



PULSE

@ FASS

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FASS 60TH ANNIVERSARY



Sultan Nazrin Shah and former deans

On **1 December 2019**, a Royal Gala Dinner was held at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel Kuala Lumpur. The event was the highlight of the Faculty's 60th Anniversary Celebrations. It was graced by HRH Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah, the Sultan of Perak, who is also the Chancellor of the Universiti Malaya, as the guest of honour. Other honorary guests included the Chairman of the Board of Directors, YM Datuk Tengku Azman YM Tengku Datuk Dr. Mohd Azzman Shariffadeen Tengku Ibrahim, the Vice-Chancellor, Datuk Ir (Dr) Abdul Rahim Hashim, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation) Professor Dr Noorsaadah Abd Rahman, Associate Vice Chancellor (Research & Innovation) Professor Dr Shaliza Ibrahim, Deans and Directors, and Tan Sri Chan Kong Choy, representing the Alumni. *Continued to 2nd page.*

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A total of 550 guests were present to join in the celebration. More than 300 alumni, 250 friends of the Faculty, staff, students and families mingled together, adding to the atmosphere of celebration. The dinner began with a speech and report from the Dean. At the conclusion of his speech, the Dean invited the alumni who were present to show warm appreciation to our Chancellor for gracing the dinner.

This was followed by a video presentation highlighting reminiscences from former students and staff.

The highlight of the celebration was the ceremony to honour former deans of the Faculty. HRH Sultan Nazrin graciously consented to present a souvenir to each of the deans present as well as the family representatives of three other deans. Those honoured were Professor Datuk Tengku Shamsul Bahrin, Professor Dato Nik Safiah A Karim, Professor Datin Zaharah Mahmud, Professor Mohd Fauzi Ya’acob, Professor Datuk Zainal Kling, Professor Khairulmani Osman Salleh, Professor Dato Mohamad Abu Bakar, Professor Dato Redzuan Othman, Professor Md Sidin Ahmad Ishak, Associate Professor Hanafi Hussin and the current Dean, Professor Datuk Danny Wong. Also honoured were the late Professor Abdul Kahar Bador, the late Professor Tan Sri Khoo Kay Kim, and the late Professor Dato Mohammad Raduan Mohd Ariff, who were represented by their family members.

The dinner continued with shows and entertainment from of the faculty including a group of Japanese students who were on a one semester exchange programme, who performed a few gamelan and Cak Lempung numbers. There were also guest artistes to serenade the attendees throughout dinner.

The dinner also saw the Faculty receiving a donation from Fo Guang Shan Education Center in the form of a pledge to fully fund the renovation of a Lecture Theatre in the Faculty. The Faculty also received generous donations from WCT Holdings Berhad and PA Resources Berhad. The Vice Chancellor, Datuk Ir (Dr) Abd Rahim Hj Hashim did us the honour of receiving the donations on behalf of the Faculty. That evening also saw those who were present give generously to the Faculty Academic Excellence Fund.

It was a great night of celebration and renewal of friendship. The Faculty would like to express its gratitude to HRH Sultan Nazrin for gracing the occasion. The support of the Chairman of the Board of Directors, as well as Senior Management, is also truly appreciated. The Faculty is also deeply touched by the support given by the alumni, who turned out in good numbers.



The arrival of Sultan Nazrin Shah and the VIPs



Vice Chancellor and Dean talking with the Yang di-Pertua Negeri Melaka, Tun Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Mohd Rustam



Former colleagues meeting. Professor Nik Safiah Nik Karim, former Dean, meeting up with Professor Ranjit Singh and Professor KS Nathan, both formerly of History Department



Former Dean, Professor Fauzi Yacoob receiving his souvenir from Sultan Nazrin Shah



Alumni of the East Asian Studies Department and the Dean



The Vice Chancellor, Datuk Abdul Rahim Hashim receiving donations on behalf of the Faculty from Fo Guang Shan Education Centre, WCT Holdings and PA Resources Sdn Bhd



