation to individuals who have made a positive impact in their lives. This initiative aimed to inspire a culture of gratitude and foster a sense of connection within the community.

The pandemic has highlighted the crucial role of essential workers who tirelessly serve our communities. As a gesture of appreciation, we have organised a special food pack distribution to recognise the dedication of our janitors and security guards.

WEEK 1 Appreciation Week



This week showcased the remarkable talents of the Sunway community's youth while supporting educational activities at orphanages and welfare homes. From music and dance performances to juggling and diabolo, participants had the opportunity to captivate the audience with their creativity and passion. This celebration of talent aimed to inspire and encourage young individuals to pursue their passions and realise their full potential.



WEEK 3 Talent Week



The month-long campaign ended with the presence of 180 refugee children, children from the Petaling Jaya community, and their parents, along with Sunway alumni. Subang Jaya State Assemblywoman, YB Michelle Ng, officially closed the campaign by further emphasising the importance of commitment to community welfare and dedication to serving the underprivileged.



Closing CEREMONY



WEEK 2 NGO Week

This week encouraged the Sunway community to learn about different NGOs and volunteering opportunities, promoting awareness of various causes, as well as providing a platform for community engagement.

The NGO Week featured the participation of more than 70 NGOs from different sectors, including education, environment, wildlife conservation, and underserved communities. Each participating NGO was given the opportunity to showcase their work, initiatives, and achievements. This diverse representation of NGOs provided a comprehensive understanding on current issues and empowering the community to take action.

WEEK 4 Sports & Wellness Week

This week focused on the importance of a healthy lifestyle. A Community Sports Day was organised in collaboration with children from a refugee centre and underserved communities. The half-day event featured sports, games, and recreational activities, fostering a sense of friendship, teamwork, and inclusivity. First Aid Talks by lecturers were also presented at the University foyer to educate the Sunway community on saving lives.



BUDGET-FRIENDLY DESTINATIONS

in Southeast Asia for Students

Traveling is an enriching experience, but as students, we often face budget constraints. Fortunately, Southeast Asia offers a plethora of affordable destinations that can provide unforgettable adventures without breaking the bank. In this article, we will explore the top three budget-friendly destinations in Southeast Asia, perfect for students seeking both adventure and affordability.

Bangkok, Thailand

Bangkok, the vibrant capital of Thailand, is an ideal destination for students on a budget. Known for its bustling street markets, ornate temples, and delicious street food, Bangkok offers an array of affordable activities and attractions. Explore the Grand Palace and Wat Arun, iconic landmarks that showcase the country's rich cultural heritage. Don't forget to visit the Chatuchak Weekend Market, where you can find everything from trendy clothes to unique souvenirs at bargain prices. The city's efficient public transportation system, including the Skytrain and river ferries, makes getting around affordable and convenient.

Hanoi, Vietnam

Hanoi, the capital city of Vietnam, is a vibrant blend of ancient traditions and modern charm. This bustling city offers numerous attractions that won't strain your wallet. Take a stroll through the Old Quarter, where narrow streets are filled with shops and street vendors offering tasty local dishes like phở and bánh mì. Don't miss the chance to visit Hoàn Kiếm Lake, a picturesque spot where you can relax and enjoy the beauty of nature. Hanoi also serves as a gateway to breathtaking natural wonders such as Hạ Long Bay and Ninh Binh, which can be explored on affordable day trips.

Siem Reap, Cambodia

Siem Reap, located in northwestern Cambodia, is renowned for its magnificent temples, most notably the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Angkor Wat. Despite its popularity, Siem Reap remains an affordable destination for students. A visit to the Angkor Archaeological Park is a must, where you can witness ancient temples, including the iconic Angkor Wat and Bayon. Explore the bustling Pub Street, where you can find cheap eats, affordable drinks, and lively nightlife. Don't forget to catch a mesmerising sunrise or sunset over the temple ruins for an unforgettable experience.

