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Sharing Painting Experiences with Artists and the Community



Assistant Professor Dr Perline Siek Hwee Ling is currently working at the Institute of Creative Arts and Design (ICAD) at UCSI University. The focus of her research is on visual communication and cultural design studies. She has presented her creative outputs in national and international exhibitions. She has published research articles in journals and international conferences. Recently, she has been appointed as the Deputy Director and Head of Research at ICAD.

In late 2023, Dr Perline invited four of our UCSI postgraduate students (Wang Ying, Wang Shi Yuan, Xie Zhi Jie, and Yen Xin) to participate together in an exhibition of Malaysian professional painters. The theme was "Timeless Memories @InnerJoy Art Gallery, PJ, Selangor".

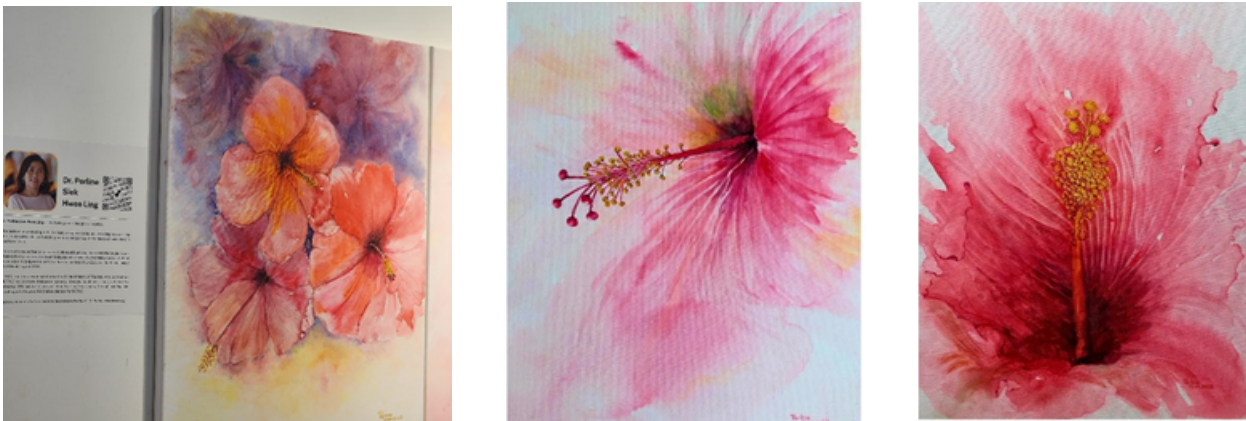


Figure 1. Bunga Raya Series, watercolour on Canvas, 45 cm x 60cm, Artist: Perline Siek.



Figure 2. Painting by ICAD's PG students, Wang Ying, Wang Shi Yuan.



Figure 3. Painting by ICAD and SAB's PG students, Xie Zhi Jie, Yen Xin.

Sharing the experience of painting is a very rich practice in the art world because it fosters creativity, fosters community, enhances ingenuity, and promotes personal growth. First and foremost, we foster a vibrant sense of community and camaraderie among our artists. Through these interactions, artists not only exhibit their work, but also immerse themselves in the different techniques, styles, and perspectives of their peers, encouraging them to think about their artistic journeys and identities. This process of self-reflection often deepens our understanding of our unique artistic voice and direction, thereby fostering personal growth. Moreover, this exchange of ideas serves as a source of inspiration and stimulates creative development and experimentation. Beyond personal development, collaboration, and networking opportunities are encouraged. Through exchanges, artists build meaningful connections with other artists and lay the foundation for future collaborations, exhibitions, and professional venture possibilities. These connections serve as invaluable assets for advancing one's career within the art world, opening doors to new possibilities and avenues for artistic expression.

Malaysia's mainstream media newspaper, The Star, reported on the exhibition on 9 September 2023. The opening guest, Hesmail Fazni Ahmed Faisal, Deputy Director of the National Cultural and Art Product Development of the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture said in the interview: "...whose unique perspectives enrich our understanding of timeless memory on a global scale," "They (artists) skillfully conveyed their perspectives on multiculturalism in Malaysia and shared their experiences, reflecting the universal theme of uniting all".