Traditional performances by the dancers



AP Datin Safiah accompanying the Registrar and other guests



Right: Guests and friends at the dinner



Professor Adnan Nawang meeting old friends, En Nor Roslan Saedin and En Tukimen Rosman



The Dean giving his welcoming speech





Dr Roy Anthony Rogers
(International and Strategic Studies, 1999)



Dato M. Shanmughalingam
(Economics, 1962)



Professor Lee Kam Hing (History, 1965)



Professor Datuk Tengku Shamsul, senior among the former deans,
opens the Exhibition at Dataran Sastera



The Chinese Studies have about 100 former students turning
up, took up the entire Lecture Theatre D



Former students and staff return to History Department



Token of appreciation to Professor Azizah Hamzah (Malay
Studies, 1977, look on by Prof. Siti Hajar)



Dr Syed Husin Ali, greeted by members of
the faculty



Visitors reading info from the 'Time Tunnel'



Dr. Mala Rajo speaking to the alumni at the Southeast Asian
Studies booth



Profesor Tan Sri Dr Abdul Latiff Abu Bakar,
signing the guest book



Alumni at the International & Strategic Studies Department

2019 was a very important year for the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya. It marked the 60th Anniversary of the establishment of the Faculty at the Pantai Valley Kuala Lumpur Campus. The University itself traces its origins to the establishment of the King Edward VII Medical College in 1905, and later, the establishment of the University of Malaya in Singapore in 1949. The campus in Kuala Lumpur was mooted as early as 1954, and some classes were started in 1957. However, the campus only materialised in 1959, with the opening of the Faculty of Arts by His Majesty the First Yang Dipertuan Agong on 18 June. Since then the Faculty has grown from strength to strength, expanding from its start as a Faculty of Arts, to becoming the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences through the introduction of more social sciences programmes.

A series of activities was planned to celebrate this auspicious occasion. Among them were several international conferences including the Kuala Lumpur-Shanghai Conference (in Collaboration with the Shanghai Normal University) in July; the 9th International Conference on Food in December, and the 8th

International Conference on Southeast Asian Studies (ICONSEA) in December. A distinguished alumnus, Tan Sri Razali Ismail, gave a well-attended Public Lecture. Finally, a fund-raising campaign was also launched.

On 30 November 2019, the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences organised a 60th Anniversary Homecoming Day. The theme of the celebration was to commemorate the past, and to look to the future by continuing to strive for academic excellence. A total of 300 alumni, including six from the first batch of students in 1959, attended the event.

The main gathering was held in Dewan Kuliah F where a video featuring illustrious alumni and former staff was shown, followed by reminiscences shared by four alumni representing different generations of students who had passed through the Faculty in the last 60 years. They included Dato M. Shanmughalingam, Professor Lee Kam Hing, Professor Azizah Hamzah, and Dr Roy Anthony Rogers. The meeting also acknowledged alumni from different decades. YM Tengku Shamsul Bahrin the 'Elder' among the former Deans in attendance at the

event. Following lunch at the Common Room (fondly remembered by many as Bacha's Place), the alumni then returned to their respective departments where different activities were organised including talks and sharing by alumni.

Post-meeting tours were also organised, to the Universiti Malaya Art Gallery and the Main Library. The Faculty was encouraged by the excellent turnout of alumni and their families throughout the day including into the late afternoon. Efforts were made to register the alumni so as to strengthen the Faculty's Alumni database. The Faculty would like to thank the Centre for Alumni Relations and Institutional Advancement for their kind assistance and support given throughout the event. It is hoped that with the availability of a working alumni database, the Faculty will be able to carry out alumni engagement in a more systematic and effective manner.

*Click the link below to watch "FASS 60 Years" video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GFWmOgXUe20>

60TH ANNIVERSARY PUBLIC LECTURE



On 22 October 2019, former Malaysian Representative at the United Nations and Former Chairman of SUHAKAM, Tan Sri Razali Ismail, an alumnus of the English Department was invited to give a public lecture in conjunction with the 60th Anniversary Celebration. The lecture attracted more than 200 people with many sitting on the stairs. AP Dr Susan Philip moderated the lecture.