SUNWAY UNIVERSITY SENDS OFF SPECIAL OLYMPICS MALAYSIA TEAM TO BERLIN WORLD GAMES 2023

Given its ever growing reputation as a Campus With A Conscience, Sunway University was proudly selected as the venue host for the Special Olympics Malaysia (SOM) Team send-off ceremony as they embarked on their journey to the Special Olympic World Games Berlin 2023, which happened from 17th to 25th June. The event was graced by the presence of YB Hannah Yeoh, Minister of Youth and Sports, Law Saw Yin, President of Special Olympics Malaysia and Professor Dato' Dr Elizabeth Lee, Group CEO of Sunway Education Group, as well as athletes, families, coaches, and volunteers who gathered to express their support and best wishes for the Malaysian athletes.



The SOM Team, comprising 16 exceptional athletes with intellectual disabilities, has been preparing for this opportunity for the past 10 months since the National Games. This international platform presented a once-in-a-lifetime chance for these athletes, who participated in the world's largest all-inclusive sports event, involving more than 7000 athletes from approximately 190 countries.

The journey of these athletes had been filled with unique challenges long before the National Games, and their presence in the auditorium, proudly donning the national colours, marked a moment of great pride for the nation, their families, and everyone involved. Aligned with its highly acclaimed "Campus With A Conscience" values, Sunway University acknowledges the dedication and commitment of the athletes' local programmes and respective trainers.



YB Hannah Yeoh said, "For the Malaysian athletes who are wearing the jerseys today, when you go to Berlin, I want you to know that Malaysia stands behind you, supporting you. Most importantly, have fun and gain experience, look at what other people are doing around the world and learn from them." YB Hannah Yeoh also expressed that the Ministry will continue to support Special Olympics Malaysia on a regular basis beyond the world games.

Professor Dato' Dr Elizabeth Lee added, "Sunway Education Group is committed to the UNSDGs, as part of our commitment, we constantly make efforts to pave the way forward for a shared vision of peace and prosperity for our people and planet. We are privileged to be given this opportunity to give our 22 athletes a grand send-off to the Special Olympic World Games Berlin 2023. Give your best and also take back the best of experiences, memories and friendships."

Sunway University took great pride in being the venue host of this monumental journey and remains committed to promoting inclusivity and empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities.

ECHO MEDIA:

How much of myself is enough for me to feel like myself?



THE SIN OF AUTHENTICITY

Echo MEDIA



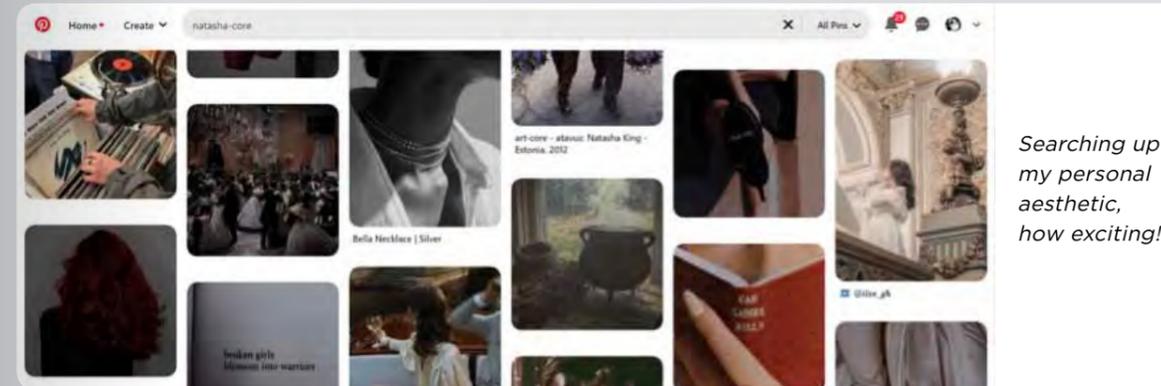
> By: Natasha

Scrolling through my TikTok feed one day, I noticed all these 'aesthetics' that many are actively participating in. Micro-trends have evolved from being a trend on a single piece of item or look to a whole way of being. Even now, a five-minute scroll through my feed makes me privy to plenty of 'aesthetics' I can pick and choose to be.

