

Weekly

# DISTED COLLEGE

# Discourse

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## Disconnect During Earth Hour

On 25th March 2023 at 8.30 pm, DISTED College and Space Residences observed Earth Hour in a symbolic and well-coordinated total light switched off for 60 minutes at the Macalister Road campus and Lebuhr King, respectively.

The main aim of this event is to raise awareness about

climate change and demonstrate the commitment of the College to reducing its carbon footprint. Celebrating Earth Hour at an institution of higher learning like DISTED can be beneficial. For DISTED, this event will lead us towards our journey in supporting the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (UN-SDG). As a College, we are centres of learning, and celebrating Earth Hour can help raise awareness among students and staff about the importance of environmental sustainability and the need to act to combat climate change. Further, this symbolic act can encourage more people to participate in the event and positively impact the environment. Bringing the community together can create a sense of solidarity and inspire collective action.

Celebrating Earth Hour will also demonstrate DISTED's commitment to environmental sustainability and encourage students and faculty to integrate eco-friendly practices into their daily lives. It can also remind us that small actions can make a big difference in reducing carbon emissions. Additionally, this event can provide educational opportunities for students to learn about the impact of climate change, the importance of energy conservation, and ways to reduce their carbon footprint. It can also inspire research and innovation in the field of sustainability.

Celebrating Earth Hour at the College can be a meaningful way to raise awareness, encourage participation, demonstrate commitment, and provide educational opportunities for staff, students and the wider community.

Prof. Dr. Vikneswaran Nair  
President

## This Week Highlights

- Disconnect During Earth Hour
- Importance Of Creative Competition In Enriching Students' Learning Experience
- Charting Your Career Path at Keysight Technologies Malaysia
- Green Entrepreneurship
- DISTED's Alumni Journey in SRC
- Guest Lecturer from University of Essex, UK
- Collaboration with St. Nicholas, Penang



↑ PYDC - "Drunk Driving" Video Shooting Competition by Andrew Lee



← Winners of the "Pertandingan mencipta video pendek" kempen kesedaran sivik by MBPP



↑ Multimedia students Jonathan Cheah and Rovithren came 1st in the "Pertandingan mencipta video pendek" kempen kesedaran sivik by MBPP

## Importance Of Creative Competition In Enriching Students' Learning Experience

The evolution of competition is embedded in all living things. The top is occupied by the finest. In terms of education and careers, it is the same. Healthy competition helps students develop and prepare them for life, which is naturally competitive. There are numerous reasons why multimedia students should consider joining competitions in their field.

There are many compelling reasons to participate in competitions. Participating in competitions is an excellent way to get noticed for their work and show their skills to a larger audience. Industry experts frequently provide feedback and mentoring during competitions, which can be a beneficial learning opportunity and simultaneously get noticed by the experts. Competitions also offer opportunities to meet other students and professionals in the industry. Students can develop relationships and make contacts that may result in future work opportunities. Networking with their peers will be an

enriching experience for the students' learning experience. Participating in competitions may require students to step outside of their comfort zone. By participating, students can test their knowledge and creativity and challenge themselves to create their best work.

DISTED's School of Computing lecturers always encourage students to participate in related competitions, which can be a stepping stone to a successful career



Seethai Subramaniam  
Head of School of Computing



## Charting Your Career Path at Keysight Technologies Malaysia

*“ The capacity to learn is a gift; The ability to learn is a skill; The willingness to learn is a choice ”*

*... Brian Herbert*

Keysight Technologies Malaysia invited DISTED's students to attend a Career Fair at their premises on the 17th of March, 2023. The event was hosted by the Vice-President of Human Resources of Asia Pacific, Ms Angela Cheong. Twenty-five final-year students from Staffordshire University's Accounting and Finance and Marketing Management degree programmes, accompanied by their lecturers, attended the event.

Keysight Technologies offer three programmes with different duration of attachment for students to join during their semester break or for their internship placement. Fresh graduates can also join the programme. Some of their programmes include the Keysight Explorer, Keysight Internship and Keysight Graduate

Trainee. All these programmes allow students to gain some practical and hands-on work experience. Students will be integrated into a workplace with a proven buddy and mentor system. Further, they would be exposed to the latest technologies and internal job rotation programme.

According to Ms Angela Cheong, “You are here not by chance or by choice, but to make the impossible possible”.

From the trip, DISTED students gained insights into the work environment and opportunities that are open to them at Keysight Technologies. Students studying for Diploma in Computer Science and Bachelor degree at DISTED must undergo practical training. With DISTED's strong linkages with the industry players, the students will have a fulfilling educational journey before entering the working world

Fatin Alia Shahar  
Program Leader / Lecturer,  
School of Business & Hospitality



↑ DISTED students at the briefing while posing for the camera.

← DISTED students and staffs at Keysight Technologies Penang.



# See You TOMORROW!

## @ Malaysia Education Fair (MEF)

### 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023

11am - 6pm @ Setia SPICE Convention Centre



## Green Entrepreneurship

At DISTED, we believe education is beyond the traditional classroom method. The best way to learn is from those who have treaded the journey. As such, for the entrepreneurship development class, Calvin Chan, DISTED's Staffordshire University, Bachelor of Accounting and Finance alum from the class of 2018, was invited as the guest speaker to share his green entrepreneurship journey.