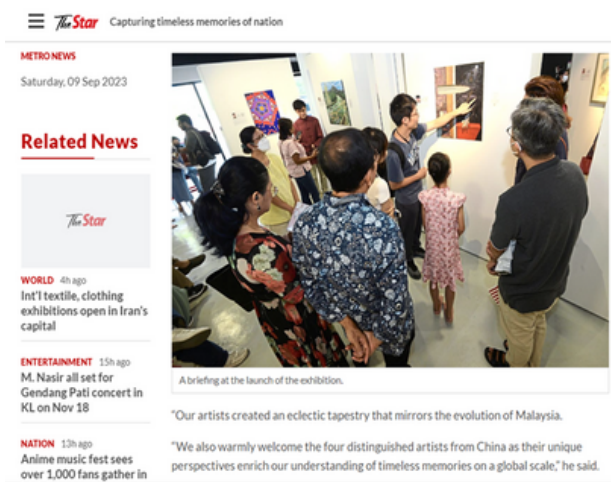


Figure 4. ICAD's PG student Wang Shiyuan shared his work with viewers.

During the exhibition, Dr Perline was invited to an interactive art session with the art community. The discussion topic was "Artist Career Growth: Overcoming Challenges & Maintaining Passion" (Figures 5).



Figure 5. Art talks on 8 October 2023.

Traditional Martial Arts for All (TMA4ALL)



Professor Dr Richard Peter Bailey

Prof Bailey is a Professor of Education at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Liberal Arts (FOSSLA) and Deputy Dean (Research and Postgraduate Studies) at UCSI University. He works at the interface between human science and philosophy. He is also a leading martial arts teacher, and a former international competitor in Judo, Sambo, Karate, Kickboxing, and Muay Thai. He was included in Stanford University's list of top scientists in the world for Clinical Medicine, Sport and Exercise Sciences, and Education.



Dr Sri Azra Attan

Dr Azra is the Head of Department of Mass Communication at UCSI University's Faculty of Social Sciences and Liberal Arts. With a PhD in Human Communication, she is dedicated to advancing knowledge and guiding students in their academic pursuits. Known for her expertise and commitment to excellence, Dr Attan is respected for her leadership in shaping the field of Mass Communication education.



Dr Nadia Samsudin

Dr Nadia is an accomplished academic and researcher at UCSI University. She specialises in Applied Statistics in public health and currently works as a post-doctoral research fellow in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Liberal Arts. Her expertise and contributions play a crucial role in advancing knowledge and improving public health outcomes.

Introduction

Martial arts are popular activities for people of different ages and backgrounds. There is increasing evidence that they can also make significant and distinctive contributions to our physical and psychological health and well-being. So, how can we ensure the maximum benefit to the greatest number of people? That is the goal of a new, international project, funded by the European Commission: Traditional Martial Arts for All (TMA4ALL; Project 101133802).

TMA4ALL is a response to the frequent calls for an evidence-based approach to the promotion of martial arts. It aligns closely with the European Union's commitment to inclusion and diversity. It offers an opportunity for martial arts coaches, clubs, associations, and federations across Europe (and around the world) to increase their capacity by catering to diverse audiences, organising, delivering, and maintaining safe and engaging sessions of Traditional Martial Arts that welcome and include all people, including marginalised people

UCSI University is both a member of the project team and the lead agency for the research aspect of TMA4ALL. It also represents Southeast Asian martial arts through Seni Silat Melayu, Muay Thai, Filipino Kali, and others.

The relevant research programme is made up of a diverse set of activities, including:

- Expert consensus studies: two studies (one in Europe; the other in Southeast Asia) will investigate the expert martial arts teachers' views of the elements of effective, inclusion teaching;
- European and Southeast Asian Questionnaires on perceptions of the outcomes of martial arts practice, gathering evidence from martial arts teachers, parents, and students;
- Interviews with inclusive martial arts teachers from five European countries about the principles of inclusive martial arts;
- Impact evaluation of a novel programme of inclusive martial arts teacher training;
- And the first Malaysia-wide study of the personal philosophies and practices of Silat teachers.

This is a genuinely new and innovative research programme, and the first such multi-faceted programme to take place in Malaysia.

One of our goals in working on this project is to establish a Malaysian Martial Arts Research Network, which will act as a hub for academic studies in this country.