The measures some go to create a coherent identity is bizarre. To be fair, I am not saying that nobody can have their own identity mapped out and lived in, but is this not a problem when everybody is looking and behaving the exact same way on the Internet?

Something that also baffles me about these types of micro-trends is the romanticisation of certain mental illnesses and lifestyles. This is when innocent ways of living are dragged into being associated with mental illnesses, and definitely not when people are trying their best to fit into these 'aesthetics' by faking it 'til they make it. Oh, you watch *Fleabag* at least five times already, read Sylvia Plath, and smoke copious amounts of cigarettes (not electronic ones, but classic Marlboro reds only)? You must be a 'sad depressed girly'. You worship the altar of Internet personality Emma Chamberlain, drink iced coffee from breakfast to dinner, and listen to Fiona Apple? You most probably are an 'eating disorder girly'.

With the popularised existence of adding the suffix -core to words to signify an overall aesthetic, labelling anything and everything as an aesthetic has never been simpler. Literally, anything and everything. Phoebe Bridgers-core. Weird-core. Female villain-core. Bloke-core. There is even Core-core now, which I imagine is similar to Dadaism art. You can even type your name followed by the suffix -core into the Pinterest search bar to discover your personal aesthetic!



Searching up my personal aesthetic, how exciting!

How and why do we breed these types of micro-trends on the Internet that bleeds out into our whole personal identities? I imagine the pandemic to be a major catapult that slingshot us here into this situation. Everyone was trying to connect, to make it big, to create attention. What better way to achieve all of that than to be a walking Pinterest board where your identity and personality are boiled down to something that is easily interpreted and appealing enough to be copied by others? It was a completely harmless thing back then, but has now evolved into something harmful.

Now, I seem to always be self-conscious of how I am perceived when I go out. I'm not sure what 'aesthetic' exactly I fit in, I can picture it but I can't name it. I never gave much thought to how I dress myself up, my behaviours in public, the words I choose to use when I speak, the things I buy, but now I do even in the tiniest way. It is as if I do not trust myself to be my own self anymore.

It is so difficult to truly be your own selves today. Sure, you can argue that now more than ever it is so easy to discover your personal identity, and look, you can connect with others who share the same identity as you thanks to social media!

'Aesthetics' and personal identities are served up on little platters. All you need to do to live a happy and put-together life is to just pick one that you love and connect with. It's a feast, the last supper of identity crises. But do we really have the freedom to find our own authenticity on those little silver platters? Or has it now become undesirable to not have a label on our personal selves, to not be able to relate to others or be related to?

I believe there is a lot to be said about our desire to be a part of the puzzle that fits. So much has already been said about it that I do not think I am able to put it into new words, so I won't attempt to in fear of being derivative. I will, however, say that we are and we can be so much more than just a few nouns or adjectives bunched up before a suffix.

This sounds corny and repetitive but embrace your authenticity. We are such complex people with complex identities that a single word or label (with the suffix, don't forget) will never be adequate. Allow your identities, your complexity to spill out of whatever barriers these micro-trends are placing around you. Let it spill, let it flow out, let it drip and drip off the table because that is always how it's supposed to be.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS STORY

My name is Assim Ali, and I am an international student from Sudan currently enrolled at Sunway College. I am pursuing the Foundation in Science and Technology programme due to its broad and inclusive nature in the scientific field. The offered courses and their delivery style allow me to explore my varied interests in an educational yet engaging manner. After completing my foundation, my goal is to continue my studies at Sunway University and pursue a degree in Data Analytics.

The Sunway campus is truly remarkable. As I started exploring, I was constantly impressed by the numerous captivating spots it has to offer. From the Brain Forest, where students gather to socialise, to the various study areas like the Observation Deck and the lush greenery across the University campus, every corner has something special. I was also amazed by the convenient access to Sunway Pyramid mall, Sunway Medical Centre, and several restaurants located right in front of the University.

Living in Sunway City has been an incredibly enjoyable and thrilling experience. The city boasts its natural beauty, with attractions such as the South Quay lake. The student environment is splendid, filled with interactive and friendly individuals. Being in a city surrounded by fellow students like myself made me feel at home and safe.

