

OPEN DAY

15-16, 22-23
Mar'25

10am - 4pm

340, Macalister Road,
Penang
(Heritage Campus)

Week's Best Titles

- ❑ DISTED UPLIFT Programme: A Model for Inclusive Education
- ❑ Cultivating a Growth Mindset for Success
- ❑ The Evolving Role of Accountants in the AI Era
- ❑ Unlocking Creativity in Mathematics: The Role of GeoGebra in Education
- ❑ Enhancing HCI Education Through Interactive and Experiential Learning
- ❑ Welcoming Fresh Talent to the Marketing and Communication Department

DISTED UPLIFT Programme: A Model for Inclusive Education

The DISTED UPLIFT Programme, shortlisted for the second round of the Piala Sukarelawan Menteri Pendidikan Tinggi Malaysia 2025, fosters inclusive education by uniting children with special needs and neurotypical peers through structured learning and community engagement.



Remarks from the President

Dato' Lim Si Boon
- Interim President

Discover Your Career Options

First and foremost, my heartfelt congratulations to our Pre-University Scholarship holders for advancing to the shortlist at the Kelab Penyayang National Level Competition! Their project proposal, "**DISTED UPLIFT (Unified Place for Learning, Inclusion, Fun, and Transformation) Programme for Children with Special Needs and Neurotypical Peers: Bridging Education and Community Engagement**," is a testament to their dedication and innovation.

During our Open Day on 15 and 16 March, we welcomed many anxious parents and students eager to find the right college and programmes for their future. Our counsellors guided them through the various academic pathways, ensuring they discovered options tailored to different learning styles and career aspirations. At DISTED, we recognise that students have diverse educational needs.

1. For those who thrive in project-based learning, we offer SACE International (SACEi), while students who prefer structured, exam-based assessments can opt for Cambridge A-Level.
2. For those seeking flexibility in their careers, our Diploma Programmes, often bundled with HELP University Degrees, provide a strong balance of academic learning and industry-relevant internships. These opportunities allow students to explore real-world experiences while staying relevant to their chosen fields.
3. Meanwhile, students who have already decided on a specific degree path can enroll in our Foundation Programmes, which offer a smooth transition into HELP University Degrees or pathways to medical degrees with our partner universities.

We invite you to meet our counsellors and explore our new technology facilities at our upcoming Open Days on 22 and 23 March. This will be an excellent opportunity to gain firsthand insight into our academic offerings and student support services.

In conjunction with Earth Hour on 22 March, we will also be celebrating CCA Day, highlighting our commitment to sustainability and community engagement. We look forward to seeing you and welcoming our community to an exciting and informative weekend at DISTED.

Cover Story

DISTED UPLIFT Programme: A Model for Inclusive Education

The DISTED UPLIFT Programme (Unified Place for Learning, Inclusion, Fun, and Transformation) is an initiative conceptualised by DISTED College's Kelab Penyayang members, comprising scholarship students from the School of Pre-University Studies. It aims to create an inclusive learning environment for children with special needs and their neurotypical peers. Shortlisted for the second round of the Piala Sukarelawan Menteri Pendidikan Tinggi Malaysia 2025, the programme competes against public universities nationwide.

The initiative leverages DISTED College's green campus and psychology expertise, incorporating sensory-friendly zones, activity areas, accessible pathways, and special features like a sensory garden and open amphitheatre. The curriculum fosters social interaction, emotional regulation, cooperative learning, and holistic development through art and music therapy, role-playing, and nature exploration.

Structured in phases—planning, infrastructure development, and rollout—the project collaborates with NASOM, Early Autism Project (EAP), Penang Shine Like Stars Association and the Inclusive Outdoor Classroom network. With volunteer engagement and a RM25,000 budget, it funds landscaping, equipment, train

DISTED students gain hands-on experience in inclusive education, leadership, and community engagement, particularly benefiting psychology students through practical exposure to neurodiverse learning. The programme develops empathy, teamwork, and problem-solving skills, enhancing career readiness.

For the community, the initiative reduces stigma, strengthens social bonds, and supports families through structured activities, skill-building, and workshops. The programme aspires to be a model for inclusive education in Malaysia, bridging education and community engagement to foster a more compassionate



Caydence Lim
President,
Kelab Penyayang DISTED
College
Student of Cambridge
A-Level



Cultivating a Growth Mindset for Success

On February 17th, DISTED College conducted a talk at SMJK Union for Form 1 students, focusing on mindset development during their transition to secondary school. Delivered in Mandarin, the session introduced Erikson's psychosocial development theory, emphasising identity formation and resilience. Students were encouraged to develop confidence, embrace challenges, and explore their strengths and interests. The talk highlighted that success starts with mindset—curiosity, initiative, and stepping beyond comfort zones foster growth. Challenges should be seen as opportunities rather than setbacks, and self-belief serves as the foundation for achievement. The speaker shared personal experiences to reinforce perseverance and confidence as key drivers of success. With the right mindset, students can establish a strong foundation from day one, making their secondary school journey more meaningful and rewarding.

