

Issue 04



PENINSULA  
COLLEGE  
GEORGETOWN DK266-03(P)

# MAKING WAVES



# An Industrial Fusion Where Innovation Meets Challenge

By Thivashini Rengan

Peninsula College Northern had unveiled its ambitious venture, the Industrial Challenge 2023, a six-month competition that fostered innovation and forged valuable opportunities for students and industrial collaborators.

For industrial partners, participation in the Industrial Challenge 2023 opens doors to a pool of exceptionally talented students brimming with potential, allowing them to identify and recruit promising students. Participating students, on the other hand, gained universally sought-after competencies like problem-solving, teamwork, communication, and leadership abilities, thus a win-win scenario for students and industrial partners alike.



Each group of students was partnered with an industrial advisor from PKT Logistics Group who generously lent their industrial expertise to the students. They included Mr Sivakumar Krishnan, Mr Darren Yap Theam, Mr Dhevendhiran A/L Supramaniam, and Mr Logeshwaran A/L Suparamaniam.

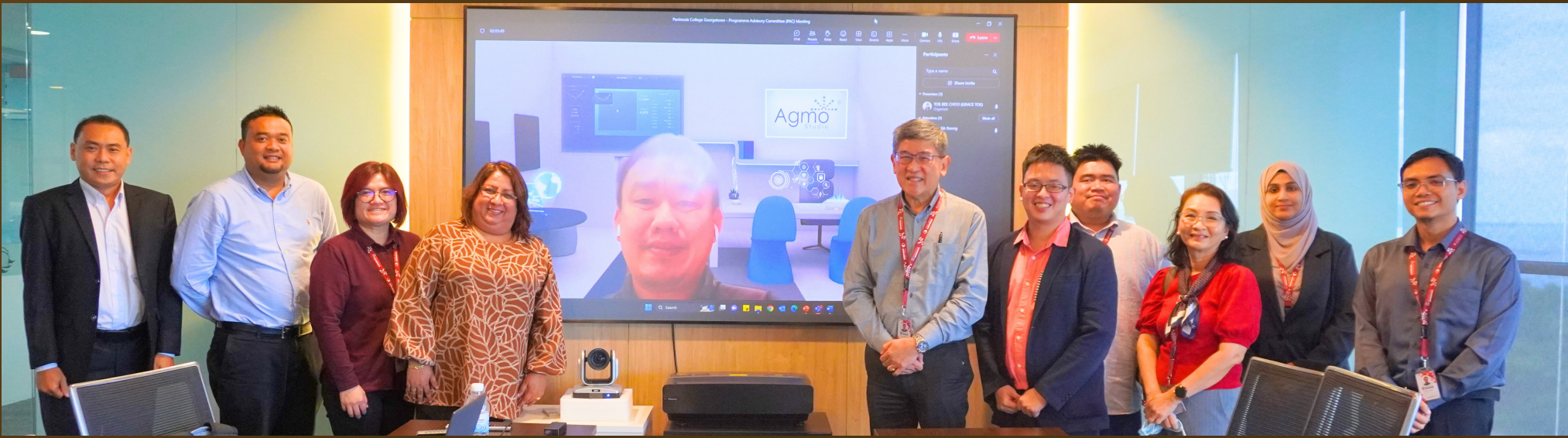
Equally impressive were the esteemed panel of judges which included Dr Joey Tan, Head of Sustainability, Amazon Web Services, Inc; Ts. Dr. Emy Ezura Binti A. Jalil, Senior Lecturer, Universiti Utara Malaysia; Madam Noor Liza Binti Ramly, Senior Lecturer, Polytechnic Tuanku Sultanah Bahiyah; and Mr Tharshana Moorthi, Director, Supply Chain Management, PKT Logistics (M) Sdn. Bhd.

So what awaits the triumphant teams? Team Leaders of Champion, 1st Runner Up and 2nd Runner Up secured a spot in the PKT COO Protégé Program, along with cash rewards or a student bursary. The champion also had the privilege of dining with Dato Seri Michael Tio.