Graduates from 1970s acknowledged by the
gathering



The super senior members of the alumni

CONVOCATION 2019



Tun Daim Zainuddin, who obtained his PhD degree, being presented to HRH Sultan Nazrin Shah, Chancellor of Universiti Malaysia



Freshly minted Graduates of FASS



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences BA (Hons) graduates at the convocation ceremony



Master of Media Studies Class of 2019



The Dean introducing the graduates



The dean and staff with graduates from the History Department at the FASS Graduation celebration.

Congratulations

TO ALL OUR GRADUATES!

8TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOUTHEAST ASIA (ICONSEA 2019)

BY DR. CHONG WU LING



Dr Mala Rajoo, Head of Department giving the welcoming speech



Professor Dr. Arndt Graf delivering his keynote



Professor Dr. Syed Farid Alatas delivering his keynote

The Department of Southeast Asian Studies organized its 8th International Conference on Southeast Asia (ICONSEA2019) from 1-2 December 2019 at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, UM. Two prominent scholars delivered key notes based on the theme of the conference, "Sustaining and Developing SEA in the IR4.0 Era".

Professor Dr. Arndt Graf from the Goethe-University of Frankfurt, Germany, spoke on the future and challenges for Southeast Asian Studies in the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (IR4.0) in his lecture entitled "Southeast Asian Studies in the Era of Fourth Industrial Revolution".

"Southeast Asian Studies in the Era of Fourth Industrial Revolution"

The second key note delivered by Professor Dr. Syed Farid Alatas from the National University of Singapore entitled, "Towards Decolonial Southeast Asian Studies" highlighted the issue of eurocentrism in the knowledge production on Southeast Asia as well as the various problems in academia in the region.

A total of 103 paper presenters convened over a period of two days. The panels focused on a wide range of themes related to development, ranging from politics to culture, ASEAN, labour and environment. The participants came from within the region as well as from the US, Australia, and Bangladesh.

The two day conference saw intense discussions and networking among scholars working on Southeast Asia, some of whom have been attending the conference since its inception in 2005. As with previous years, selected papers from the conference are published in JATI, the Department's journal. The Department is proud to have sustained this biannual event for the last fifteen years.

THE 9TH ASIAN FOOD STUDY CONFERENCE (AFSC2019)

BY ASSOC. PROF. DR. HANAFI BIN HUSSIN



Participation of the 9th Asian Food Conference



Professor Zhao Rongguang giving his keynote lecture



Food conference continued at the Rebung Restaurant, welcomed by Chef Ismail.
The conference at the Rebung

The conference was held on 28-30 November 2019. It was organised by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya, in conjunction with the Faculty's 60th Anniversary. This conference co-chaired by Professor ZHAO Rongguang, Chairman Asian Food Study Conference (AFSC), Director of Chinese Dietary Culture Institute, Zhejiang Gongshang University and Associate Professor Dr Hanafi Hussin, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya with the main theme "Diversity and Multiplicity of Asian Food Culture." It has attracted scholars not only from Southeast Asia but also from different parts of the world such as Australia, China, Japan, India, Russia, South Korea, and the United States.

The conference was set at two venues; the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya and Rebung Restaurant Chef Ismail, in the first and second day respectively. The conference was officially inaugurated by the Dean of FASS, Professor Datuk Danny Wong Tze Ken. A total of 44 papers and six posters were presented in this conference, structured into two plenary and four parallel sessions. Participants have appreciated this unique idea of organizing 2nd day of the conference at Rebung Restaurant, as they simultaneously enjoyed paper presentations and authentic Malaysian cuisine.

... with the main theme

"Diversity and Multiplicity of Asian Food Culture."

The owner of the restaurant, Chef Dato' Ismail Ahmad, the Malaysian food Ambassador, has shared his passion for healthy and traditional food to the participants.

On last day, some participants have also enjoyed "multiculturalism and food heritage" field trip to Melaka.

The conference was concluded with high satisfaction. The Kuala Lumpur Declaration entitled "Southeast Asia Table Manner" was presented at the end of the conference, by suggesting the University of Malaya as the focal point for the Southeast Asian Food Study.

