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Revitalising Tertiary Education Interest Among SPM School Leavers

Recent data from the Ministry of Education indicates a concerning trend: nearly half of the 2022 Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) students opted not to pursue further education. Instead, many are gravitating towards immediate employment, including roles as online influencers and e-hailing drivers. This trend is influenced by increased gig platform opportunities, the sway of social media, and a perception that academic achievement does not guarantee high-paying jobs.

Tertiary education, however, is pivotal for acquiring in-depth knowledge and critical skills for future careers. It supplements textbook learning with practical skills and keeps pace with evolving curricula, thus preparing students for a competitive job market. Notably, many high-demand professions require tertiary education. Beyond professional growth, it fosters personal development, honing problem-solving, critical thinking, and research skills.

Furthermore, higher education expands job opportunities, acting as a strategic investment for long-term career goals. It equips individuals with cognitive skills that increase productivity, making them attractive to employers.

Addressing the declining interest in tertiary education requires a multifaceted approach. The

同时, 课程也需要跟上不断发展的就业市场, 在学术追求和未来的职业机会之间建立明确的联系。因此, 高等教育机构 (HEIs) 需要更大的灵活性, 简化一些过多的繁文缛节, 并加快推出对学生与市场接轨的现代课程。

通过这些共同的努力, 希望能够扭转目前的趋势, 鼓励更多的学生接受高等教育。

government must ensure accessibility to higher education through affordable options like subsidies, scholarships, and student loans for students opting to continue their pursuit of higher education in public or private higher education institutions (HEI). Nurturing a passion for learning from an early age is crucial. It falls to parents, teachers, and peers to instil the importance of education in children, which can be achieved through interactive teaching methods, fostering a spirit of discovery, and highlighting the long-term benefits of education.

Simultaneously, the curriculum needs to keep pace with the evolving job market, drawing a clear link between academic pursuits and future career opportunities. Thus, Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) need greater flexibility to roll out industry-relevant programmes by easing some of the excessive red-tapes and expedite the launch of contemporary, market-aligned courses beneficial for students and the job market.

Through these concerted efforts, it is hoped the current trend can be reversed, encouraging more students to pursue tertiary education.

Come discover DISTED College Open Day on 5th to 6th August 2023, 10 am to 4 pm, at our campus in Macalister Road.

Prof. Dr. Vikneswaran Nair
President 院长

欢迎参加2023年8月5日至6日 (上午10点至下午4点) 在我们位于Macalister Road校区举行的立达学院开放日。

(Mandarin Translator, Ms. Tan Pei Shi, Lecturer, School of Business and Hospitality)



重振 SPM 毕业生对高等教育的兴趣

根据教育部最近的数据显示, 一个令人担忧的趋势是: 近一半的2022年马来西亚大学会考 (SPM) 学生选择不继续深造, 而是转向直接就业, 其中包括成为线上社交媒体影响者和电召司机。这种趋势受到了逐渐增加的零工平台机会、社交媒体的影响, 以及对学业成就不能保证高薪工作的看法。

然而, 高等教育对于获取深入的知识和未来职业所需的关键技能至关重要。它以实用技能补充课本学习, 而且与不断演进的课程保持同步, 从而为学生在竞争激烈的就业市场中做好准备。值得注意的是, 许多高需求的职业需要高等教育。除了专业成长, 它还促进个人发展, 培养解决问题的能力、批判性思维和研究技能。

此外, 高等教育扩大了就业机会, 成为实现长期职业目标的战略性投资。它赋予个人认知技能, 提高生产力, 使他们在雇主眼中更具吸引力。

解决高等教育兴趣下降的问题需要采取多方面的方法。政府必须为选择继续在公立或私立高等教育机构 (HEI) 接受高等教育的学生提供补贴、奖学金和学生贷款等负担得起的选择, 确保他们获得高等教育的机会。从小培养对学习的热爱至关重要。家长、老师和同伴有责任向孩子灌输教育的重要性, 这可以通过互动的教学方式来实现, 培养探索精神和强调高等教育的长期好处来实现。



OPEN DAY

5 - 6 AUG. '23

10am - 4pm

340, Macalister Road,
Penang

Greenhouse Effect & Global Warming: Earth's Climate Challenge

The Earth's atmosphere maintains a steady temperature through the greenhouse effect, a natural process involving greenhouse gases. Solar energy, consisting of infrared, visible light, and UV radiation, enters the atmosphere. Ozone molecules in the stratosphere absorb high-frequency UV radiation. About 30% of solar radiation is reflected into space by various elements on Earth's surface, while the troposphere absorbs 22%, and 48% warms the Earth's surface.

When the Earth's surface absorbs solar energy, around 17% is reradiated as thermal infrared radiation. While 12% of this radiation escapes directly into space, approximately 5% is absorbed by greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide, water vapour, methane, and nitrous oxide. These greenhouse gases then reradiate thermal energy, warming the atmosphere and the Earth's surface. This natural greenhouse effect maintains a relatively stable average temperature of approximately 15°C, sustaining life on Earth.

