

OPEN DAY

14-15 June '25

10am - 4pm

No 340 Jalan Macalister
 10450 George Town,
 Pulau Pinang

Week's Best Titles

- ❑ Movie Day: Promoting Understanding and Acceptance of Autism
- ❑ The Economic Impact of Malaysia's New Minimum Wage Policy
- ❑ How to Survive Your First Semester: Tips from a Senior
- ❑ Google Gemini: Empowering DISTED Students with Cutting-Edge AI
- ❑ Adibah Binti Riduan Brings Data Science Expertise to DISTED College
- ❑ From DISTED to the Finance World: Jane Lim's Journey

Movie Day



Promoting Understanding and Acceptance of Autism

DISTED's Business Lab became more than just a classroom — it became a space for connection, reflection, and awareness. Psychology students hosted a powerful Movie Day focused on promoting understanding and acceptance of autism. Through film, discussion, and interactive activities, the event encouraged participants to challenge assumptions and engage with new perspectives. It was a reminder that at DISTED, meaningful learning often begins with empathy and thought-provoking dialogue.



Remarks from the President

Dato' Lim Si Boon
 - Interim President

Earnest

The Scholarship candidate selection and interviews continue this week and shall continue until the end of June. It has been refreshing to meet young, earnest and enthusiastic students applying themselves at the interviews.

As part of DISTED's promise to ensure our programmes remain relevant and evolve with the times, this week DISTED has been a hive of student activities curated around real-world issues.

In this issue, we start with the School of Psychology airing a movie to promote Autism Awareness Week. The School of Computing explores Google Gemini as part of our Diploma in Computer Science for student exposure. The School of Business discusses the impact of the minimum wage policy and its economic consequences, and our Diploma in Mass Communication student shares tips for surviving the first semester of college.

At DISTED, we earnestly strive to ensure the relevance of our programmes with real-world issues, the connection between academic learning and real-world relevance, and the value of hands-on student experiences.

Learning is everywhere at DISTED.

Cover
 Story


 Movie
 Day

 Promoting Understanding
 and Acceptance of Autism


The Business Lab at DISTED College became a space for heartfelt conversation and meaningful reflection during a special Movie Day, organised by students from the Bachelor of Psychology (Hons) programme. The event aimed to raise awareness and foster acceptance of autism, using film as a powerful medium for empathy and engagement. Students and staff gathered



to watch Temple Grandin, a biographical film based on the life of Dr Temple Grandin, whose work and lived experiences have reshaped the way society views communication, learning, and innovation. The screening encouraged viewers to go beyond textbook knowledge and connect with real-world stories that challenge assumptions.

Following the film, participants engaged in a "Myth and Fact Challenge" to explore common misconceptions surrounding autism, followed by a reflection activity where attendees shared personal takeaways. These simple yet thought-provoking exercises sparked open dialogue and encouraged critical thinking.

The event also introduced the Autism Acceptance Campaign (AAC 2025) by the Penang Shine Like Stars Association. Shifting the conversation from awareness to inclusion, the campaign's message resonated deeply with the DISTED community. At DISTED, we believe learning extends far beyond the classroom. This initiative reflects the essence of the psychology programme — using knowledge to drive compassion, understanding, and positive change. Movie Day was not only a student-led event but a reminder that education should inform the mind and move the heart.

Ong Li Yi
 Student, Bachelor of Psychology (Hons)

The Economic Impact of Malaysia's New Minimum Wage Policy

Malaysia's minimum wage will rise from RM1,500 to RM1,700 beginning 1 February 2025 for employers with more than five workers, and on 1 August 2025 for smaller employers, as announced in Budget 2025 and reported in the New Straits Times (18 October 2024). Economically, minimum wages serve as a government-imposed price floor. While the policy aims to ensure fair wages and improve living standards, raising wages above market equilibrium may result in a labour surplus, potentially leading to higher unemployment and market inefficiencies. According to HRD Corp report in 2024, to address this, the MADANI Training Plan has been introduced to improve the workforce and reduce unemployment. These initiatives represent supply-side policies, which take time to show results but are essential for long-term macroeconomic goals such as reduced inflation, higher employment, and sustainable growth. At DISTED's School of Business and Hospitality, students are encouraged to analyse such policies critically, linking classroom theories to real-world economic strategies.