Teoh Ker Hsin

Programme Lead & Lecturer, School of Psychology

The Evolving Role of Accountants in the AI Era

“In the AI era, accountants remain essential, but their roles are shifting toward decision-making, strategy, and financial advisory. AI automates routine tasks like bookkeeping and tax preparation, increasing efficiency while requiring accountants to focus on data interpretation, compliance, and risk assessment. Ethical considerations and cybersecurity awareness are also growing in importance. To prepare students for this evolving landscape, DISTED College integrates AI, data analytics, fintech, and cloud accounting into its curriculum. The programme emphasises both technical expertise and essential soft skills such as critical thinking, adaptability, and communication. By blending technology with fundamental accounting principles, graduates are equipped to navigate dynamic business environments and provide value-added services. With AI reshaping the profession, DISTED College ensures its students remain relevant and competitive, ready to embrace new tools and strategic responsibilities in an increasingly digital financial sector.”

Sharizan Abd Rashid
Lecturer, School of Business & Hospitality



Unlocking Creativity in Mathematics: The Role of GeoGebra in Education

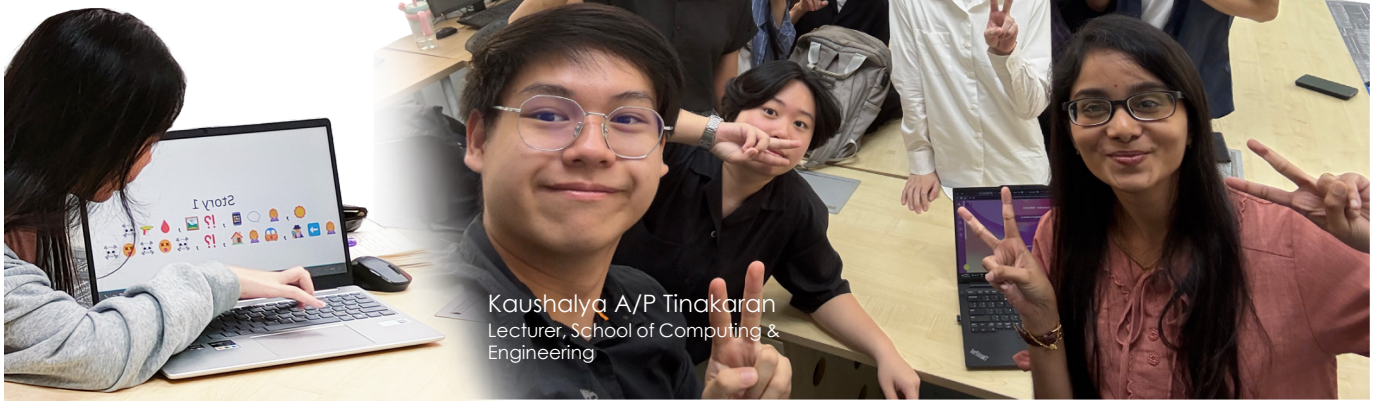
“Mathematics and geometry have shaped human civilisation for millennia, evolving with tools that aid measurement, calculation, and visualisation. Modern advancements, such as geometric software, enhance precision and creativity. GeoGebra, an open-source interactive application, makes mathematics engaging and accessible, especially for Pre-University students. For instance, a South Australian Certificate of Education International (SACE) student used GeoGebra to recreate the Apple logo using Bézier curves, demonstrating how technology bridges abstract concepts with real-world applications. This hands-on approach fosters deeper understanding and creativity. At DISTED, students are encouraged to push the boundaries of their knowledge with such tools, preparing them for future challenges in mathematics and beyond. GeoGebra not only enhances learning but also equips students with problem-solving skills essential for modern applications.”

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



Enhancing HCI Education Through Interactive and Experiential Learning

Traditional lectures are insufficient to engage students in Human-Computer Interaction (HCI). Modern classrooms must be interactive, allowing students to explore and collaborate. Hands-on experience with technology is essential for deeper learning and critical evaluation. Students use platforms like Figma, Canva, and MIT App Inventor for UX design and prototyping, while AI tools such as video generators and infographic makers highlight AI's role in content creation. Practical exercises, like navigating UserInterface, reinforce usability principles by exposing students to poor design. Engagement extends beyond tools to interactive activities. Emoji storytelling fosters creative expression, meme wars simplify HCI theories through humor, and team presentations enhance collaboration. At DISTED, experiential learning transforms students into critical thinkers who can navigate and shape the digital world. By integrating technology and interactivity, HCI education becomes dynamic and relevant, preparing students for real-world challenges.



Kaushalya A/P Tinakaran
Lecturer, School of Computing & Engineering

Welcoming Fresh Talent to the Marketing and Communication Department



We are excited to welcome Lim Zi Hao and Tan You Yi to the Marketing and Communication Department at DISTED College. Lim Zi Hao, a DISTED alumnus with a Diploma in Business Studies, is currently pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing. Passionate about consumer behaviour, branding, and digital marketing, he aims to apply his academic knowledge in real-world scenarios. Tan You Yi, a Bachelor's Degree in Digital Marketing student at Wawasan Open University, brings experience in CRM software (SalesEpoch), AI-driven marketing tools (AutomaticSales AI), and digital content creation. He has worked on AI-generated copywriting, social media marketing, and automation tools to enhance customer engagement. Their combined expertise in market research, branding strategies, and digital innovation will strengthen DISTED's marketing initiatives. We look forward to their fresh perspectives and contributions to driving impactful marketing campaigns. Welcome to the team!

Raziah binti Ehia Mohd
Human Resources & Administration

DISTED Pulau Pinang Sdn Bhd

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article

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