However, human activities, such as burning fossil fuels, deforestation, and agriculture, have significantly increased greenhouse gas

concentrations, particularly carbon dioxide and water vapour. This rise traps more thermal energy in the atmosphere, preventing it from escaping into space. Consequently, a thermal imbalance occurs, and a new equilibrium is established with a higher average temperature, resulting in global warming.

Global warming has far-reaching consequences for the environment, ecosystems, and human societies. It intensifies extreme weather events, alters precipitation patterns, and leads to rising sea levels. These changes impact biodiversity, agriculture, and water resources, threatening human well-being and disrupting ecosystems.

Addressing global warming requires reducing greenhouse gas emissions and transitioning to renewable energy

sources. Governments, industries, and individuals must adopt sustainable practices and invest in green technologies to mitigate the effects of climate change. International cooperation and climate policies are essential to combat global warming and protect the planet for future generations.

In conclusion, the greenhouse effect, facilitated by greenhouse gases, maintains a stable temperature on Earth, supporting life as we know it. However, human-induced increases in greenhouse gas concentrations have caused global warming, with far-reaching consequences for the environment and society. Urgent and collective action is necessary to address this challenge and secure a sustainable future.

These fundamentals are taught to the student in Pre-University Studies at DISTED College.

Dr Teo Soon Beng
Principal Lecturer, School of Pre-University Studies



Exploring Further Mathematics: Challenges and Benefits in A-Level Education

Further Mathematics is a subject offered in the A-level programme, and students often inquire about its nature and significance. In the context of the Cambridge A-level programme, Further Mathematics (FM) is an extension of the standard Mathematics (M) course, requiring mastery of foundational mathematical skills before proceeding to more advanced topics.

The FM course comprises AS and A2 exams, covering topics like Further Pure Maths, Mechanics, and Probability and Statistics. It aims to develop a set of transferable skills, including logical thinking, independent problem-solving, and mathematical proficiency. However, since FM assumes no prior knowledge of basic M skills, students need to work diligently to grasp these fundamentals at an accelerated pace, which can

be challenging.

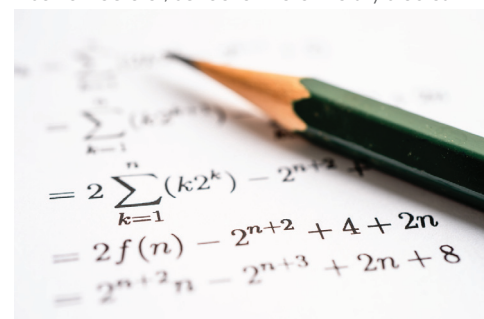
Despite the difficulty, excelling in FM brings a sense of accomplishment and enhances students' prospects in applying for tertiary education, especially in fields like engineering and economics. Additionally, FM provides a broader understanding of mathematical ideas, particularly in applied areas like statistics and mechanics, which benefits students pursuing science and technical courses at the university level.

FM presents non-routine problems that demand higher thinking skills. Students must deeply understand the problem, identify relevant information, and devise innovative approaches since standard methods may not suffice. Consequently, FM fosters confidence and analytical abilities, empowering students to tackle complex problems in other subjects and in their future

studies and lives.

In conclusion, students considering Further Mathematics in the A-level programme should be well-prepared for the challenge. While demanding, FM offers numerous benefits, including advanced mathematical proficiency, increased opportunities in higher education, and enhanced problem-solving skills applicable to various domains.

Chan Ka Kieng
Senior Lecturer, School of Pre-University Studies



BizSquad.Co Goes Rock Climbing!

Last month, BizSquad.Co members and club advisors embarked on an exhilarating team-building trip to Project Rock IKEA Batu Kawan.

This remarkable event was organised entirely by the students, marking BizSquad.Co's first successful endeavour with their new members and committees. The team comprised students from various diploma programs, including Business Studies, Accounting, and Information Technology.

The experience was truly astonishing for most participants, as most had never attempted rock climbing before. Despite this, both students and even some club advisors managed to conquer the challenging rock walls, reaching impressive heights. The dedication of the club advisors was evident, even though they understandably felt fatigued after about an hour.

On the other hand, the students were filled with boundless energy and fearlessly tackled the rock wall

attractions with enthusiasm. They continued climbing for approximately three hours before taking a well-deserved break for dinner. Remarkably, some students even returned for a second round of climbing!

Overall, the Rock-Climbing event, hosted by the new BizSquad.Co Rock members was a resounding success. The experience has motivated the students, and they are eager to plan more exciting events once their final exams conclude in July.

Yee Tianle

Lecturer, School of Business and Hospitality



↑ Students climbing and belaying each other through trust and teamwork

◀ Group photo of students and advisors from different diploma programs

Laser Engraving Technology

Laser engraving machines have become popular for their ability to mark images and symbols on various materials. They offer advantages like low operational costs, portability, and user-friendliness. Unlike conventional methods, laser engraving does not require inks or tool bits, ensuring longer-lasting results. The setup includes a laser, a controller, and a surface, with a computer system driving laser head movements, allowing for automation and free programming.