The list of winners proudly stands as follows: **CHAMPION**, Young Industrialist: Arisangar S/O Humapathi, Kavithran S/O Magesan, Phradda Vishnu S/O Ok Mut, Lee Yue Fong, and Ng Xin Er. **1ST RUNNER UP**, Sic Parvis Magna: Chew Kai Yao, Elia Dayini Ong Binti Muhammad Syafiq Nor Ong , Muhammad Aliff Bin Yusre, Daren Tee Jun Lim, Elizabeth Ronaldo Yong. **2ND RUNNER UP**, The Logistics Wizard: Chuah Meng Jin, Sai Tian Xing, Johnathan Teoh Muh Siong, Jason Ng. **3RD RUNNER UP**, Sailor Moon: Leong Siu Cong, Leong Wengy and Tan Jin Xuan.



# Enhancing Industry Relevance, PAC Meeting for Computer Science



*By Brighton Heng*

On July 12, 2023, Peninsula College Georgetown held a Programme Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting to enhance our Computer Science programmes. These include the Diploma in Computer Science, Diploma in E-Business Technology, BSc (Hons) Computer Science (Cyber Security), and BSc (Hons) Computer Science (Software Engineering).

We were honoured to host a distinguished panel of experts at the meeting, including Mr. Tan Aik Keong, CEO of Agmo Group of Companies; Mr. Hairil Izwan Isamuddin, Country Manager for Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia & Singapore at CompTIA; Ts Lai Meng Tatt, Council TAM, IT Comm Head; Mr. Elmen Yeo, Site Reliability Engineering Director at Dell Technologies; Dr. Manmeet Mahinderjit Singh, Associate Professor at USM; and Dr. Zurinahni Zainol, Associate Professor and Deputy Dean at USM.

We firmly believe that by consistently involving industry leaders and incorporating their valuable insights into our programs, we can empower our students to not only succeed but also make meaningful contributions to their careers.

## Elevating Tech Education with CompTIA



*By Brighton Heng*

We are excited to announce that Peninsula College Georgetown has entered into an official partnership with The Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA), marking a momentous milestone for our institution.

CompTIA offers certifications, training, education, and examinations catering to individuals of all backgrounds, ranging from students to seasoned professionals and businesses. With this partnership, we will now provide students enrolled in our prestigious BSc (Hons) Computer Science programmes the opportunity to obtain Security+ professional certification which significantly bolsters our students' career prospects within the ever-evolving tech industry.

We were also honoured to have Mr. Hairil Izwan Isamuddin, the Country Manager for Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia & Singapore at CompTIA, as our guest speaker. His insightful talk on 'Preparing for Tomorrow's Global Workforce Challenges: Fast Track Your Tech & Cybersecurity Career with CompTIA' emphasized the critical importance of professional certification in the industry.



# EASYGO, MONGOLIA 2023 Summer Camp



By Nurul Nadia

From July 23 to July 30, Peninsula hosted EASYGO, MONGOLIA 2023, a summer camp tailored exclusively for secondary school students from Mongolia. Our goal was to introduce our Mongolian participants to the rich and vibrant tapestry of Malaysian culture.

Throughout the week, students engaged in a host of exciting activities, including immersing in English, Malay, and Tamil language lessons, donning traditional Malaysian outfits, indulging culinary delights in our cooking class, having a go at fun-filled traditional games, and exploring creativity in multimedia classes. The smiles on students' faces are a testament to the joy and learning they experienced during this cultural journey.

We are immensely pleased with the positive response from our summer camp participants, and we look forward to having more of such enriching cultural exploration and growth in the coming years.

# Unlocking the Full Potential of Blockchain, Marverse Web3 Hub Opening



By Fasyin Diyana

Marverse Web3 Hub celebrated its official opening on July 15, 2023, marking a significant milestone in the world of Web3 and blockchain innovations. The event welcomed Peninsula College Georgetown Computer Science students to explore the infinite possibilities of Web3 technology as part of their study tour for Network Security and Cryptography courses.