The Event

The TMA4ALL project kicked-off with a positive and forward-looking meeting in the beautiful city of Izmir, Turkey on 21 Feb 2024. Hosted by İzmir Bakırçay University, the TMA4ALL team of partners met to discuss the aims, content, delivery, and outcomes of this unique project. The project coordinators, INSIDE-EU, managed to bring together a unique consortium of experts from the martial arts, inclusion, education, and project management:

Institute for Studies in Social Inclusion Diversity and Engagement (Inside-Eu), Ireland
Taekwondo Klub Susedgrad Sokol (TKSS), Croatia
Landesfachverband Ikkaido Baden-Wurttemberg E.V., (LFVIBW), Germany
Izmir Bakırçay University, Turkey
Kyu Shin Kan, Spain

UCSI University was represented by Professor Dr Richard Peter Bailey, Dr Nadia Samsudin, and Dr Sri Azra Attan.



TMA4ALL
TRADITIONAL MARTIAL ARTS
FOR ALL



RISK FACTORS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL WELLBEING FOR CHINESE HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATORS: A STUDY IN SHENZHEN CITY



LIAO YIMING

Liao Yiming holds a diverse educational background, including a bachelor's degree in English Education from Gannan Normal University, a master's degree in business from Asia Pacific University, and a PhD in Educational Psychology from UCSI University. Additionally, Liao Yiming has pursued Applied Psychology studies at the Chinese Academy of Sciences.



ASSISTANT PROF Dr KU FARIDAH KU IBRAHIM

Ku Faridah Ku Ibrahim possesses a diverse educational background, culminating in a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). Complementing her academic qualifications, Ku Faridah has engaged actively in professional roles within the Early Childhood Education sector. She is the Head of Praxis Industry and Community at UCSI University's Faculty of Social Sciences and Liberal Arts.



PROFESSOR DR MANSOR BIN ABU TALIB

Mansor Abu Talib is a Professor of Guidance and Counselling at the Department of Psychology, FOSSLA, UCSI University. His research interests include happiness, non-suicidal self-harm (NSSH), and suicide. Currently, he is the Director of the UCSI Wellbeing Research Centre and Vice President of the Malaysian International Counselling Association.

Abstract

The abstract states that the study investigates the risk factors influencing the psychological wellbeing of high school educators in Shenzhen City, China. The study found that organisational culture mediates the relationship between these risk factors and psychological wellbeing, highlighting the importance of supportive work environments in mitigating the negative effects of job-related stressors.

Research Aim

The study investigates the risk factors influencing the psychological wellbeing of high school educators in Shenzhen City, China.

Research Hypothesis

Hypothesis 1: There is a significant relationship between risk factors (such as job burnout, work engagement, and managerialism) and the psychological wellbeing of high school educators in Shenzhen City, China.

Hypothesis 2: Organisational culture mediates the relationship between identified risk factors (job burnout, work engagement, and managerialism) and the psychological wellbeing of high school educators in Shenzhen City, China.

Hypothesis 3: Organisational culture moderates the relationship between risk factors (job burnout, work engagement, and managerialism) and the psychological wellbeing of high school educators in Shenzhen City, China.

These hypotheses aim to explore the interplay between risk factors, organisational culture, and psychological wellbeing, providing insights into the mechanisms through which organisational factors influence educators' psychological health in the context of high schools in Shenzhen City.

Methodology

The study used a quantitative research design and collected data from a sample of high school educators using validated measures of job burnout, work engagement, managerialism, organisational culture, and psychological wellbeing.

Findings

a) *Promoting a Positive School Culture*

A positive school culture characterised by trust, collaboration, and support can significantly impact the psychological wellbeing of educators (Leithwood & Jantzi, 1990). Creating a supportive and inclusive environment where educators feel valued, respected, and empowered can help mitigate job stress and burnout. Schools can foster a positive culture by promoting open communication, recognising educators' contributions, and fostering a sense of community and belonging (Skaalvik & Skaalvik, 2017). Moreover, initiatives such as peer support programmes, mentoring, and team-building activities can strengthen social connections and provide emotional support for educators facing challenges (Brown, 2004).