Being involved as the Vice President of the Sunway International Students Ambassador has provided me with the opportunity to connect with many students at Sunway. I have received incredible feedback on the University and the international community from various students. I highly recommend students from around the world to consider applying to Sunway University. It is an exceptional institution with outstanding staff, students, and an inviting city to reside in.



ASSIM ALI



NAFISA ULFAT



My name is Nafisa Ulfat, and I am from Bangladesh. Currently, I am pursuing the Victoria University Bachelor of Business at Sunway College, majoring in Banking and Finance. I have chosen this programme because it aligns perfectly with my future career aspirations of becoming a successful banker in Bangladesh, contributing to the growth of its banking sector.

My time at Sunway College has been truly exceptional. The campus provides a vibrant, safe, and inclusive environment that fosters personal and intellectual growth. The well-equipped libraries and modern classrooms have significantly enhanced my learning experience. Moreover, the supportive lecturers and faculty members have been invaluable in guiding and motivating me throughout my academic journey.

Residing in Sunway City Kuala Lumpur has been an immensely rewarding experience. The city offers a wide range of cultural activities, entertainment options, and a thriving food scene. With convenient public transportation, exploring the city and its surroundings has been hassle-free. I have seamlessly adapted to the life here, considering Sunway City Kuala Lumpur as my second home, and I am always eager to assist other international students in settling into our wonderful city.

To prospective international students considering to study at Sunway campus, I strongly recommend embracing the global environment and seizing every opportunity for personal and professional development. Engage in student clubs and societies, pursue internships, and network with industry professionals. Make the most of the institution's diverse support services, such as career guidance and counseling. Lastly, fearlessly explore the city and immerse yourself in Malaysia's rich culture.

Sunway College has been a remarkable journey for me, providing me with the knowledge and experiences necessary to thrive in the global business world. I am grateful for the opportunities that have come my way since I began my studies at Sunway College. I wholeheartedly endorse Sunway College to any international student seeking a high-quality yet affordable education and an enriching campus life experience filled with diverse cultures and perspectives.



AN
ERA
OF

digitalisation



In this era of an interconnected world, digitalisation has become an integral part of our daily lives, revolutionising how we communicate, work, and interact. Digitalisation has brought about a wave of innovation across industries, enabling automation, enhancing efficiency, and fostering new business models. From artificial intelligence and machine learning to Internet of Things (IoT) and blockchain, emerging technologies are pushing the boundaries of what's possible.

In the dynamic landscape of the tech industry, one does not necessarily need a traditional tech background to thrive in a tech company. What is important is the spirit to learn, adapt and continuously grow with the ever-changing scene of the industry. Our tech-savvy alumni from a variety of backgrounds are making a mark in the industry, reminding us of the incredible potential of human ingenuity in the ever-expanding world of technology.



FATIMA GACHI AHMED

BSc Information Systems (Business Analytics), Class of 2020
Data Analyst, Central Bank of Nigeria

How has your programme equipped you for employment?

The range of courses I took during my degree has equipped me with the foundational knowledge I need to be where I am today. Analytical and problem-solving skills have been instilled in me and have given me the drive that I need to grow in my career with ever-developing technology.

How did you decide to enter this industry?

I view big data as an industry; as a result of my analytical talents, I have worked in Logistics, Regulation, and now FinTech. I owe this to Professor Angela Lee, Head of Department, Computing and Information Systems; she has been an all-round mentor for me, providing me with career advice when I was unsure (post-college), and as a direct result, I am where I am now.

What motivated you to continue in this industry/role?

"Growth" has been my driving force in staying in this field. The advancement and use of technology in nearly every aspect of our lives, allow us to live easier lives. Being in the big data field allows me to work in a variety of positions and industries, giving me a broad perspective.



CHAN CHOON HEE

BSc (Hons) in Computer Science, Class of 2017

Business & Integration Arch Team Lead, Accenture

How has your programme equipped you for employment?

The computer science programme at Sunway University has equipped me with core skills like problem solving, software architecture and design patterns, and programming concepts, which were crucial for me to be able to utilise and apply them to any programming language and technological stack possible.

