



Week's Best Titles

- ❑ Enhancing the Testing Experience: Pearson Exam Centre at DISTED College
- ❑ Bridging Theory and Industry: DISTED Students Gain Insights at Keysight Technologies
- ❑ Building the Foundation: Loh Yi Qian's Journey from DISTED to Chemical Engineering at Monash University
- ❑ Cybersecurity and Data Analytics in a Digital Age
- ❑ DISTED College Student Representative Council (SRC) 2025/2026
- ❑ The Mind Gym: Strengthen, Heal & Thrive
- ❑ Celebrating Women and Building Community: DISTED Psychology Club's First 2025 Initiative

Enhancing the Testing Experience:

Pearson PTE Exam Centre @ DISTED College

DISTED College's Pearson Exam Centre provides a superior testing experience through globally recognised exams, modern and comfortable facilities, fast result turnaround, flexible scheduling, fair AI-based scoring, and thoughtful amenities like free parking, library access, and refreshments.



Remarks from the President

Dato' Lim Si Boon
- Interim President

Rising Expectations

DISTED College was established with a bold vision: to provide access to quality overseas post-secondary education without the need to leave Penang. For 38 years, and with over 14,000 graduates, that vision has remained relevant. As the local workforce becomes more skilled, and as more Malaysians take on global roles, DISTED graduates continue to prove their value in the global economy.

However, success breeds new challenges. The phenomenon of rising expectations—fueled by social and economic shifts—means that each generation faces steeper demands. At DISTED, we believe our graduates must be equipped not only with knowledge and wisdom, but also adaptability, relevance, determination, resilience, sound judgment, and strong communication skills. Academic achievement alone is not enough. That is why we encourage students to engage actively in the wider DISTED community through internships, leadership roles, and service initiatives.

To remain future-ready, DISTED has taken proactive steps to integrate emerging technologies into its academic offerings. We have implemented a policy to embed Artificial Intelligence (AI) into our IT and Computer Science programmes, leveraging Pearson's AI courses. Once the pilot is completed, we will expand this integration across other disciplines in the coming semester.

"The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled." – Plutarch

Cover Story

Enhancing the Testing Experience

Pearson Exam Centre @DISTED College



Pearson | PTE



The Pearson Exam Centre at DISTED College is the only official PTE Test Centre in Northern Malaysia and offers a professional, candidate-friendly environment for taking globally recognised exams, including PTE Academic and Pearson Generic VUE. These exams are accepted by universities, employers, and institutions worldwide, supporting both academic and career advancement.

The centre features modern infrastructure, including a sound-proof exam room, ensuring candidates have a comfortable and distraction-free experience. PTE Academic results are typically available within 48 hours, making it ideal for those with tight deadlines. Flexible

scheduling, with exams available from Monday to Friday, allows students and working professionals to select convenient slots—even with just 24 hours' notice.

AI-powered scoring ensures fair and accurate assessment, offering every candidate equal opportunity to demonstrate their English proficiency. The centre also provides thoughtful amenities, including free parking, access to the library and waiting area, and refreshments at the Dish Café.

Altogether, the fast, fair, and stress-free testing environment makes DISTED College a top choice for English language and professional certification exams.

Nadia Jefri
Head, School of Communication & General Studies

Bridging Theory and Industry: DISTED Students Gain Insights at Keysight Technologies

A group of DISTED College degree students recently visited Keysight Technologies, gaining first-hand exposure to advanced electronics and measurement solutions. Organised as part of their academic curriculum, the visit aimed to bridge classroom-based theoretical knowledge with real-world industry practices. Students from the Psychology, Media Studies, and Marketing programmes expressed great interest in the breadth of job opportunities available in areas such as human resources, supply chain management, corporate communications, and customer

experience. During the guided tour, students were introduced to various departments, each playing a critical role in the company's global operations. A key highlight was the interactive Q&A session with industry professionals, which provided valuable insights into evolving career pathways, innovation-led challenges, and the growing need for adaptability and continuous learning in a rapidly changing technological landscape. The visit to Keysight Technologies not only enriched the students' academic understanding but also broadened their perspectives on career prospects in the electronics and tech industry. It was, by all accounts, both an inspiring and educational experience.

Dr Lum Li Sean
Head, Academic Affairs



Building the Foundation: Loh Yi Qian's Journey from DISTED to Chemical Engineering at Monash University



Loh Yi Qian, a second-year Chemical Engineering student at Monash University, attributes her academic foundation to the A-Level programme

at DISTED College (July 2021 intake). Drawn by its location, scholarship, and supportive environment, she appreciated the engaging lecturers and low-pressure learning atmosphere. Key influences were Datin Helen (Biology) and Dr. Loo (Chemistry), whose teaching and encouragement helped her earn A* in both subjects. Yi Qian adopted effective study methods such as active recall and past-paper practice, which she continues to apply. Though she regrets not joining extracurricular activities, she encourages current students to do so. Her favourite DISTED memory is from Biology lab sessions, especially observing cell structures under the microscope. She now strives to develop sustainable solutions through Chemical Engineering and credits DISTED for shaping her into a motivated and disciplined learner. Her journey reflects the importance of both academic guidance and a nurturing learning environment.