b) *Implementing Supportive Policies*

Educational policies play a crucial role in shaping the work environment and conditions for educators. Implementing supportive policies that prioritise educator wellbeing can help alleviate stressors and promote a healthier work-life balance. For example, flexible work arrangements, such as telecommuting or flexible scheduling, can provide educators with greater autonomy and control over their work (Brown & Wang, 2019). Additionally, policies that address workload management, classroom resources, and professional development opportunities can enhance job satisfaction and reduce burnout (Zhang et al., 2018). Furthermore, policies that promote mental health awareness and provide access to counselling and support services can help educators cope with stress and seek assistance when needed (Guo et al., 2020).

c) *Providing Professional Development Opportunities*

Investing in professional development opportunities for educators is essential for enhancing their skills, knowledge, and job satisfaction. Professional development programmes that focus on stress management, resilience-building, and effective teaching strategies can help educators cope with job-related stressors and improve their psychological wellbeing (Wang & Guan, 2019). Furthermore, opportunities for career advancement, mentorship, and leadership training can empower educators and increase their sense of fulfillment and engagement in their roles (Skaalvik & Skaalvik, 2017). Additionally, ongoing support and coaching from experienced educators or instructional leaders can provide valuable guidance and encouragement for educators navigating challenges in their profession (Leithwood & Jantzi, 1990).

Conclusion

The study highlights the importance of supportive work environments in mitigating the negative effects of job-related stressors and underscores the need for targeted interventions and policy initiatives to promote psychological health among high school educators in Shenzhen City, China. Overall, the article provides valuable insights into the complex interplay between individual and organisational factors in shaping educator wellbeing.

UCSI Faculty of Engineering showcases for Building a Sustainable Future: Reflecting on a Successful CSR Initiative with theme SDG 12

Dr IR NOOR IDAYU MOHD TAHIR

Background

(Kuala Lumpur, 27 March 2024)- We're thrilled to share the success of our recent event with you! At the Faculty of Engineering, we believe in the power of sustainability and community engagement.

That's why we're delighted to reflect on our recent event focused on building a sustainable future through innovative design and construction.

*Event Recap: Date 27 March 2024,
Location: UCSI workshop and UCSI LeQuadri Hotel,
Theme: Functional Design for Sustainable Development*

In partnership with LeQuadri's CSR programme (Mr. Hafis), we embarked on a mission to design and build stalls and boat structures using recycled materials. These structures were donated to support Hotel LeQuadri's community initiatives, aligning with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and promoting a circular economy.

The Event

Six groups of student teams were dedicated to creativity and sustainability. The student group leaders (Steven, Ayesha, Goh Jun Li, Mohamad Tareq, Amir, and Ishmam) and group members were committed to maximising functionality while minimising environmental impact. By repurposing recycled materials, we not only reduced waste but also created practical solutions that benefited both people and the planet.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to six lecturers (Dr Ammar, Ts Dr Vahid, Ms Adiba, Dr Sam, Ms Wan Zailah, and Ms Ain) involved from the engineering faculty in evaluating the student presentation which contributed to the success of this initiative. Your passion, dedication, and generosity made all the difference. Together, we demonstrated the power of collaboration in driving positive change.

Highlights of the event, volunteers who are UCSI Engineering students from Year 1 showcased their skills and creativity in designing and constructing the structures using recycled material. Donours generously contributed materials and resources to support our sustainability efforts. Participants engaged in meaningful discussions about the importance of sustainability and community involvement with the support of a course in graphic engineering design.

The lecturer Ir Noor Idayu Mohd Tahir equipped the students of the fundamentals of the design process. Students started the project by implementing a preliminary design sketch, and with the Computer Aided Design(AutoCAD) software students were able to get dimensions for supporting structure construction.

By coming together as a community, we made a significant impact. Through our collective efforts, we built a sustainable future—one recycled structure at a time. Together, we made a lasting difference in our community and beyond.

Future Direction

Stay Connected: For more highlights from the event and updates on future initiatives, follow us at https://www.tiktok.com/@ucsi_mechanics_mechtroncor!

Once again, thank you for your support, and we look forward to continuing our journey towards a brighter, more sustainable future together!