What is your favourite company perk?

My favourite perk from the company is the exciting brownbag sharing sessions on blockchain, sustainability, and financial services, which include knowledge on cutting-edge technologies deployed for clients.

What is the future like for tech? What future technology are you looking forward to?

I envision the next 10 years as a decade of pivoting to a more futuristic world. Blockchain has proven to be viable as a means of creating a transparent form of system that will change the governance and financial aspects of the world. The move of blockchain from Proof-of-Work (PoW) to Proof-of-Stake (PoS) means it is more sustainable for the blockchain system to operate without putting a huge burden on our energy companies, which are currently facing an uphill battle to move from traditional coal/gas energy to renewable energy to achieve the Net Zero Emissions goal.



YAP PEI YI

BSc (Hons) Biology with Psychology, Class of 2017

Modern Work Adoption Specialist, Microsoft (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.

How has your programme equipped you for employment?

Research work during my Final Year Project has ingrained the habit of researching more about technology and the technical aspects of it. The minor in psychology, on the other hand, has helped me with understanding and empathising with our customers' needs.

What motivated you to continue in this role?

I love following technological updates and, at the same time, helping someone learn more. So, why not combine both? There's still a need for a human touch in helping others adopt technology. I am passionate about helping customers adopt the technology in which they have invested, and it is humbling and fulfilling to be able to contribute some part to the customers' digital transformation journey.

What is the future like for tech? What future technology are you looking forward to?

The future will be more towards employee engagement (not forgetting diversity, inclusivity, and accessibility), hybrid work, cybersecurity, tech for sustainability, data and AI, analytics, app automation, and IoT. What I am looking forward to is the Metaverse in Microsoft Teams and all other features in the Viva suite for employee engagement! It is all in the hype to make hybrid work much more inclusive.

STARTUP JOURNEY



My name is Karen Ng, and I am a driven undergraduate student at Sunway University. Alongside my academic pursuits, I have ventured into the world of entrepreneurship, creating my own startup with my university colleague.



It all began when I enrolled in an exciting course at Sunway University called Startup Foundry, organised by Sunway iLabs Foundry. During the course, I had the chance to meet my future co-founders, Janice, Sujitra, Audrey, and Kai Sheng. Our vision took shape in the form of HYPOLLECT, an online collectibles marketplace aimed at connecting sellers and buyers in Malaysia while providing an extra layer of protection.

Following our success at Startup Foundry, an amazing opportunity presented itself—we were invited to join the LaunchX programme offered by Sunway iLabs Foundry. This programme was designed to support startup teams in gaining traction and securing the necessary funding to propel their ventures. Being among the top five selected teams was a true honour, and the seed funding we received became a catalyst for our growth.

How did Sunway University and Sunway iLabs supported our startup journey?

Sunway University and Sunway iLabs have been integral to our

startup journey with HYPOLLECT. It all started with the Startup Foundry course at Sunway University, which opened our eyes to the world of entrepreneurship and provided us with invaluable knowledge and networking opportunities. Additionally, Sunway iLabs provided us with seed funding that allowed us to turn our ideas into a reality. This financial support was crucial in getting our venture off the ground and bringing our vision to life.

Challenges and Opportunities

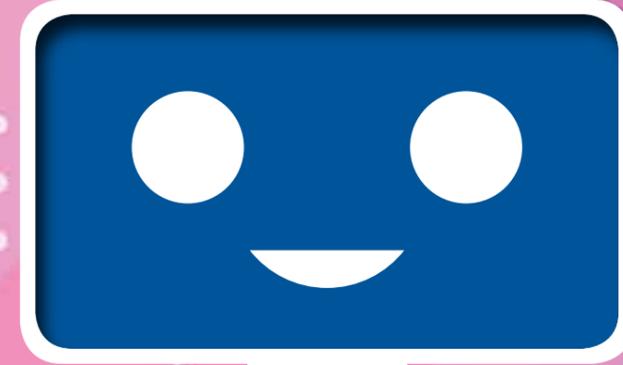
One of the major challenges we faced was related to operations and finances. Building and maintaining a platform like HYPOLLECT required significant investment of time, effort, and funds. We had to make strategic decisions to optimise our operations and allocate our finances effectively to ensure the sustainability of the venture.