Parthasarathe Jayashanker
Student Editor, DISTED Discourse
Student of Cambridge A-Level

Cybersecurity and Data Analytics in a Digital Age

Computer science is rapidly transforming industries and reshaping societal functions, with major advancements expected in artificial intelligence (AI), quantum computing, cybersecurity, and big data. As digital systems become more embedded in daily life, cybersecurity and data privacy have emerged as pressing global concerns. The growing sophistication of cyber threats demands advanced tools such as AI-driven real-time threat detection, quantum encryption for secure communications, and zero-trust security models to reduce vulnerabilities. Biometric authentication is also playing a key role in preventing unauthorised access. In response, governments are enforcing stricter data privacy regulations to give individuals greater control over their personal information. This evolving landscape is driving strong demand for cybersecurity professionals. At DISTED College, the Diploma in Computer Science and the Bachelor of IT (Data Analytics) Hons. programmes are designed to address these needs. The programmes provide students with essential skills in software development, database management, cybersecurity, and analytics, preparing them for the challenges of the digital future.



Nurul Annisa Azhar
Lecturer, School of Computing and Engineering



DISTED College Student Representative Council (SRC) 2025/2026

We are pleased to introduce the newly elected Student Representative Council (SRC) for the academic year 2025/2026. The SRC serves as the voice of the student body and plays an active role in shaping campus life at DISTED College. Congratulations to all office bearers and committee members!

- **President:** Ooi Ker Min (Diploma in Computer Science)
- **Vice President:** Aldanish Aniq Bin Alsuykri (Bachelor of Psychology (Hons))
- **Deputy President:** Lee Jia Sheng (Diploma in Computer Science)
- **Secretary:** Muhammed Salim Sameera (Cambridge A-Level)
- **Vice Secretary:** Averille Tan (Diploma in Computer Science)
- **Treasurer:** Nurkhairun Syahirah Binti Mohammad Bilal (Cambridge A-Level)
- **Vice Treasurer:** Amber Ch'ng Xue Hui (Diploma in Creative Multimedia Production)
- **Webmaster:** Gabriel Ong Yu Ze (Diploma in Creative Multimedia Production)
- **Public Relations:** Lee Xin Yen (Foundation in Science)
- **Committee Members**
 - Soon Chee Liang (Bachelor of Psychology (Hons))
 - Rasvini Subramaniam (SACE)
 - Arhnee Arikrishnan (Cambridge A-Level)
 - Caryn Ng Shi Qi (Diploma in Computer Science)
 - Jace Wong Lyn Lyn (Diploma in Computer Science)
 - Hasan Hisham Sharifdeen (Cambridge A-Level)

We look forward to their contributions in fostering a vibrant, inclusive, and student-centered environment at DISTED.

— Student Affairs Office

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The Mind Gym: Strengthen, Heal & Thrive

On 23 March 2025, DISTED College's Foundation in Arts (FIA) students collaborated with SOLACEHAVEN to host The Mind Gym: Strengthen, Heal & Thrive. The event aimed to support student mental health amid academic pressures. Organised by FIA student Prithika Kumaraguru, the session featured SOLACEHAVEN founder Ms. Hashmitha, alongside co-speakers Ms. Rahilah and Ms. Rashvenah Naidu. Topics covered included self-care, emotional resilience, and coping strategies, delivered through engaging presentations and interactive role-plays. Founded in 2020, SOLACEHAVEN is a youth-led initiative offering emotional support via social media, with its name standing for Sending Out Love And Care Endlessly. The event concluded with a Q&A session, reinforcing the message that mental health is vital to student success. With 35 participants, the programme was well-received and underscored the importance of building



supportive communities. Students are encouraged to connect with SOLACEHAVEN on Instagram (@solacehaven) for ongoing resources and future initiatives.

Parthasarathe Jayashanker
Student Editor, DISTED Discourse
Student of Cambridge A Level

Celebrating Women and Building Community: DISTED Psychology Club's First 2025 Initiative

On 13 and 14 March 2025, the DISTED Psychology Club organised a special event to celebrate International Women's Day. The event aimed to honour women and raise awareness of their contributions to society. A booth was set up where students and lecturers could purchase elegantly wrapped flowers to show appreciation to the women in their lives. The gesture fostered a strong sense of love and respect across the campus. In addition to flower gifting, the booth featured educational posters and displays showcasing inspiring women from history. This event marked the first initiative by the club's newly formed committee.

Despite early challenges, the team's commitment and the guidance of the club advisor ensured its success. From planning to execution, the collaboration and enthusiasm were evident. The positive response from the campus community was encouraging, setting the tone for future activities. We look forward to more events that inspire, educate, and bring people together.



Covyn Ooi
President of DISTED Psychology Club
Student of Bachelor of Psychology



the
FULL
article

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