THE 1ST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON MIGRATION AND DIASPORA

BY ASSOC. PROF.
DR. HANAFI BIN HUSSIN



Participants at the symposium

The 1st International Symposium on Migration and Diaspora was organised on 2-3 December 2019 by the University of Malaya Migration Research Center (UMMRC) in collaboration with the 8th International Conference on Southeast Asia (ICONSEA 2019). The main theme of the symposium was "Mobility across Borders: Between Tradition and Coercion".

The Department of Media and Communication Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences received an official visit from Al-Jazeera Media Network on October 10, 2019. The visit, along with collaboration plan, was led by the Deputy Director-General, Dr Mustefa Souag, Mr. Samer Allawy (Al-Jazeera's senior correspondent, Kuala Lumpur) and Mr. Ihtisham Hibatullah (Manager of International Communications, Al-Jazeera, Media Network).

They were welcomed by the Dean of Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Professor Datuk Dr Danny Wong Tze-Ken and Associate Professor Dr Md Azalanshah Md Syed, Head of Media and Communication Department. Dr Mustefa and his entourage took almost two hours to interact with Master of Media Studies and undergraduate students mainly discussing on the global journalism issues and industrial training. He praised the effort of the Media and Communication Studies department to sustain creative writing courses as it grows importantly in Media and Communication industries.

For the record, final year undergraduate Media and Communication student, Mustafa Wehbi is doing his internship with Al-Jazeera, Kuala Lumpur and Master of Media Studies alumni, Ezat Wagdi is currently a producer for AJ+, run and managed by AL-Jazeera Media Network.

The symposium aimed to provide a platform for academics and practitioners in the study of migration and diaspora to build networks and discuss academic and policy recommendation for better governance of migrants. Researchers from universities in Malaysia, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Hawaii USA and Philippines participated in the symposium.

A total of 15 papers were presented in five different sessions. Each session focused on a specific subtheme; Session 1: Migration & Methodology and Output; Session 2: Refugee Governance, humanitarianism and policy; Session 3: Migration and diaspora (new research); Session 4: Migration and Diaspora Dynamics in Southeast Asia and session 5: Migration issues and challenges in Southeast Asia.

The symposium was also attended by the Editor-in-Chief of Otoritas: Jurnal Ilmu Pemerintahan (WoS-ESCI, ACI indexed), who has agreed to publish selected papers for a regular issue of the journal, in April and October 2020.

AL-JAZEERA MEDIA NETWORK VISITS TO DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES

BY ASSOC. PROF. DR. MD AZALANSHAH MD SYED



UM- EFEO MOU RENEWAL



Discussion between UM and EFEO led by the VC Datuk Abdul Rahim Hashim and Professor Christophe Marquet

On 25 September 2019, Professor Christophe Marquet, Director of Ecole Francaise d'Extreme-Orient (EFEO) paid a visit to the Vice-Chancellor, Datuk Abdul Rahim Hashim at the Chancellor. The visit was in conjunction with the renewal of the UM-EFEO MoU which was first signed in 2010.

Professor Marquet was accompanied by Professor Daniel Perret, the Head of EFEO in Malaysia, and UM was also represented by Professor Yvonne Lim, Director of the International Relations Office, and the Dean, Prof. Wong and deputy Dean, AP Dr Rosmadi Fauzi.

The UM-EFEO MoU is among the most active MoUs being carried out by the FASS. It has produced many collaborative publications, joint-conferences and seminars. The new MoU will be for 2020 to 2024.

VISIT TO MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY



On 13 December 2019, the Dean Prof. Wong, and two of his deputies, Associate Professor Datin Safiah and Associate Professor Rosmadi Fauzi visited Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand.

The visit was at the invitation of Professor Luechai Srirangnyuang, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Mahidol University on the occasion of their 50th anniversary celebration. At the side of the celebration, both sides went into discussion on possible areas of collaborations including in Geography and Studies of Chinese and China.

The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities at Mahidol University also sent a representative to the UM-FASS 60th Anniversary Royal Gala Dinner.

