

# manga

the monash gazette 2016



COLOURS OF THE WIND

**You think the only people who are people  
Are the people who look and think like you  
But if you walk the footsteps of a stranger  
You'll learn things you never knew, you never knew**

**- Pocohantas**



# FOREWORD



## *Colours of the wind*

*Can you paint with all the colours of the wind?*

Cliché much? Perhaps – but there's more than meets the eye for this Disney-inspired theme.

While deliberating on a suitable theme for our magazine, we all agreed that we wanted something that celebrated the diversity on campus our university prides itself on. Not just by faculties or the more common ones country of origin or ethnicity, but simply as human beings. With that, we present to you: Colours of the Wind, the magnum opus of sorts of MUSA Editors 2016 as the semester approaches the home stretch and yet another chapter of the academic year comes to a close.

*"We become not a melting pot but a beautiful mosaic. Different people, different beliefs, different yearnings, different hopes, different dreams" –  
Jimmy Carter*

Colours of the Wind tells the many tales of Monashians, from unspoken battles to ambitious dreams. Besides that, we dug deeper to comprehend the real meaning behind this phrase. But all in all, it has been truly a heart-warming experience to curate instances of togetherness in this issue and we hope you will equally enjoy it. Of course, it may not be perfect, but we are more than happy to hear what you have to say about it. After all,

*Ancora Imparo – Michelangelo*

We truly appreciate the contributions and support we've received throughout the past year. What an experience and journey it has been. Spread love and not hate y'all. And with that – peace out.

*Warmest Regards,  
Janice, Ashween & Aurelie  
Editors*

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# THEME OF THE MONTH

The MUSA Editorial Board 2016 proudly presents the **Theme of the Month competition** where students can showcase their creativity and get rewarded for it.

We proposed the theme **'The Yellow Brick Road'** for the month of August while for the month of September, we proposed the theme **'Silver Lining'** where both themes complement the main theme of this semester's issue of Monga which is **'Colours of the Wind'**

All students were encouraged to submit a creative piece based on these themes, be it an essay, poem, illustration, photograph or sketch.

All submissions received were uploaded on The Monash Weekly and the best pieces for each theme were chosen. **The winning entries are featured right here in this current Monga issue!** The winners were also each awarded a voucher worth **RM50 from H&M!**

We thank all the participants for their contributions and we hope to see more great masterpieces from you guys next year!

## THEME OF THE MONTH: THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD

# WINNER

**“Journey” by Nicole Loh**



Happiness is promised,  
At the last yellow brick,  
With its stone chipping,  
Awaiting our arrival.

It stretches on, far and wide,  
Intimidating, and yet ever so slightly,  
It beckons for a first step,  
With our very own ruby slippers.

Everyone only speaks of the joys,  
Never of the griefs,  
Of the pains, and perils,  
And never of the journey.

The 'others' will come,  
Armed with harsh words,

Sharing their displeasure,  
Of the roads not taken.

Detours are made,  
The bricks are tiled,  
Shades of red and blue,  
Clashes against the yellow.

Root yourself on yellowed bricks,  
Turn a deaf ear to the doubts,  
As you make your own path,  
Only you know what is good for you.

Happiness is promised,  
At the last yellow brick,  
With its stoned chipping,  
As you finally arrive.

## THEME OF THE MONTH: **SILVER LINING**

# WINNER

**“B&W”** by Katherine Khaw



I don't understand colours.

By this I mean, I don't see them the way you do. I see shades, but they are all just white, grey and black to me.

I have achromatopsia. A condition also known as total colour blindness. Due to damaged cone cells, colour vision is ruled out. There is no cure.

I don't know colours.

I wear tinted spectacles, or else my eyes conjure pain for me. One of the effects of this condition is light sensitivity.

Perhaps people would find it a shame, but I feel fine. I haven't always been fine, however.

Turn to my left and I see him. Mark, he smiles at the clouds above, even as we lay on the grass watching them rumble by. Eyes closed, time moves in reverse.

It's a bit of a story, you know. How we met. A year older, differing situations, one unfamiliar playground. A tumble out of my kindergarten when the world of colours frustrated my monochromatic one, and he, there by the beaten road, when words formed hey.



Strangers. Strangers in the merciless drizzle that we call rain, this is how our fates intertwined. I remember these: the tissue you gave me, the hand that guided me back to the kindergarten, your farewell.

I found you in primary school in the following year. Eaten melon bread with some of your friends, cheeky fellows that they were. You silly bubble of a person, dropping that melon bread when I appeared.

Mark, I said.

You called me soundlessly and I responded. Oh, and we both knew how it went, the unlikely friendship that bloomed. So many years, they run by. I learn who you are with each passing moment.

The boy of seven, grieving for a mother gone. The boy of ten, becoming a doctor to find a cure for my condition. The boy of twelve, my artistic companion, painting with me, describing colours I cannot remember. The boy of fourteen, by the Christmas tree that

lonely night. The boy of nineteen – no, the best friend and man of today, watching black-and-white movies, wearing wacky-coloured clothing that looked good in my eyes, paint wars and cloud watching.