3 DAYS EXHIBITIONS
STRUCTURE FOR DONATION
USING RECYCLE MATERIAL

IR.NOOR IDAYU

THEME: BOAT & STALL
Designs inspired by the tradition around the world ,SDG and innovative.

"6 groups consist of 12 members"

VENUE:
LeQuadri Hotel

DATE :
27 , 28 & 29 March 2024
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

UCSI University FACULTY OF ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY & BUILT ENVIRONMENT IEEE RAS



Factors Affecting Stakeholder's Willingness to Support Sustainable Water Resources Management in Tourism Development in Malaysia



Dr Seyedeh Shiva Hashemi is a Lecturer in the Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Management (FHTM) at UCSI University. She holds a PhD. from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) specialising in Tourism Business and Marketing. She has over seven years of experience in different parts of the tourism and hospitality industries such as Five-Star Hotels, International Airports, Travel Agencies, Cultural Heritage Organisation, NGOs, and more. In addition, she worked for a famous Iran tour operator and was responsible for setting up its 'People to People' Programme. Moreover, she has over five years of professional teaching in the tourism and hospitality field at the university level.

She was a Postgraduate Programme Leader at the Zand University in Shiraz (Iran) in 2019. Her main role was to deliver the business and management content to tourism and event management undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. Research interests are centred around people management issues and in particular areas of workplace culture, challenging behaviour, and conflict. She became the Programme Leader for MSc Events Management in 2019. She is also a PG Programme Leadership, Module Leader and Personal Tutor for PG and UG students. She has published several articles in reputable journals and contributed some book chapters in the tourism and hospitality area. Being an active scholar, she has presented her work at a number of international conferences.

Introduction

Effective water resource management is essential for the sustainability and wellbeing of communities and ecosystems, particularly in regions, which heavily depend on water resources for various economic, social, and environmental purposes (Deng, Guo, Yin, Zeng, & Chen, 2022).

Public participation and community involvement are central to the success of integrated water resources management programs (Rollason, Bracken, Hardy, & Large, 2018). These initiatives are designed to ensure the sustainable and equitable use of water resources, taking into account the complex interplay of social, economic, and environmental factors (Ahmed, Mokhtar, & Alam, 2020).

While the importance of public engagement is widely recognised, it is often hindered by several significant challenges. This introduction explores three key challenges: the public's limited knowledge, their reluctance to participate, and the absence of an organised platform for engagement (Deng et al, 2022). When communities choose to utilise tourism as an economic development tool to diversify their economy, it is important to prioritise sustainability, local involvement, and careful management therefore, supporting stakeholders is one of the main keys to the success and implementation of sustainable tourism development in a community (e.g. example community leaders, citizens, and entrepreneurs) (Chen, Wang, Beiyuan, Guo, Wu, & Fang, 2022).

Based on Freeman and Phillips 2002, any group or individual who can affect or is affected by tourism development in an area is identified as a stakeholder. The production of the 'National Integrated Water Resources Management Plan' by the Academy of Sciences Malaysia in 2016 is a significant step towards sustainable water resources management in Malaysia.

This plan aligns with various national and international frameworks and initiatives, including the 11th Malaysia Plan (2016-2020), Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM), and Integrated Lake Basin Management (ILBM) (Ahmed et al, 2020).

In addition, to establish public-private partnerships for sustainable development, including the management of water resources, Malaysia has run the Industry-Government Group.

These approaches are trying to involve local authorities and civil society in terms of sustainable water resources management to achieve the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) in Malaysia (Okumah, Yeboah, & Amponsah, 2020).

The reported shortcomings in sustainable water resources management in Malaysia, as highlighted by Chan, 2009, 2012, Mokhtar et al, 2010, 2011, and Ahmed et al, 2020 are indicative of various challenges that need to be addressed for effective management of water resources in the region.



Figure 1. Effective water resources management.

The importance of performing this research

The general goal of this project is to explore the factors influencing stakeholders' willingness to support sustainable water resources management in Langkawi, an archipelago in Malaysia known for its unique natural beauty and growing tourism industry. By addressing the water resources management waste problem in Malaysia, this project serves as a model/guideline for other countries facing similar challenges. It helps pave the way for a more sustainable future. This project aligns with several Malaysia policies including the 11th Malaysia Plan (2016-2020), Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM), and Integrated Lake Basin Management (ILBM).