Tan Sue Lin
 Head, School of Business and Hospitality



How to Survive Your First Semester: Tips from a Senior

Looking back at my early days at DISTED College, there are a few things I wish I had known. Group work is unpredictable — sometimes you get great teammates, but other times you end up doing everything. Set expectations early, keep records, and speak up if needed. Your lecturers are more than just instructors. Ask questions, seek feedback, and show interest — it builds trust and opens opportunities. Time management is crucial. I used to think I could cram the night before and still do well, but it led to stress and poor sleep. Planning ahead made a big difference. Most importantly, studying at DISTED has been more than academics. It has been about personal growth. I have had to learn how to manage my time, advocate for myself, and

adapt to challenges. For anyone starting out, give yourself time to adjust and grow. Every mistake is part of the learning process. Keep going.

Nur Eria
 Nadhirah
 Binti Mohd
 Erwan
 Student, Diploma in
 Mass Communication



Google Gemini: Empowering DISTED Students with Cutting-Edge AI

DISTED students from the School of Computing and Engineering recently had the chance to explore Google Gemini, one of the most advanced AI models currently shaping the tech world. The highlight was a workshop titled "Harnessing Advanced AI Capabilities in Flutter with Gemini," where students learnt how to integrate Google Gemini into Flutter, a mobile app development framework. This hands-on experience gave students the opportunity to design responsive applications powered by AI, making user experiences smarter and more intuitive. This session reflects the direction of the tech industry and the relevance of DISTED's computing curriculum. It was more than just an introduction to tools — it was a step into the future of mobile app development and AI integration. Students walked away with practical skills and fresh insight into how artificial intelligence is driving real-world innovation across multiple industries.

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



Adibah Binti Riduan Brings Data Science Expertise to DISTED College

We are delighted to welcome Adibah Binti Riduan as a Lecturer in the School of Computing and Engineering at DISTED College. Adibah has a Bachelor Degree in Computer Science, specialising in Intelligent Systems, she brings a solid background in computing, data science, and intelligent technologies. She has taught a range of subjects including Data Analysis with Python, Artificial Intelligence with Python, JavaScript, HTML/CSS, and block-based interactive programming. Known for her clear and accessible teaching style, Adibah creates a classroom environment where complex ideas become approachable, and students build confidence in their learning journey. Her passion lies in Data Science and AI education, and she is dedicated to empowering students through patient guidance, real-world relevance, and a belief that learning should be both meaningful and enjoyable. We look forward to the energy, expertise, and student-centred spirit Adibah brings to our academic community.

Raziah binti Ehia Mohd
 Human Resources &
 Administration



From DISTED to the Finance World: Jane Lim's Journey

Jane Lim's journey from DISTED College to a career in finance is a story of focus, curiosity, and consistent effort. Initially from the science stream, Jane transitioned smoothly into economics and finance at DISTED, drawn by her interest in how markets function. With the support of dedicated lecturers—especially her accounting tutor, Ms. Allen—she developed strong foundations and graduated with A*AAB in her A-Level. Jane appreciated the supportive campus culture, heritage setting, and Georgetown's vibrant food scene. Her academic success earned her a scholarship to the Chinese University of Hong Kong-Shenzhen (CUHKSZ), where she continued to thrive using the study habits formed at DISTED. She also took on leadership roles, notably as Vice President of the International Students' Association, which developed her communication and organisational skills. Now working as an Operations Analyst at OSTIRA in Penang, Jane enjoys the fast-paced nature of the finance industry and remains eager to keep learning. Reflecting on her DISTED years, she cherishes both academic and social experiences—from group study sessions to prom night memories. Her advice to students is clear: make the most of your time, take opportunities, and never stop learning. Passion and persistence, she believes, are key to long-term success. Checkout the full interview at DISTED College Website.



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

Some content in this issue was developed or enhanced using AI tools, with all material carefully reviewed and edited by our editorial team to ensure clarity, accuracy, and quality.

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