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DISTED College Joins Prestigious Kelab Penyayang: A Commitment to Community Service and Leadership

DISTED College proudly fosters youth volunteerism and social responsibility through its involvement with *Kelab Penyayang*

Week's Best Titles

- DISTED College Joins Prestigious Kelab Penyayang: A Commitment to Community Service and Leadership
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- Exploring Psychology as a Science through Research



Remarks from the President

Prof. Dr.
Vikneswaran Nair
President

At DISTED College, we believe that education extends far beyond the classroom. Becoming a member of *Kelab Penyayang* is an incredible opportunity for our students to cultivate values of empathy, compassion, and responsibility. These are essential qualities for creating future leaders who are academically accomplished, socially conscious, and community-oriented.

Through *Kelab Penyayang*, our students are exposed to real-world challenges, allowing them to make meaningful contributions to society while developing critical skills such as leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving. Participating in initiatives like the National Summit broadens their horizons, equipping them to address pressing societal needs while reinforcing the importance of sustainable and ethical practices.

This membership aligns perfectly with our mission to nurture holistic, well-rounded individuals. By engaging in volunteerism and community service, students give back and grow personally, learning to appreciate diverse perspectives and strengthen their commitment to making the world a better place.

I am immensely proud of our students and their enthusiasm for this noble cause and our faculty advisors who guide and inspire them in their journey. This partnership with Yayasan Penyayang reaffirms our commitment to fostering a culture of care and responsibility, empowering the next generation to lead with kindness and purpose.

Cover
Story**DISTED College Joins Prestigious Kelab Penyayang:
A Commitment to Community Service and Leadership**

It was indeed an honour for DISTED College to be invited by Yayasan Penyayang to become a member of the prestigious Kelab Penyayang.

Kelab Penyayang is a community service and charitable initiative in Malaysia, primarily associated with public and private universities. Operating under the guidance of Yayasan Budi Penyayang Malaysia, the club aims to instil values of compassion, care, and responsibility among youth. It serves as a platform for young people to actively engage in community service and address pressing social issues.

The primary objectives of Kelab Penyayang are to nurture a spirit of volunteerism and empathy while raising awareness of societal needs. Through its activities, the club provides opportunities for members to experience the importance of giving back to society. This, in turn, helps shape well-rounded individuals who are academically driven and socially conscious.

Five students from DISTED College were privileged to be selected to attend the National Summit of Kelab Penyayang in Kajang, Selangor, from 15 to 17 November 2024. These students include the inaugural Committee Members of Kelab Penyayang DISTED College, led by its President, Caydence Lim, a Cambridge A-Level scholarship student. The club will be advised by Prof. Dr. Vikneswaran Nair, assisted by Ms. Tan Jia Huey.

Some of the key lectures and activities conducted at the Summit included: Management of Kelab Penyayang & Briefing on the Minister of Higher Education Volunteerism Cup; Towards Sustainable Development: How Volunteers Contribute?; Welfare Services Available for Kelab Penyayang Members; Values and Ethics in Community Work; Emergency Response Skills; and Sustainability of Kelab Penyayang: Fundraising.

The event was attended by 171 members from 22 universities, including DISTED College, the only college-level institution honoured with membership, under the guidance of CEO Dato' Leela Mohd Ali, an esteemed educationist and cultural activist, and General Manager Datuk Arif Farhan Doss, of Yayasan Penyayang.



Congratulations to the team from DISTED College for playing a significant role in supporting the PENYAYANG agenda!

Prof. Dr. Vikneswaran Nair
Advisor, Kelab Penyayang
DISTED College



Transformative Impact of AI Across Industries: Preparing for an AI-Driven Future

AI is reshaping industries by automating tasks, enhancing decision-making, and spurring innovation. In finance, AI enables advanced data analysis, trend identification, and market prediction, giving firms sharper insights and agile investment strategies. Healthcare has seen groundbreaking impacts as AI aids diagnostics, predicts patient outcomes, and customises treatments, improving early disease detection and patient care. Retail leverages AI for personalised customer experiences, using shopping behaviour data to tailor product recommendations and optimise inventory. Manufacturing benefits from AI-driven automation, enhancing production efficiency, reducing errors, and enabling human workers to focus on complex tasks. Education, particularly at DISTED College, is embracing AI to create personalised and flexible learning. AI tools help educators identify learning gaps, offering focused support for student success. DISTED is preparing students to thrive in an AI-driven world, integrating these technologies into the learning experience.