GLOBAL HAKKA STUDIES CONSORTIUM



On 10 December 2019, the Dean attended the inauguration of the Global Hakka Studies Consortium at the National Chiao Tung University, which hosted the meeting. The Consortium, of which the FASS is a member,

has a total of 10 institutional members from seven countries including Japan, Indonesia, the United States, Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia. The Dean, Prof. Wong was elected Vice Chairman of the Consortium.

An Ode to The 'University'

SHAARI BIN MOHD. NOOR

FASS 1962 - 1965



It was fifty-seven years ago that I first set my foot on University Campus having passed the Cambridge Higher School Certificate Examination. In those days 'University' meant University of Malaya because it was the only single centre for higher learning that existed in this country.

The morning of mid-May 1962 bore somewhat an air of festivity as we thronged the Arts Concourse (now Dataran Sastera) to register as new students. At that time it was no easy feat to be admitted into university (unlike now when almost everybody with means can enrol himself/herself in any private university). After being asked to wear the green tie (signifying a 'Freshie') bought there, a wide-eyed boy I was, was greeted by some seniors to "interview" me and other friends at the Concourse. My colleagues and I took it sportingly as our excitement to be undergraduates overrode our nervousness.

THE CAMPUS

In those days our university campus was a beautiful expanse of green grass dotted with young plants yet to mature. Situated in a valley and bordered by low hills the campus was still devoid of the concentration of buildings that we see now. Initially, there were only three Faculty buildings. Besides the Faculty of Arts with its Art Concourse, there were Faculty of Engineering and

Faculty of Science. Later Faculty of Agriculture was set up. The early Residential Colleges were First College and Second College to be followed later by Third College, especially for female students. An interesting episode on Third College will be described in the latter part of this write-up.

The existence of a lake (originally a tin mine) was an added beauty to the serenity of the campus which was then devoid of busy traffic and which was mainly used by students on foot. At that time the lake was suitable for boating both by students and staff. But it was not brightly lit. So at times the lakeside, with its verdant greenery, may have been utilised too for some nocturnal activities by some students.

THE AWARDS

It was the year when I was in the Upper Sixth Form that I was called for an interview in Kuala Lumpur for the Federal Scholarship for higher studies. So I had to travel along the way with my College classmates in Kuala Kangsar to the Interviewing Centre located at the old Dewan Bahasa Dan Pustaka building located at the present Jalan Cenderasari. In those days it could safely be said that it was jobs that were after you and not the other way round if you graduated from a university. This was especially so because at that time Malayanisation policy was still on since the time of the inception of Independence in 1957. At the interview we were given the hint that should we be successful in getting to the University we would be awarded a Federal Scholarship to study at the University of Malaya or in any other recognised university in the Commonwealth. And upon acquiring the coveted Degree we would be asked to serve with the Federal Government in a senior capacity. True enough; in April 1962, on being notified that I had passed the Cambridge HSC Examination in early March I received a letter from the Government awarding me a Federal Scholarship to study in the University of Malaya for the Degree of BA (Hons) towards serving in Malaysian Civil Service (MS. now known as PTD - 'Perkhidmatan Tadbir & Diplomati'). I was thankful to Allah that I was on my way to realise my dream that was to give back to my parents, to help alleviate their living and to assist my siblings through their schooling.

THE CHALLENGE

I took the Government offer as a challenge. I felt the pressure to study real hard for the Degree, failing which the RM2,460 per year scholarship (a big sum in those days) would go to waste. So when I was confronted by a senior after registering myself at the Faculty of Arts who cheekily asked me "What are you here for?" I replied to the effect that I needed to succeed to fulfil the Government objective as well as to assist my parents financially as they were just kampung folks with no definite income.