The attendees were offered an engaging tour of its cutting-edge facilities, providing a firsthand look at the latest advancements in Web3 technologies and discussed the potential impact of decentralized technologies across various industries.

The official opening of the Marverse Web3 Hub symbolised a remarkable leap forward in the Web3 technology landscape. As this revolution continues to gain momentum, the hub will stand as a beacon of innovation, empowering visionaries to shape the future of the decentralized web.



# Peninsula Lecturers Training Odyssey

*By Fasyin Diyana*

Peninsula College Georgetown's lecturers set sail on a remarkable odyssey in 2023, undertaking a series of professional development workshops which focused on classroom management and blended Learning.

In the realm of classroom management, the workshops empowered our new lecturers with the essential skills and knowledge needed for a smooth transition into their roles. Under the expert guidance of Ms. Molly Cheah, Teaching and Learning Coordinator, we sought to motivate students and nurture a conducive learning environment that maximised student engagement, thereby enhancing the educational experience.

For Blended Learning, we equipped our lecturers with digital prowess via tools like Microsoft Teams, Moodle, Canva, Padlet, Mentimeter, Quizizz and many more. Deftly guided by Ms. Leong Shi Qi, En. Shaik Afiq, En. Khairi, and En. Amir Rasyadan, lecturers can now seamlessly integrate technology into their teaching methods, adapting to the evolving needs of the digital age.

These transformative training sessions offered invaluable opportunities to enhance teaching skills, embrace contemporary methods, and reap the advantages of blended learning.

As we look ahead to 2024, our commitment to lecturers' professional growth remains unwavering. Let's continue this journey of educational excellence to create a nurturing and dynamic learning environment, shaping the future of our students.



## AI and ChatGPT in Education

*By Brighton Heng*

In a recent knowledge-sharing session, Ms. Grace Tok and Mr. Chin Yit Kwong provided valuable insights into the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and ChatGPT in education.

Ms. Tok explained how ChatGPT can transform teaching and learning when the right prompts are used. She also raised the question of how to teach students to acknowledge AI sources in their academic work while encouraging critical thinking

On the other hand, Mr. Chin offered practical advice on using a host of AI tools to enhance productivity like Bing Chat, AssemblyAI, Goblin Tools, Merlin, and Promptvibes, showcasing how they can streamline tasks and improve efficiency.



Both emphasized the importance of addressing the challenges and ethical concerns related to AI in education. They also stressed the need to establish clear assessment guidelines that take AI into account. As we continue to integrate AI into education, these discussions will serve as a guiding compass, ensuring responsible and effective use of AI tools.



# Nourishing Hearts Building Community



*By Fasyin Diyana*

On July 10, 2023, a heartwarming event unfolded as part of the Peninsula College Georgetown Community Service Course Project. This initiative aimed to instil a sense of unity and belonging while allowing students to apply their project management skills and civic values.

Our mission was twofold: to teach students how to raise funds and awareness while serving those in need. Under the guidance of Ms. Molly Cheah, students collaborated to conduct pre-sales for about a month leading up to the Charity Food Festival.



The event raised an impressive total of RM 12,134.00 and the fruits of our labour were shared with two deserving organisations. Pertubuhan Rumah Sinar, Bukit Mertajam (Shine Home Association), received a combination of items valued at RM 4,794.31 and cash donations of RM 3,670, resulting in a total contribution of RM 8,464.31 to Shine Home. Meanwhile, Pusat Jagaan Rumah Sejahtera Permatang Tinggi received cash donations totalling RM 3,670.

The Community Service students would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated course lecturer and committee members who steered this project from inception to fruition., including creating a vibrant social media presence, managing finances, offering guidance, and ensuring that every student was part of this journey. All the efforts made this project a resounding success, and together, they achieved to make a difference in our community.