Fatin Alia
Program Lead/Lecturer, School of Business
and Hospitality

Empowering Digital Citizens: Media Information Literacy Training

On October 17, 2024, DISTED students hosted a Media Information Literacy (MIL) Training as part of their co-curriculum subject. Led by expert trainers Dr. S. Maartandan Suppiah (UUM), Ms. Riyadhharshini Ahumugam (Sunway University), and Ms. Lina (Asia Centre), the event addressed the urgent issue of disinformation in today's digital age. Participants learned to critically evaluate online content, verify sources, and identify manipulative tactics like clickbait and misinformation. Hands-on activities enhanced their ability to assess the credibility of information and responsibly share content. Tools for fact-checking and ethical digital citizenship were introduced, fostering accuracy and integrity online. Students from foundation, diploma, and degree programs actively participated. Voon Jia Ting, a Diploma in Creative Multimedia Production student who led the organising team, expressed gratitude for the impactful experience. The training inspired participants to become informed, proactive digital citizens equipped to navigate and combat digital disinformation.

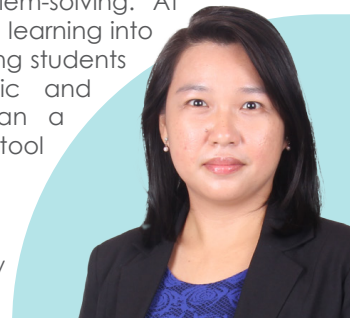
Seethai Subramaniam
Head, School of Computing and Engineering



Mathematics Made Fun: The Cognitive Benefits of Sudoku

Mathematics often requires logic, reasoning, and problem-solving, but many students find it dull. To make learning more engaging, DISTED College introduces Sudoku to Pre-University students as a stimulating tool to enhance critical thinking and cognitive abilities. Originating in Japan, Sudoku is a globally popular puzzle game that consists of a 9x9 grid where players must fill blank cells with numbers 1 to 9, ensuring no repetitions in rows, columns, or 3x3 subgrids. This simple yet challenging game offers numerous cognitive benefits, including improved memory, concentration, spatial reasoning, and critical thinking. By incorporating Sudoku into their routine, students not only develop mental agility but also gain essential skills applicable to academic and real-world problem-solving. At DISTED, the initiative aims to transform learning into an enjoyable experience, encouraging students to embrace challenges with logic and perseverance. Sudoku is more than a pastime; it's a powerful educational tool fostering growth and engagement.

Lee Lei Yong
Programme Lead, School of Pre-University
Studies





Moving from Theory to Reality: A Field Trip of Media Studies Students to RTM Penang

On November 5th, DISTED College students pursuing a Bachelor of Communication in Media Studies (Hons) visited Radio Television Malaysia (RTM) in Penang as part of their academic assignments. The visit aimed to analyse industry changes, emerging trends, and challenges, particularly the impact of AI and the post-pandemic landscape on RTM's business model. Students also interacted with a deejay and producer, complementing their coursework topics. The visit was enriched by the warm reception from RTM staff, especially the broadcasting director, TS Nor Hisyam Bin Abbas, who guided the group through various departments. Students observed pre- and post-production processes, met on-air deejays, and experienced firsthand the creation of radio programmes and news broadcasts. This field trip was invaluable, linking classroom theories with real-world applications, enhancing students' understanding of mass communication. Looking ahead, DISTED plans to arrange visits to TV3 and Astro to further prepare students for their future internships.

Nadia Jefri

Programme Lead, School of Language and Communication

Exploring Psychology as a Science through Research

Psychology is the scientific study of behaviour and mental processes, relying heavily on research to advance the field. Through the scientific method, psychologists develop hypotheses, collect data, and analyse results to understand how people think, feel, and act. This research validates theories, reveals new insights, and applies psychological principles to real-world issues, improving mental health interventions and challenging misconceptions. Research in psychology is essential for fostering critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Students gain valuable abilities by learning to design studies, interpret data, and make informed conclusions—skills that are beneficial beyond psychology. Whether studying how stress affects decision-making or how social interactions shape self-esteem, psychological research promotes individual and societal well-being. It provides the evidence needed to drive meaningful change, making it a cornerstone of psychology as a science and a vital tool for enhancing our understanding of the human experience. Research is an important focus area in DISTED's Bachelor of Psychology programme, where students learn critical thinking and problem-solving skills through hands-on research experience. By designing studies, interpreting data, and making informed conclusions, students gain valuable abilities that extend beyond psychology.

Teoh Ker Hsin

Programme Lead & Lecturer, School of Psychology



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