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马来西亚对高等教育的重视：面向未来的战略投资

马来西亚最近在 "2023 Belanjawan" 计划中为教育拨款705亿马币，其中153亿马币专用于高等教育部 (MOHE)，这凸显了马来西亚对高等教育的战略重视。这一承诺不仅仅是数字上的投入，它强调了国家对未来的愿景。

这项资金强调了几个关键方向：

- 提高质量 - 4.36 亿马币的巨额资金将用于提升公立高等教育机构的设施。此举旨在营造一个追求卓越和创新的环境。
- 数码连接 - 数码进步是一个优先事项，为 MyREN 计划预留了 3500 万马币。这项计划在加强高等院校的互联网连接，提高研究效率，促进全球合作，并确保现代学习体验。
- 研究与发展 - 一笔可观的拨款，4.28 亿马币已分配给研发活动。马来西亚的目标很明确：走在科技进步的前沿，倡导创造和创新。

预算还反映了对现代就业市场的敏锐认识。与跨国公司的合作项目旨在将学术追求与行业需求相结合，确保所提供的教育既与时俱进又切合实际，从而提高毕业生的就业能力。

Malaysia's Focus on Higher Education: A Strategic Investment for the Future

Malaysia's recent allocation of RM70.5 billion for education in *Belanjawan* 2023, with RM15.3 billion dedicated to the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE), highlights its strategic emphasis on higher education. This commitment is not just about numbers but it emphasizes the nation's vision for its future.

The funding underscores several pivotal aspects:

- Quality Enhancement - A substantial RM436 million is earmarked for upgrading facilities at public tertiary institutions. This move aims to foster an environment that champions both excellence and innovation.
- Digital Connectivity - Digital advancement is a priority, with RM35 million set aside for the Malaysia Research and Education Network (MyREN) programme. This initiative is designed to enhance internet connectivity at tertiary institutions, enabling efficient research, facilitating global collaboration, and ensuring a contemporary learning experience.
- Research & Development - An ambitious RM428 million has been allocated to R&D activities. Malaysia's aim is clear: to be at the forefront of scientific and technological advancement, championing creativity and innovation.

The budget also reflects a keen understanding of the modern job market. Collaborative ventures with multinational corporations intend to align academic pursuits with industry needs, ensuring the education

provided is both current and practical, leading to enhanced employability for graduates.

政府也没有忽视财政方面的挑战。例如提供对 PTPTN 贷款还款的折扣以及提供延期付款选项，展示了政府致力于让更多人接受高等教育。这对于来自低收入家庭的学生来说尤为重要，与马来西亚的包容性愿景不谋而合。

Belanjawan 2023 对高等教育的关注不仅仅是一项学术活动。它体现了一个更大的目标——国家增长、社会转型和人力资本发展。它证明了马来西亚致力于为其公民的繁荣未来做好准备，培养卓越文化，塑造国家的增长和创新轨迹。

同样的，立达学院也致力于通过大量投资来改善

其设施、课程和资源，从而不断实现转型。这些努力都是为了营造一个培养卓越教学和学习体验的环境。

Financial challenges have not been overlooked. Provisions like discounts on PTPTN loan repayments and offering deferments showcase the government's dedication to making higher education more accessible. This is especially crucial for students from low-income backgrounds, aligning perfectly with Malaysia's vision of inclusivity.

Belanjawan 2023's focus on higher education is not just an academic venture. It encapsulates a larger goal - national growth, societal transformation, and human capital development. It serves as a testament to Malaysia's commitment to preparing its citizens for a prosperous future, fostering a culture of excellence, and shaping the nation's trajectory towards growth and innovation.

Similarly, DISTED College is also committed to continuously undergo a transformative journey marked by substantial investments to enhance its facilities, programmes, and resources. These endeavours are geared towards fostering an environment that nurtures exceptional teaching and learning experiences.

Prof. Dr. Vikneswaran Nair

President 院长



Celebrating Remarkable Achievements: DISTED's Cambridge-A-Level Top Achievers of 2023

An Inspiring Triumph of Dedication and Excellence

With resounding applause, DISTED College proudly honours its exceptional achievers of the Cambridge-A-Level (May/June 2023) Examination. Their remarkable success stands as an inspiration to all aspiring for greatness, a testament to their efforts and the institution's dedication.

DISTED College has consistently nurtured and propelled A-Level Top Achievers year after year; 2023 is no exception. We proudly present a new cohort of High Achievers who have showcased unparalleled excellence:

- A remarkable 100% pass rate in core subjects, including Biology, Business, English Language, Further Mathematics, and Mathematics

- An impressive 38% of students achieved straight A grades (A* & A)

- A commendable 49% attaining a cumulative total of A grades (A* & A)

Enrollment is now open for the September 2023 Intake of Cambridge-A-Level at DISTED College. The doors are open for those who wish to embark on a transformative educational journey, creating success stories that will continue to inspire future generations.