Impact on Nation

Effective water management helps preserve Malaysia's natural environment, including its rivers, lakes, coastal areas, and biodiversity-rich ecosystems. Protecting these resources ensures the sustainability of ecosystems, maintains water quality, and safeguards habitats for flora and fauna.

Sustainable water management practices mitigate the negative impacts of pollution, over-extraction, and habitat degradation, promoting environmental resilience and long-term ecological balance. Moreover, implementing sustainable water management strategies enhances Malaysia's water security by ensuring a reliable and sufficient supply of clean water for various uses, including drinking, agriculture, industry, and sanitation.

Diversifying water sources, investing in water infrastructure, and promoting water conservation measures improve resilience to climate change, droughts, and other water-related challenges, reducing vulnerability to water scarcity and disruptions. Overall, the impact of sustainable water resources management on a nation like Malaysia extends beyond economic considerations to encompass environmental stewardship, social equity, cultural preservation, and international collaboration.

By prioritising sustainable water management practices, Malaysia can achieve holistic development goals that balance economic prosperity with environmental integrity and social well-being, ensuring a sustainable future for future generations.

Blending Creativity and Fitness



Kevin Ng Chin Chwee

Kevin is a lecturer at the De Institute of Creative Arts AND Design (ICAD) at UCSI University. He handles Final Year Projects, Graphic image editing, Practical training, Compositing visual effects, and Digital photography.

Kevin is actively involved as a consultant for advertising agencies, he is the designer for the Malaysia Tournament, Malaysia coach of the women's team double champion in 2022, and 2023, and Malaysia Basketball Pro League organiser in UCSI.

In the dynamic realm of academia, where creativity meets education, there exists a remarkable individual who goes beyond the traditional boundaries of a design lecturer. However, beside apart is the fusion of the creative process with a commitment to promoting a healthy lifestyle through sports. When involvement in the design of sportswear goes beyond the surface level. As a designer has to understand the significance of outfitting athletes in gear that not only enhances their performance but also instills a sense of pride and unity among team members. Every year UCSI supports sports activities, and the design of the sports shirt is well taken care of by design lecturer, Kevin Ng.

In 2023, a new jersey was designed for the UCSI Basketball Club to commemorate their double championship in 2023. This jersey served as an official souvenir for notable attendees, including the Minister of Youth and Sports, YB Hannah Yeoh, the President of the Olympic Council of Malaysia, Tan Sri Mohamad Zakaria, Japanese Ambassador Takahashi, and his wife, Madam Mami, during the Nippon Sports Science University Traditional Martial Arts and Culture Exchange Program - Demonstration and Workshop held in Malaysia on 24 February, 2024.



A Basketball Jersey and T-shirt design for Malaysia's wheelchair basketball team for the 2023 ASEAN Para Games.



In 2023, Kevin demonstrated his prolific creativity by crafting and producing over 100 basketball jersey and T-shirt designs. His dedication to his craft and passion for sports apparel shone through in each unique design he created.

Kevin's designs were not just about aesthetics; they were carefully crafted to embody the essence of the teams they represented. Whether it was capturing the spirit of a local community team or the professionalism of a national squad, Kevin's designs resonated with players and fans alike.



No	Funding Scheme	Submission Close Date
1	Malaysia Toray Science Foundation 2024 https://www.mtsf.org/	1st January 2024 - 31st May 2024
2	LIF Global 2024 https://raeng.org.uk/programmes-and-prizes/programmes/international-programmes/leaders-in-innovation-fellowships/lif-programmes/lif-global	16 October 5PM BST
3	Industry Linkage Fund (ILF) https://www.myrubbercouncil.com/industrylinkagefund/	Open all year round
4	National Conservation Trust Fund (NCTF) https://www.ketsa.gov.my/en-my/KetsaCore/Biodiversity/Pages/nctf.aspx	Open all year round
5	Global Funding for Rubber Innovation https://www.myrubbercouncil.com/globalrubberfund/index.php	Open all year round
6	MOSTI Grants https://sdb.mosti.gov.my/sdbcms/ms/garispenduan/	Open all year round

Please refer to your respective Head of Research for more information.

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Distinguished Professor Dr Phang Siew Moi,
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