THE ACADEMIA

At that time subjects offered at the Faculty of Arts were Geography, History, Economics, Malay Studies, Islamic Studies, Chinese Studies and Indian Studies, out of which we were to choose three of them. It is pertinent to note that the Degree Course, whether for General Degree or Hons Degree was for three years only. Students were allowed to take three subjects in the first year and one or two subjects to specialise in the second and third years. The first year examination determined the subjects in which a student would qualify to pursue onwards for his or her attainment of the Degree. If one qualified in at least two subjects in the first-year examination he or she could choose to specialise in those two subjects or one subject only, to obtain a Hons Degree. The marks given were cumulative from the second-year examination to the third and final year assessment to determine whether one could be conferred a Hons Degree or just General Degree. Thus one can imagine the 'race' towards the ultimate success, no such thing as Honeymoon Year.

For the First Year, I took History, Malay Studies, and Islamic Studies. our Dean of Faculty was Prof John Bastin. He was also lecturing us on History. A fast-track lecturer he discouraged us from writing notes but to pay rapt attention to his narratives. But at the end of each session, he presented us with lots of references. So we had to make the Library our second home! For Kesusasteraan Melayu the late Prof Mohd Taib Osman came to mind. He could speak for hours on his pet topics with clarity. Prof Syed Hussein Ali lectured on Kebudayaan while Dr Yunus Maris did the Linguistics. Islamic Studies were confined to Islamic history and Arabic language lectured by Ismail Nawab of Saudi Arabia. Although qualified for all the three subjects I settled for Malay Studies. Although I liked History the most this class looked overcrowded.

Malay Studies Class consisted of only about 20 odd students, one-third of whom were ex-teachers who took

HSC examination as independent candidates. The ex-teachers were dubbed 'Mahasitua' but actually, they were just 2 or 3 years older than the rest, as they had just completed teacher-training. One of those notables was the late Dr Atan Long who went on to join this Faculty as a Professor.

malay STUDIES

Is was called Malay Studies all right, but it was a bit 'cacamarba'. I liked Arabic and I had a good grounding in Jawi and khat since I was in Malay School before joining English school in the 50s. Whatever 'storm' raging lately over Jawi/khat it is a sad day to note that it was abolished from the school curriculum in the 70s in favour of Romanised writing. This somewhat adversely affected the learning of religion and Al-Quran Kareem by our children.

Besides Sastera Lama and Sastera Moden as well as Arabic we had to do other papers like Kebudayaan, Comparative Linguistics and Psikologi Sosial, a brand-new subject introduced by the well-known Indonesian laureate, Prof Takdir Alisjabana who gave us lectures for some time. Personally, I had a liking for Psikologi Sosial. If the above subjects were not enough we were added on with another paper to sit for Bahasa Jawa! Yes, you read it right-Javanese with its own script, not unlike that of Tamil writing. Although the paper was to be answered in Javanese Romanised writing the Class felt a bit stung though we all accepted it sportingly.

As our University was still in infant stage many if not most lecturers were contracted from outside the country. Maybe FASS is keeping records of popular names like the late Prof Syed Naquib Al-Attas, Dr Hassan from Pakistan (lecturing us on Islamic History), Prof R. Roolvink and Dr Mees (from the University of Leiden), Dr Tjoa Soei Hock on Comparative Linguistics (from Indonesia) and many others, besides our local academics such as Prof Taib Osman and Dr Syed Hussein Ali. When we reached our Third and Final Year of Studies many newly qualified Malaysians joined the Faculty such as Dr Zahrah Buang, Dr Abu Bakar Hamid and Dr Asmah Hj Omar.

LIFE IN CAMPUS

In those days it had been said that in order to properly savour the university life one has to live in the campus itself. Being from a remote rural area I was one of those undergraduates being offered early to stay in the residential college. For me, it was First College. Like the Second College, it had its own tradition of celebration or

parties on auspicious days. Our then College Housemaster was the late Prof Hamzah Sendut, a very sporting personality who used to join us in such activities as welcoming New Year and other parties. Sometimes both residential colleges and the three faculties keep in turn to organise Balls. Thus Ball here and Ball there.. but it was clean fun so to say. It became a culture that we used to begin studying late at night especially during weekends. In the evening we went out and our favourite haunt was Lido, then at Brickfields for cheaper cinema tickets as well as it is not too far from the campus. But in mid-1963 our trips to Lido slowed down because a new phenomenon showed up: for the first time TV was introduced in First College, albeit in black-n-white only. This new technology drew most of us to the Living Room of the College, resulting in some missing lectures. As we studied into a late night our stomachs began to growl but the Canteen at the Students Union would then be closed already. So marched we did towards the only footstall just outside the main campus gate to get some grab. Everybody even now is familiar with Restoran Amjal. It started at about the same time as the opening of UM and is still operating there. Therefore Amjal too should celebrate its 60th anniversary!