The grin that tugs on my lips as my eyes open. See a cloud that looks like fluffy, irresistible cotton candy. Turn to him once more, I catch him watching. With deliberate blinks, I am reminded of how someone can live without knowing how much another cares for them.

Mark, I whisper.

Jen, he replies with the crinkle of his eyes. **You paint my dark skies grey**, I say. No lying about reality, no claiming that pain will cease to exist. I know that nothing is perfect. He knows it too. Yet he smiles so wide, I don't think I've ever seen it again.

And that, is the most wondrous thing I've ever heard, he muses.

Him being here – **he's definitely my silver lining to this monochromatic world.**

## HONORABLE MENTIONS



*"There is always a silver lining in every clouds. If you're going through tough times, keep on going!"*

*- Joweze Lee*

## THEME OF THE MONTH: THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD

# HONORABLE MENTIONS

## “Here” by Katherine Khaw

How did we get here?

Depending how and when that question is posed, a myriad of answers transpire.

I worked hard, a student may say. I choose to be kind to everyone I meet, an adult may proclaim. I shared my sweets, a child may exclaim. With my own feet, an impertinent youth may interject.

So many responses, yet the plural dimension given to this question mark is not one I can agree with. While they seem valid at that point of time, as time draws long, subtle like an evening's shadow, there is a need for a wider perspective.

What is here, if not built on other people?

This peace we take for granted, it's built upon a mountain of bodies, both deserving and undeserved.

This meal that we partake, the grains of the soil sowed and reaped by the farmers.

These skyscrapers, bridges, walls and highways, they are hereby the hands of the one we call illegal and a threat.

The journey of the self is not ventured alone. We walk in so many ways sometimes in ways that don't even make sense. Some crooked lines run straight and the path that stretches long and wide, they trap you in circles.

The enemy that you have may turn out to be the friend of a lifetime, while the one you thought you loved may grow cold and distant, a thief. No matter how many scars and stumbles and tears surface, they are there because of both you and me.

Don't you know? The flutter of a butterfly's wings today will bring a storm tomorrow.

So perhaps, just perhaps, it would be wise to ask once again.

How did we get here?



## THEME OF THE MONTH: **SILVER LINING**

# HONORABLE MENTIONS

### **“Silver Lining” by Calvin Fernandez**

Dad was hardly home before I was diagnosed and he was never bothered about how everything was with us. He hated my mum as much as she did with him – probably that was why they got that divorce I never comprehended when I was six. I remember asking my crying mother where did he go but my question was left unanswered. Honestly, I did not think he would come back for me now but surprisingly he did, and it was the first in the longest time that I had seen him hug my mother and it made me feel really good amidst all the pain.

In another corner, my older brother sat quietly against the water dispenser while looking just as distraught as he was when he first left the house seven years ago. It was because of a fight he had with my mother when he brought a guy home to introduce to her. I remembered her yelling at him and I cried in my room the entire night because I was so afraid he would leave just like dad – and he did. It was only after a few years that mum sat me down and told me that it was wrong to do whatever she did and she apologised for putting me through all of that. He never really wanted to come back until he found out about me, and when he did, mum apologised and I remembered him hugging her so tight the night he arrived.

“So, it is really dangerous and you cannot take it out?” I asked the doctor in charge softly one night. He flipped through his file and then looked up. “It is not that I can’t. I am just not sure if it would be a good idea”. He sounded like he had given up on me and I really did not know what else to say but to smile and nod my head. “That’s alright then I guess. Thank you anyway” I mumbled quietly and leaned back. “I’m sorry” he muttered before leaving the room. I was not sure how to react but I think a part of me was just really afraid of this cancer because being alone and in pain terrifies me but another part of me was somewhat grateful for it.

It made me feel extremely happy though – the three of them together, finally and I guess despite all this fear I have of dying with the excruciating pain and loneliness, it feels more of a blessing than anything else because now they have a reason to be together – something I have always wanted growing up and I think that would make up for all of this pain and for some reason, it feels right.



*silver lining*



# COLOURS OF THE WIND

# 'Cloudy Days'

by Katherine Khaw

I have a pet cloud  
Yes, those fluffy blobs in the sky  
My friend night and day  
With tempers and playful wisps along the way  
Brings things for me to ponder and wonder

Red  
The slick cap  
It appears as though an adventure is set for  
today

Orange  
A dozen of them  
Hide for shelter, quick, else they'll pelt me  
Though after this they'd be delicious orange  
juice

Yellow  
A shower of stars  
Falling, falling, falling  
The aftermath of fireworks left in the night

Green  
Lucky four-leaf clover  
It gently lands into my hands to say  
I represent faith, hope, love and luck  
And I'm wishing you the best in every step of  
the way

Blue  
Running down streams and car windows  
Rivulets of water  
Oh, pet cloud  
You seem to be crying today