Chew Bao Ern
A*, A*, A*, A



Lim Jie Ying
A*, A*, A



Teoh Yun Xin
A*, A, A, A



Choo Zi Yu
A*, A, A, A

Chew Shao Qian – A, A, A, A
Frances Khor Wanqi – A, A, A
Song Sihyun – A, A, A

Reflecting on Disted: A Journey of Self-Discovery

As an English teacher, I'm passionate about nurturing my students' creative writing skills. Creative expression, like writing poems, provides a unique outlet for their literary talents. Here are two short poems from a new student

(Cambridge A-Level English) at DISTED College. These poems beautifully reflect her evolving experience, transitioning from introversion to embracing new perspectives. DISTED's positive influence helped her bloom in

just three weeks. Other students might relate.

Ms Jenny Chew
Lecturer, School of Pre-University Studies

Don't Mind Me Yet (one week into college)

*Don't mind me
I'm just an outsider looking in
Though the lanyard hangs around my neck
And my name is printed clear and bold
I cannot call myself one of you
At least, not yet.*

*Don't mind me
I'm just a spectator in this room
Though the books and papers are prepared
And the lecturers see my raised hand
I cannot say I am their student
At least, not yet.*

*Don't mind me
I'm just a lone person sitting by
Though lunch is shared with many others
And inside jokes are exchanged with smiles
I cannot claim I'm part of their clique
At least, not yet.*

*Don't mind me
I'm just looking how to best fit in
Though I may misstep or make mistakes
And my attempts seem to bear no fruit
I can keep trying, for my college life
At least, this one.*

Simple, Really (third week of college)

*It's simple, really
To fall in step like a military man
Whose routine is dreary workdays
Endless lectures and tasteless coffee
It's complicated sometimes
To walk outside with pep in your step
Only to see blank faces all around
Like their souls have been sucked right out.*

*It's simple, really
To dread the books and papers stacked
High as mountains, draining your soul
Inescapable even in your dreams
It's complicated sometimes
To flip open to a page of prose
And feel the words as if written by your own
hand
But everyone just stares like you are mad.*

*It's getting repetitive
Schooldays were boring, and life was hard!
But what if, just what if
I don't want it to stay that way?
It's in my mind now
How my days are coloured with inspiring
words
Instead of the lifeless black print
On too-clean white sheets by the hundreds.*

*It's getting repetitive
In school I hated my teachers and awful
classmates*

*But what if, just what if
I don't want to stay that way
I don't want to be alone again?
It's in my mind now
Hours spent gabbing in comfortable company
A shoulder or two to lean, cry on, friends to
laugh with
Whether that shoulder is a lecturer's or a
friend's*

*It's simple, really
To lose yourself in the flow of students
Chattering endlessly about hopes for the day
Walking with firm steps to college
It's easy, so easy
To smile as you enter a new classroom
Because now with new friends by your side
All your hardships will not be faced alone.*

*It's simple, really
To fall in love with the knowledge you pick up
Dull words and droning voices turning
Into a story you wish would never end
It's easy, too easy
To lose yourself in this life at college
Because this life is a new exciting one
And now you have the power to make
dreams come true.*

Poems by student June Cheah
(Cambridge A-Level)

Empowering Future Developers: React Native Mobile App Workshop at DISTED College

On August 5, 2023, DISTED's School of Computing and Engineering organised a Mobile Application Workshop targeted at students from Penang Chinese Girls' High School (PCGHS). The event hosted 22 students and two accompanying teachers, spanning three and a half hours in the newly inaugurated CoL²abz, where PCGHS students accessed DISTED College's Alienware desktops.

The workshop aimed to introduce the high school participants to programming concepts and mobile app development frameworks. Central to the event was a comprehensive exploration of the "React Native" programming framework, renowned for its ability to develop cross-platform mobile apps adaptable to both iOS and Android systems. Powered by Facebook, React Native utilises JavaScript and React for streamlined app creation.

Given the participants' computer science backgrounds, the learning curve for mastering React Native was notably manageable. The software arsenal encompassed Visual Studio Code Integrated Software Environment, alongside supplementary tools like *node.js*, facilitating server-side JavaScript

code execution.

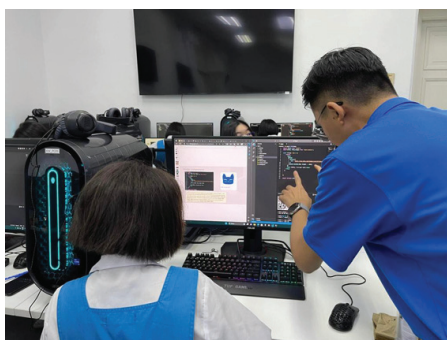
Throughout the workshop, the students were guided through React Native package installation via the Visual Studio terminal. Best practices for coding React Native apps, emphasising a stub-based method, were imparted. Familiarity with "Expo," a comprehensive toolkit optimising the creation, deployment, and management of cross-platform mobile apps using JavaScript and React, was also nurtured. Downloading and installing "Expo Go" from the App Store or Google Play Store enabled real-time wireless previews on actual devices, reducing reliance on standalone app builds during development, contingent on a consistent internet connection.