During the process, the laser beam applies heat to the material, resulting in colour changes, contrast, or material evaporation/burning, creating a permanent and resistant engraving. To ensure optimal results, the laser's focal point should align with the surface. The engraving process involves creating a layout in a graphics programme, connecting the machine to a power source, and sending the graphic to the laser through a driver.

Laser engraving machines efficiently

remove material, converting light energy into heat. They work effectively on non-reflective materials like wood and plastic, allowing for various engraved patterns by programming the controller. The laser beam's trace is carefully controlled for consistent material removal depth.

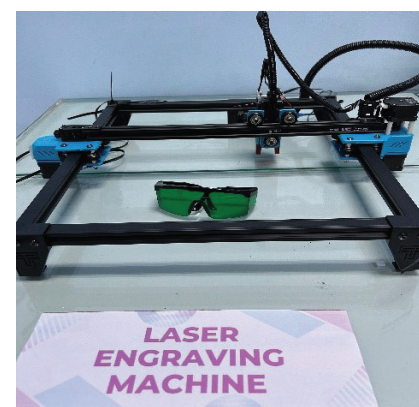
In conclusion, laser engraving machines have revolutionised handcraft and gift-making industries. Their accessibility and user-friendly features make them essential tools for artisans and individuals seeking to personalise creations with intricate designs.

At Disted College, students explore laser engraving, nurturing personal growth and career opportunities. Hands-on learning develops technical skills and creative expression, leading to unique artwork and personalised gifts. Entrepreneurship prospects arise in manufacturing, jewellery, and electronics. Laser engraving's eco-friendliness aligns with sustainability, promoting a

well-rounded educational experience at Disted College.

Navitha Gunalan

Lecturer, School of Computing & Engineering



A Journey of Growth and Determination

The past two weeks have been a whirlwind of emotions as I participated in the Hong Kong and Macau Judo Competitions. It was a bitter-sweet experience filled with memorable moments. I faced challenges and disappointments, shedding frustrated tears, but I also learned valuable lessons and achieved personal progress.

In both competitions, I fought to the bronze medal matches, only to be met by formidable opponents from Australia and Mongolia. They proved to be strong adversaries, and the fights were challenging and closely contested. Although I did not secure the bronze medals and ended up with a fifth-place ranking, I take pride in my effort and how far I've come in this journey.

I am delighted to have earned a world ranking of 96th on the IJF (International Judo Federation)

website, and that serves as a testament to my dedication and hard work in this sport. These competitions have been a tremendous learning experience, and I am grateful for the opportunity to represent my country on an international platform.

Moving forward, I will not let this setback deter me. On August 19th-20th, I will participate in a significant competition in Johore to determine my national ranking in Malaysia. I will use the lessons I have learned from the previous competitions to improve and strengthen myself. My goal is to return even stronger and become the best version of myself compared to my past performances.

I am determined



to keep pushing myself and continue representing my country until the end. With the support of my coaches, teammates, and loved ones, I am confident that I can face any challenge that comes my way. These experiences, both wins and losses, will shape me into a more resilient and skilled judoka, and I eagerly anticipate the next chapter of my judo journey.

Delwina Cheah Kay Yan
Student from Bachelor of Psychology



All-Inclusive Fun Fest Triumphs

DISTED's School of Psychology presents the dedicated student organisers' reflections on the resounding success of the All-Inclusive Fun Fest charity event!

It was an enlightening journey for Amanda Loh Suet Yie, leading a formidable team of 17 with cohesive collaboration and the support of 12 generous vendor partners, raising an astounding RM4331.28 for Lions REACH. Ooi Jing Hann expressed a kaleidoscope of emotions after

months of meticulous planning and the invaluable support of esteemed lecturers, culminating in a profoundly rewarding experience. Wayne Chan's excellence in paperwork administration, effective vendor communication, and the team's unwavering support played a crucial role in delivering a splendid event that cultivated lasting friendships.

With heartfelt gratitude to everyone involved, the School of Psychology embraces the spirit of inclusivity and

looks forward to future endeavours with unwavering enthusiasm.

Soo Hoo Pei Ying
Lecturer, School of Psychology



Transformative Growth: My Journey as an SRC Member

Being part of this year's Student Representative Council (SRC) has been an incredible experience that positively impacted various aspects of my life. One crucial lesson I learned was the value of teamwork, extending beyond the SRC into daily life. Collaborating with fellow council members to organise events strengthened my teamwork and communication skills, teaching me to respect and value others' opinions. Before joining the SRC, I

struggled with stage fright and timidity. However, representing the SRC during the recent orientation day significantly improved my presentation and self-esteem. This experience made me realise the importance of effective communication in my personal development as a student. Apart from academic achievements, the SRC taught me the significance of expressing ideas and advocating for students' voices. It provided a platform to address critical issues and opinions, making me a more well-rounded student aware of campus happenings and organising meaningful events

that bring students together. Being an SRC member also allowed me to form meaningful friendships with students from diverse backgrounds and courses. This journey has been transformative, helping me develop essential life skills, boost self-confidence, and build meaningful connections. I am grateful for this opportunity and eager to continue growing and positively contributing to the student community.

Zoe Lim Li-Shan
Student from SACE