# Igniting a Journey of Excellence: Degree Preparatory Course



By Thivashini Rengan

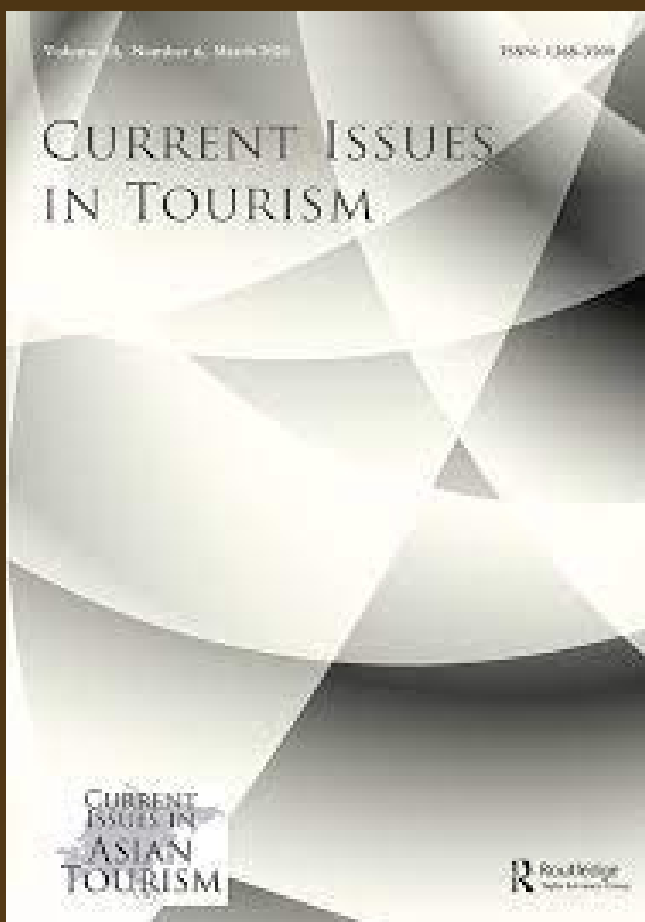
Embarking on the higher education journey can be both thrilling and demanding. Acknowledging the challenges associated with this transition, we have organised the *Degree Preparatory Classes* for our new undergraduates, designed to address their academic needs and facilitate a seamless transition.

Through these enriching workshops, participants immersed themselves in a spectrum of topics including Android application development, basics of Github, introduction to artificial intelligence, fundamentals of maritime shipping and logistics, presentation skills and academic writing.

These sessions were organised by our passionate lecturers, and they extended far beyond subject-specific knowledge, introducing students to invaluable study skills, time management, and critical thinking.

What's more, these preparatory classes offered an early opportunity for students to forge meaningful connections with their peers and equip them with fundamental tools and knowledge, laying the foundation for their academic success.

## STARA in Hospitality Industry



Dr. Gabriel Gim Chien Wei, a Senior Lecturer at Peninsula College Georgetown, collaborated with academics from James Cook University Singapore, Curtin University Malaysia, and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University on a study titled "STARA Fight or Flight: “A Two-Wave Time-Lagged Study of Challenge and Hindrance Appraisal of STARA Awareness on Basic Psychological Needs and Individual Competitiveness Productivity Among Hospitality Employees”.

Published in the respected journal *Current Issues in Tourism*, indexed in the Social Sciences Citation Index with an impressive impact factor of 8.0, the study delves into the effects of STARA - encompassing smart technologies, artificial intelligence, robotics, and algorithms - on guest services and operational efficiency.

The study revealed that a positive appraisal of STARA led to the fulfilment of employees' basic psychological needs (autonomy, competence, and relatedness), resulting in increased productivity. Interestingly, those who viewed STARA as a threat experienced a boost in autonomy due to their efforts to adapt to the evolving tech-driven environment, driven by a fear of job insecurity. The full article can be accessed via this [link](#).





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