Additionally, user feedback revealed that our platform was perceived as more difficult to use compared to existing alternatives. After extensive discussions and analysis, we made the decision to shift our direction and explore new possibilities. This led us to embark on a new venture: HyPay, a revolutionary payment platform

that provided buyer protection while facilitating online money transfers. The key innovation of HyPay was removing the hassle for sellers to upload products and manage listings. This new direction allowed us to leverage our expertise while addressing a pressing need in the e-commerce landscape.

Advice for future startup

As you embark on your startup journey, remember to stay adaptable and open to innovation. The business world is constantly changing, so it's essential to keep up with the latest trends and be willing to try new things. Don't be afraid of failure. Cultivate relationships with mentors, industry professionals, and fellow entrepreneurs. Challenges are bound to arise, but instead of shying away from them, embrace them as opportunities for personal and professional growth. Overcoming obstacle builds resilience, expands your skill set, and adds richness to your life experiences. Remember, the journey is not just about achieving success but also about the valuable skills and experiences you gain along the way.



SUNWAY LIBRARY ENTERS A NEW CHAPTER IN TECHNOLOGY



The Tun Hussein Onn Sunway Library is widely regarded as the first Malaysian library to implement Facial Recognition back in 2019 to assist its student community with easy access day and night. Now the pioneering library team has launched its very own high-tech shelf-reading robot, to further improve library operations and enhance user experience.

The inspiration behind inventing a library shelf-reading robot was to automate and expedite the time-consuming manual checking and organisation of the library bookshelves. The groundbreaking idea was to create a robot that could efficiently scan library shelves, and detect misplaced or misfiled books, whilst allowing librarians to focus on customer-facing initiatives that will continue to improve the overall efficiency of the library operation, much to the convenience and benefit of its significant student community.

Dato' Lee Weng Keng (Dr), CEO/Advisor, Education Division of the Sunway Group shared, "To support and encourage our students and staff in creative works involving robotics, we have designed, built and installed a state-of-the-art robot for our library. Developed and built by our own School of Engineering and Technology, this new shelf-reading robot will expand our network of touch-points for students and staff while boosting library service efficiency and experience."

Stocktakes can now be carried out more frequently to identify books that need to be replaced or reordered, thereby increasing book availability and maintaining the library's extensive book collection. The shelf-reading robot can also be used to improve quality control issues as it will automatically identify missing or misplaced items.

The Research Centre for Human-Machine Collaboration (HUMAC) at Sunway University is the forward-thinking inventor of the robot for the Tun Hussein Onn Sunway Library. "HUMAC Research Centre is proud to present the library robot to library users by developing and applying effective, innovative technologies and solutions to address real-world needs. The centre aims to be a prime research centre linked with industry and Centre of Excellence for world-class research in Human-Machine Collaboration," said Professor Yap Kian Meng, Head of HUMAC.

To the delight of students and much to the reassurance of parents and the greater commercial world, Sunway University has implemented Facial Recognition Procedures before entering the exam hall. This new measure has been implemented to protect all students taking exams, maintain the integrity of the result and guarantee fair examination process to all involved.

MERDEKA & **MALAYSIA DAY**



LEARNING THE HISTORY OF MERDEKA AND MALAYSIA DAY

Every August and September, Malaysia celebrates its national day on two dates, Merdeka Day (Independence Day) and Malaysia Day, to mark the liberation from colonial rule.

Malaysians will definitely be familiar with the name - Tunku Abdul Rahman, the founding father of Malaya's independence who was also the first Prime Minister of Malaysia. He led a delegation of ministers and political leaders in negotiation for the state's independence with the British Government in London.

On 31 August 1957, Tunku stood in front of a 20,000 crowd at the Merdeka Stadium and shouted 'Merdeka' seven times, proclaiming the independence of the nation. The ceremony continued with the raising of the National Flag of Malaya - Jalur Gemilang accompanied by the national anthem being played by the military band and a 21-gun salute, followed by prayers in honour of this great occasion.