Materials were dispensed efficiently, empowering students to tackle

coding tasks autonomously. The workshop culminated with a demonstration of the finalised app, named "Celebrity Subscription Page."

Throughout the workshop, the eagerness and adaptability of the young participants in absorbing new programming knowledge were evident. Their adeptness at troubleshooting, brainstorming, and exploration showcased their readiness to overcome challenges. The workshop left a favourable impression on DISTED College, highlighting the institution's commitment to nurturing emerging talents in the tech realm.

Eng Yee Wei
Lecturer, School of Computing & Engineering



The Power of Nonverbal Communication in Creating Impactful Presentations

On August 5th, 2023, DISTED College hosted an event titled "Discover Your Future at DISTED." The occasion brought together 24 enthusiastic DISTED students from various academic disciplines. Within this event, the School of Psychology took charge of a segment focused on "Delivering Impactful Presentations," with a specific emphasis on the significance of body language. Interestingly, even some of the academically outstanding, straight-As students were observed to face challenges in delivering compelling presentations.

Exploring the depths of effective communication reveals its multifaceted nature that transcends mere verbal expression. The art of

adeptly conveying ideas, captivating an audience, and exuding confidence hinges not exclusively upon the presentation's content but also on the nonverbal signals accompanying it.

In the context of presentations, spoken words constitute just a fraction of the entire puzzle. Often, students possess a wealth of knowledge to share, but their ability to sustain audience attention can significantly affect the impact of their efforts. This is precisely where the significance of body language becomes evident, acting as a pivotal factor in projecting confidence and fostering audience engagement. Techniques such as strategic hand gestures, sustained eye contact, and dynamic movements

are vital tools in this process.

In summary, this programme served as an avenue through which students could grasp the intricacies of body language and seamlessly incorporate them into their presentation strategies. In doing so, they tapped into their full potential to leave a lasting impression on their audience.

Thiresyinie Tamil Chelvam
Lecturer, School of Psychology



Guest Lecture by University of Bristol and AUG Student Services

Navigating university applications can be overwhelming for students entering tertiary education. To ease their journey into international education, DISTED organised a seminar with AUG Student Services and the University of Bristol.

The session focused on UK university applications for A-Level and SACEI program students. Ms. Amy Chang from AUG Student Services explained application deadlines, types, and the

UCAS system. Ms. Jenny Fam from the University of Bristol shared tips on crafting a compelling personal statement, using interactive quiz questions to gauge understanding.

The seminar equipped students with crucial insights, empowering them to approach university applications with confidence and clarity.



Dr Lum Li Sean

Head, Academic Affairs & School of Business & Hospitality



Empowering New Beginnings: DISTED College's Insightful Orientation Journey

On August 10, DISTED College orchestrated an orientation programme to welcome a fresh wave of students and initiate them into the college environment. The day began at Crosby Hall, where the CoL²abz team warmly welcomed the newcomers, setting the tone for their educational journey ahead.

An essential part of the programme was the introduction to the Student Representative Council (SRC) of DISTED College. This informative session illuminated the advantages of SRC membership, offering insights into the role of student leaders and imparting essential life skills and competencies.

A campus tour led by the SRC members marked the pinnacle of the orientation. Students explored vital spots like the DISTED CoL²abz, classrooms, library, cafeteria, Heritage Hall, and various crucial administrative departments like Finance, Examinations, and Academic Support. This immersive experience familiarised students with the diverse facets of college life.

After the insightful tour, students regrouped at CoL²abz for a pivotal PTPN briefing, which expanded their awareness of available financial support. This knowledge made them better equipped to navigate their academic pursuits.

As the orientation concluded, the College expressed optimism that the students left with a comprehensive understanding of their new academic home and an enthusiasm to embrace their journey at the institution.

Student Representative Council



DISTED's Music Club Audition

The Student Affairs Room resonated with the harmonious melodies as the DISTED Music Club orchestrated its inaugural auditions last Monday. The air was charged with diverse talents, with performers showcasing their mastery of bass, guitars, and keyboards. Each note echoed with passion and enthusiasm, painting a vibrant tapestry of musical expressions.

The audition stage became a canvas for performers to imbue their music with soulful energy. The performances radiated with an unmistakable passion, a testament to each artist's deep connection with their craft. The prevailing camaraderie among existing club members infused the audition environment with a warm and welcoming aura, underlining the club's essence.

Drawing from my experience as the former president of the Music Club, this is a gateway for music enthusiasts to expand their horizons. Beyond the personal growth nurtured within our club's embrace lies the prospect of collaborative artistry. Within our community, members unearth their potential and synergise their talents, crafting harmonious symphonies as a united ensemble.

Seize this golden occasion to become an integral part of DISTED's Music Club. Embrace the chance to cultivate your musical gifts, forge connections with kindred spirits, and contribute to a

harmonious legacy that resonates far beyond the audition room.

Hari Priya A/P Elangkovan
Cambridge A-Level

