

# The Engineering Club Outreach

YOUNG ENGINEERS SECTION

**THE** 'Engineering Club Outreach' was successfully organised on 13 & 14 October 2012 through the joint-effort of the Student Section of the Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM) and a team of Universiti Teknologi Petronas (UTP) students. The objective of the event is to establish the first high school Engineering Club in Malaysia. The Engineering Club was launched in Sekolah Menengah Teknikal Kuala Lumpur (SMTKL) by IEM during the closing ceremony of Engineering Invention and Innovation Exhibition (EINIX) 2012 which was an event held to promote the Engineering Profession to the public through the exhibition of inventions and products of the undergraduates from local universities.

The idea of launching this club in schools is to increase the engagement and involvement of students in hands-on activities as currently activities organised by schools are considerably insufficient for students to utilise the knowledge gained. The Engineering Club helps expose students to more challenges and provides them the opportunity to gain practical experience through thought provoking games and activities related to engineering. In the course of time, the students will be adequately trained for their future and will be able to contribute significantly to our country's development as part of the efforts to achieve Vision 2020.



This Engineering Club is the very first Engineering Club established in secondary schools in Malaysia with the aim to expose the students to the field of engineering. On 13 October 2012, a talk on the introduction of engineering was given by Engr. Mah Way Sheng, the Chairman of Young Engineers Section, The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (IEM-YES).

The event continued with the selection of committee members of the Engineering Club among students of SMTKL. Students who were regarded to possess leadership qualities were nominated and voted by the students from SMTKL. The Annual General Meeting involving the Chairman of IEM-UTP Student Section, Sdr. Muhammed Nasrullah bin Annuar and the newly-elected committee members was held to discuss about the management of the newly-established Engineering Club.

To spice up the event, a robotic class was held on the first night of the event. The class was conducted by the members of Petrobots, Universiti Teknologi Petronas, and the purpose of the class was to educate students on the basic knowledge of robotics. The group of students who



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won the game had the opportunity to present a short sketch during the closing ceremony of Engineering Club Outreach.

On the second day of the event, the committee members of the Engineering Club Outreach had conducted ECOLYMPIC 2012, which was a competition to interact with the students from SMTKL. ECOLYMPIC 2012 is an acronym for "Engineering Club Olympics". The ECOLYMPIC 2012 comprised three different Science-related games, especially Physics. In "Airborne Deployment", participants were required to design and construct a parachute whereas in "Seconds from Disaster", they had to construct a bridge using the materials provided within the given time. Apart from that, the game entitled, "Encapsulated Impact Resistor" required the participants to utilise the given materials to build an egg pod which can withstand the impact of the fall when the egg is released from an elevated area.

Medals and prizes were presented to the champion, first runner-up and second runner-up for each game and the team "Tribal" won the overall championship. Besides the participants of the games and activities, the closing ceremony of Engineering Club Outreach was attended by Ir. Choo Kok Beng, the Deputy President of IEM, Engr. Mah Way Sheng, Chairman of Young Engineers Section, IEM, Mr. Yap Tho Huat, Senior Assistant Co-Curriculum Department of SMTKL, Sdr. Muhammed Nasrullah Annuar, Chairman of IEM-UTP Student Section, and Sdr. Abdul Sharib Mohamed, Vice Chairman of IEM-UTP Student Section.

According to Ir. Choo Kok Beng, SMTKL was the first school in Malaysia which had been selected to launch an Engineering Club. Ir. Choo also urged other universities to organise more relevant events to benefit the students. He also expressed his warmest gratitude to the teachers, committees of UTP and the students from SMTKL for the success of this event.

Launching of Engineering Clubs in schools is definitely an excellent programme as it not only offer students better exposure to the world of engineering, but also helps them to acquire practical knowledge and skills. All in all, students are encouraged to take the initiative and participate in activities organised by similar clubs or associations such as the Engineering Club in order to equip themselves for the future. ■

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