Merdeka Day falls on 31 August every year and is celebrated with a grand parade showcasing various performances and march-past from all walks of life.



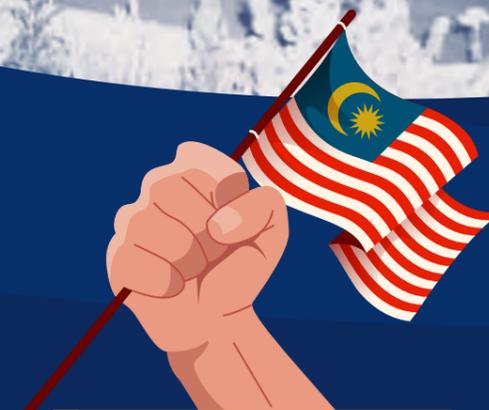
THE FORMATION OF 'MALAYSIA'

Before 1963, Malaysia was in fact known as the Federation of Malaya which consisted of 11 states in the peninsula. The Federation of Malaysia was formed with the merger of Malaya, North Borneo (Sabah), Sarawak and Singapore on 16 September 1963.

The declaration of Malaysia ceremony was held at Stadium Merdeka Kuala Lumpur with the presence of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong (Supreme Head of the Federation), the Malay Rulers, and the Governor of Penang, Malacca, Singapore, Sarawak and Sabah, cabinet members, and foreign diplomats in Kuala Lumpur. The glorious event was attended by about 30,000 Malaysians to celebrate this historical moment.

Prior to the formation of Malaysia, the Cobbold Commission was established in 1962 to determine whether the people of North Borneo and Sarawak supported the merging of the Federation of Malaya, Singapore, North Borneo and Sarawak. Final reports and insights from the Commission concluded the formation of a new nation called Malaysia, which is now celebrated on 16 September every year.

Singapore was separated from Malaysia in 1965 and became an independent and sovereign state.



THE NATIONAL FLAG

Known as the Stripes of Glory or *Jalur Gemilang*, the national flag consists of a field of red and white stripes, a blue canton bearing a crescent and a 14-point star known as the *Bintang Persekutuan* (Federal Star). The stripes mark the membership of the 13 states and the federal territories, while the 14-point star represents the unity among these entities. The colour yellow on the crescent and star represents the Royal colour of the Malay Rulers; the crescent represents the country's state religion, Islam; and the blue canton symbolises the unity of the Malaysian people.



SUNWAY UNIVERSITY

CONVOCAATION

PHOTOMAP

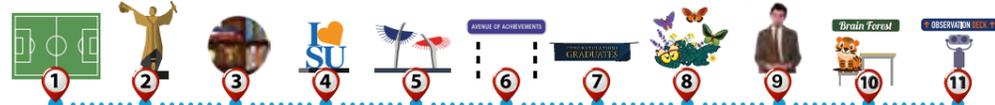
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JALAN PIS 10/9
CANOPY WALK

QR Code



CREATE YOUR CONVOCAATION COLLECTION

- 1 Pitch perfect location for a university backdrop
- 2 Destiny awaits - your future starts here
- 3 A picture can paint a thousand words
- 4 And we ♥ you too
- 5 The wind beneath our wings is you
- 6 Your road to glory starts here
- 7 A big congratulations to you & well deserved
- 8 Before you fly off, check out this little spot
- 9 Don't forget to say goodbye to Teddy
- 10 Where wisdom & friendship combine
- 11 From here your future looks breathtaking

Butterfly Garden

House

Sunbirds

Sunwayian Stories

Destiny

Brain Forest

OBSERVATION DECK

AVENUE OF ACHIEVEMENTS

I SU

WINNERS OF



SNAP & WIN

Congratulations to both winners of Sunwayian Issue 03's Snap & Win Contest! As we were still receiving submissions past the deadline, we didn't have enough time to publish them online for voting. Therefore, the editorial team has decided to select the two best photos and we would like to thank everyone for their passionate submissions.