Calvin founded Green Hero in 2019. Green Hero focuses on solving the food waste problem through collaboration with business owners, corporations and volunteers. Since its inception, the

company has prevented 40,000 kg of food from landing in landfills. Food excess was channelled back into the system for consumption at a discounted price, benefiting those in need through food banks.

DISTED is so proud of the achievement of our alums, more so since one of the core values of DISTED is to take care of the environment. Through the sharing session, students gained insights into what green entrepreneurship is about and how they can consider venturing into social entrepreneurship to benefit the general society and take care of our environment.

DISTED students were also given a realistic preview of the ups and downs of becoming an entrepreneur, the everyday challenges an entrepreneur must face and the joy of the entrepreneurship journey. At the session's end, some students cited their interest in being part of the Green Hero team. DISTED hopes this sharing session will ignite the seed of green entrepreneurship in DISTED's students.

Elaine Chan Wai Kuen  
Senior Lecturer, School of Business and Hospitality



*Calvin Chan found his calling at 20 when he won the Penang Green Idol in 2016. His passion for environmentalism led him to set up his own Green Business, which made him speak at TEDx twice. He has also won the*

Calvin Chan, CEO of Green Hero (Image courtesy of New Straits Times)

*Malaysia Student Entrepreneur award from Entrepreneur Organisation, leading him to represent Malaysia in Macau and Singapore. Calvin started Green Hero as a student. Green Hero managed to rescue 51 meals in 2018 when it first started. In 2019, they saved close to 6000 meals; and during the pandemic 2020-2021, Green Hero, with their NGO partners, managed to rescue 800,000kg of food waste in Penang.*

Green Entrepreneurship sharing session with students



Green Entrepreneurship students and staff



## DISTED's Alumni Journey in SRC

I started my studies in Diploma in Accounting at DISTED College in 2020. Throughout my College journey, I gained a lot of knowledge which built a solid foundation to pursue my Bachelor of Science (Hons) in International Finance and Banking, a top-up course at Coventry University, UK. DISTED College has a similar syllabus and assessments to Coventry, so I could easily manage my studies. At Coventry, I widened my social circle. I had opportunities to meet new coursemates, friends and professors in the same field of study, and hence I could get their guidance when deciding on my future career after my studies.

Recalling my memorable time at DISTED three years ago, during Orientation Day, my seniors introduced all the clubs and societies. Learning more about the

Student Representative Council (SRC) piqued my interest. Thus, I underwent a rigorous interview session, which helped prepare me for the continuation of my studies and future career.

Joining SRC enriches my college life! It let me experience more than what I learned in the classroom. I get to know new friends from different faculties. We collaborated and organised events such as the Capture the Moment Photo Competition and Hanfu Calendar Model Search 2023. In SRC, I met Eleanor, who greatly influenced and inspired me. She is the president of the club. She was my mentor and friend. She handles things maturely, and I learned a lot from her.

Our SRC advisor, Mr Kelvin, organised a series of speech and communications

workshops for us to become competent emcees. I improved my public speaking throughout the sessions because I usually feel uncomfortable speaking in English in front of a large group of people. These workshops prepared me for my future career.

In summary, throughout my college life at DISTED, I gained considerable knowledge and soft skills, improving my abilities and confidence. I thank DISTED College for moulding me into the person I am today.

Samantha Yeoh Kai Xin  
- Diploma in Accounting





## Guest Lecturer from University of Essex, UK

Taking advantage of the visit by Dr Konstantinos Kalliris from the School of Law, University of Essex to Penang, DISTED's School of Pre-University Studies organised a lecture on the topic, "Criminal Law and Crime Prevention: A Reluctant Relationship". According to Dr Kalliris, "Criminal law is one of the most intriguing legal fields and one of the few areas of law that fascinate theorists and practitioners equally. It deals with human conduct

beyond acceptable social norms and is usually extremely harmful. For these reasons, it is sometimes described as 'applied moral philosophy': the law keeps everyone in line and punishes wrongdoers by inflicting them evil. However, despite its long history, retribution is not the only aim of criminal law. As with most things in life, prevention is better than treatment, so criminal punishment is also expected to prevent or reduce crime." The talk

explored how successful 'traditional' criminal punishment has been in this pursuit and how tools from other fields (criminology, economics, and psychology) have changed how we understand crime prevention and criminal law. The lecture was attended by lecturers and students from the A-levels and SACE international programmes.



↑ President with Ms Michelle Neoh and Dr Konstantinos Kalliris



↑ Dr Konstantinos Kalliris with the School of Pre-University Studies staff and students

## Collaboration with St. Nicholas, Penang

DISTED's School of Psychology established a new collaboration with St. Nicholas Penang, a non-profit organisation dedicated to training and serving the needs of blind individuals. During a recent visitation on 8th March 2023, an agreement was made to offer internship placements for psychology students. The collaboration provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain practical experience and develop essential skills in working with blind individuals. The students will learn valuable techniques and strategies for training and

supporting adult blind individuals. Further, the students will also develop essential communication, empathy, and problem-solving skills, which will be valuable assets in their future careers as psychologists. This collaboration will provide the opportunity for DISTED students to make an impact on the lives of blind individuals in the community



← DISTED School of Psychology staff with St. Nicholas staff