On the night of 31 December and counting down to the New Year many of us left our desks to walk to the roundabout near the front gate. Reason? To stop the oncoming motorists in order to wish them Happy New Year. In one instance a student who rushed to shake hands with a motorist happened to be face to facewith none other than our VC Alexander Oppenheim. The old man took it sportingly but quietly advised the student to go back and study as the examination was approaching.

“In one instance a student who rushed to shake hands with a motorist happened to be face to face with none other than our VC Alexander Oppenheim.”

THIRD COLLEGE OR THIRD COLLEGE

This was a new phenomenon as this hostel, opened during the final year of studies, was meant entirely for girl-students and also taken care by the senior female lecturer. Formerly the girls were housed in a separate wing of the First College. As soon it opened many jokes (maybe some of them were fakes) went round about this College and its occupants. But the most unbecoming of a practical joke on this College, which I considered very distasteful, was dubbed The Panty Raid. It was midnight and the girls began to go to bed when series of firecrackers exploded on the College balcony. The girls were caught screaming in fear and sought places to hide. At this instance, the raiders took with them some dresses which were left hanging to dry. In a panic, the Housemistress called the Police. But I could not determine the outcome as I was not there to witness the incidence. All I know was that the raid was engineered by an exchange student from the U.S and executed by the naughty local students. Talking about American aggression.

Perhaps as a consolation whatever those naughty students did, it was only within the campus area. It never spilt over, no politics, no demos...at least in the 60s.

INTO THE REDX WORLD

My Hons Degree result was announced in March 1965 and by 2nd April I was already sitting at a desk in the Ministry of Transport as an Asst Secretary. For the Convocation Ceremony we were the only batch of graduands given the honour to receive scrolls in the Parliament House, from our First Prime Minister himself. Among the guests were Cabinet Ministers. As my late father could not attend it as he had to take care of my ailing sister, the presence of my Minister late Tun Hj Sardon Jubir cheering me up, lifted my spirit.

Pondering during these retiring days I cannot help but to again express my heartiest thanks and indebtedness that go to the University of Malaya, particularly FASS for having moulded me into a person with enough courage to face life in the world of many challenges, albeit still a very young man at that time.

Biodata – Dato’ Shaari Mohd Noor retired from the Civil Service in July 1994 as Secretary to the Education Service Commission. He was appointed Deputy Chairman of Film Censor Board in Kementerian Dalam Negeri in 1995 and went on to be its Chairman from 2000-2005.



Welcome

TO THE FACULTY OF ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Dr. Vilashini Somiah (Gender Studies Programme)

- PhD Southeast Asian Studies, The National University of Singapore
- MA Southeast Asian Studies, Ohio University
- MA Media Studies, Universiti Malaya
- BA (Hons) Media & English Lit, Universiti Malaya

Expertise Focus:

Anthropology, Sabah Studies, Human-non human relationships, Migration and mobility, Gender studies

Teaching Focus:

Gender and Sexuality, Gender and Masculinity, Gender, Science and Technology, Gender and Indigenous Knowledge

Dr Tan Miao Ing (History Department)

- PhD History, Universiti Malaya
- MA Economics, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
- BA (Hons) Economics, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

Expertise Focus:

Business history, History of the Chinese in Malaysia, Urban History

Teaching Focus:

History of China, Documentation in History, Government and Politics in Southeast Asia

Dr Nur Dayana Mohamed Ariffin (History Department)

- PhD Science and Technology Studies, University of Edinburgh
- MA History and Civilisation, International Islamic University Malaysia
- BA (Hons) History and Civilisation, International Islamic University Malaysia

Expertise and Teaching Focus:

Southeast Asia colonial history, colonial science, census and cartography