EDITORS' CHOICE

from Issue 03 (May-June 2023)

Soo Teik Yuan

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

“ We just love the vibes during convocation week! ”

Habiba Tarek Abdalla Mohamed Hassouna

“ We were impressed but our special guest on campus might be a little hard to impress ”

★ SUNWAY STARS ★

July-August 2023

Cancer

22 Jun – 22 July



Don't be upset when things don't go as you planned. There are times when we can all benefit from some positive distraction. Join the Sunway Sports team to try out new activities and adventures. Who knows, you could become a medal winning athlete like those featured in this issue.

Scorpio

24 Oct – 22 Nov



Now that you are a proud student at Sunway, you now have the once in a lifetime experience to make new friends from every corner of the world. So, the next time you are walking through the campus or enjoying lunch at the Galley, look up from your chicken rice and ask yourself this question, I wonder where they are from? With over 90 nationalities on campus, I bet you are wrong. Start your global community today and see where it takes you tomorrow.

Aquarius

20 Jan – 18 Feb



Looking for a unique place on campus to study, then why not immerse yourself in the tranquillity of the Brain Forest. Relax with the sounds of the Brain Forest and make new friends too. There are some very interesting and colourful characters that hang around at that place but worry not, they do not bite...

Leo

23 July – 22 Aug



As a glorious lion you should always take good care of yourself, take pride in your achievements and maintain a healthy lifestyle. As a pack leader, be the shining example to others and help lead the way so that others can be a roaring success too.

Sagittarius

23 Nov – 21 Dec



An interesting conversation could inspire you to try something completely new. If you only do what you have always done, you will only ever get what you have always got. So, get creative and seek out your adventurous spirit, take a splash at the Sunway Lagoon for inspiration if you need to.

Aries

21 Mar – 19 Apr



Hard work and dedication are vital components to achieve success, and the harder you work, the luckier you will become. To enrich your knowledge beyond the classroom, dive into the books in the Tun Hussein Onn Library and find the story that could change your life.

Virgo

23 Aug – 22 Sep



You will need patience and attention to accomplish your goals. The hard work you have dedicated to your studies will be paid off with perseverance and patience. Speak to your mentor, friends, family and lecturers for added inspiration.

Capricorn

22 Dec – 19 Jan



The planets are aligning in your favour, so there has never been a better time than now to try out some new adventures and add even more zest to your life. You're on a pathway to a brighter future and the only boundary to your success, is your own imagination.

Taurus

20 Apr – 20 May



Stepping into the Sunway Campus is your first step to success, and the good news is, your journey here can become a gateway to the world. Your success could see you go overseas to further your studies and then return to campus showcased at the Avenue of Achievements as an international inspiration.

Libra

23 Sep – 23 Oct



It is your lucky and positive time of the year! Balance your time between studies and social circle, take part in clubs and societies, and get to know more new friends from other programmes.

Pisces

19 Feb – 20 Mar



If you are looking to find a place on the campus where you can reach new scales of intellect and creativity, then maybe you should take a walk over to the Graduate Centre and take a peek under the escalator. There is nothing fishy going on but the LIFE BELOW WATER display and blue lights will resonate with you more than anyone.

Gemini

21 May – 21 Jun



Good times for you are just around the corner. As someone who is always trying to support your friends and family in all their endeavours, your selfless attitude and positive demeanour towards others are a shining light to all of our campus community. It is because of people like you that we are blessed to be known as a #CampusWithAConscience.



The WIZARDS of AUUS-mat

The Australian Matriculation Programme at Sunway College offers a truly magical experience where dreams of unbelievable academic success on a global scale can come true.

Our internationally recognised programme ensures students are university ready whilst providing a gateway to the world's leading institutions, be it closer to home or somewhere over the rainbow.

The unique learning experience provides students with the courage and the heart to pursue their ambitions and realise their full potential.

All the signs are pointing in the right direction.

There is no place like Sunway...



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SUNWAY COLLEGE

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63% STUDENTS RANKED WORLD'S TOP 20%*

81% STUDENTS RANKED WORLD'S TOP 30%*

Government of Western Australia School Curriculum and Standards Authority

*Based on March 2023 WACE Examinations
JPT/BPPIK/R3/010/3/0122/A3757/04/28

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