Indigo  
An umbrella of this shade  
Small and foldable  
This is who I go with whenever my cap's  
gone away

Violet  
Petals of the flower  
A storm that goes  
And it runs through my hair  
Can't help but to say that it does make me  
feel fair

My pet cloud  
Whether down there or up above  
Though I may not see  
I know there my cloud will always be

More than a pet  
A friend, guardian and help  
In every shape and size  
You've always been my greatest prize





# COLOURS OF MAURITIUS

by Hosheeta Ramsurrun

Mauritius, an island populated by a seamless **blend of many different cultures, traditions and languages.**

Through decades and centuries, many different colorisations occurred in the island, all contributing to its now rich and colourful culture. Every aspect of the island illustrates the **amalgam of all the beautiful cultures** which make up the very **core and heart** of the country. From the flag of Mauritius to the typical Mauritian cuisine and even the festivals celebrated in the country, all of them are a demonstration of how **Mauritius is a very colorful country.**

One thing that illustrates both the multicultural aspect of Mauritius AND its colourful side is the diversity of festivals celebrated across the island throughout the year. The list is quite long, but some of the most prominent ones include the Chinese New Year, Divali, Eid, New Year among many others.


During the Chinese New Year celebration period, the whole country is painted red with decorations in the form of **red** lanterns, good fortune signs or even basic paper cutting. **Red** colour is often associated with the Spring Festival as red is a colour which drives off bad luck and brings positivity. Even the Dragon dance carried out during the festival has shades of red.

On the other hand, during the pious period of Maha Shivratri, the entire island is engaged in fervor with pilgrims making their way to Grand Bassin with their colourful 'kanwars'. White is the colour seen through out the country, with the pilgrims wearing white clothes and even the 'kanwars' have a white background with colourful trinkets and mirrors adorning them. The white colour surrounding the festival gives a peaceful aura to the whole celebration and also signifies the purity of it.


As for the Thaiposam Cavadee, the bright and spiritual colour of fuchsia,

with some touch of saffron colour, takes over the island. The various cavadee processions around the island have devotees of Lord Muruga dressed in either **fuchsia** or **saffron** attires and carrying their handmade colourful cavadees, richly decorated with flowers, leaves, lime and peacock feathers. The whole atmosphere on the day of Cavadee is full of zeal and dedication as well as harmony, which is symbolized through the **fuchsia** colour.


During Divali celebration, two colours may be associated to it: **red** and **yellow**. **Yellow** represents the light from the various lit lamps across the country, showing the path while red is considered as a sacred and celebratory colour. The entire island is lit up on the day and eve of Divali and family gatherings are a common practice, showing the togetherness of the festival. Divali, being a festival of light as well as happiness and sharing, creates a great




atmosphere of positivity, happiness and togetherness throughout the island and hence best described by the colour **red** and **yellow**.



As for Eid, the traditional colour associated with the festival is **green**. Eid is celebrated to mark the end of the Ramadan period, also symbolised by the birth of the new moon. **Green**, being a color of rebirth best symbolizes this. Also, Eid is a festival of togetherness - bringing together all close family members and friends as **green** is a colour which nurtures love for family and friends.



Finally, one of the biggest celebrations in the country is the welcoming of the New Year, celebrated by one and all. The New Year's Eve as well as New Year is a grand celebration and most people will agree, they are the **golden** days of the year. **Gold** can be associated to the merriment of the New Year as everyone will be dressed as best as they can along with all the beautiful fireworks lit on that day. The entire sky becomes colourful and an atmosphere of celebration and enjoyment is present.



Mauritius is a multicultural society, which makes it a very colorful country. Each celebration has their own traditions related to them and when we bring all of them together, a great amalgam of colors is obtained. Throughout the year, Mauritius experiences different periods, each with a different atmosphere and color, based on the festivals happening. **Living in such a diversified country is very enriching.**

# George Mendoza: The Not-So-Blind Painter

by Sandeep Dhanoa



**'Colours of the Wind'.** What does this supposedly mean? After all, what is the colour of the wind?

To me, colours of the wind symbolises **equality**. The wind hits the rich, the poor, the dark-skinned and the fair-skinned, equally. To Pocahontas, colours of the wind symbolizes appreciation, as she seeks to educate the metropolitan-raised John Smith, on the finer things in life. However, for George Mendoza, colours of the wind symbolises a series of paintings which reflects his take on life. Mendoza, though, is no ordinary painter. He is also an Olympian, a former record holder for 1500m, an accomplished author and motivational

speaker. On top of that, he is visually impaired.

Yes, Mendoza is somewhat of a **'blind' painter**. Ironic right? But to call him blind is serious injustice because he sees so much more of the world, than many of us ever have. Born in 1955 in New York, Mendoza was diagnosed with *fundus flavimaculatus*, or more commonly known as Stargardt disease - a rare, degenerative eye disease. This led to a loss of vision up to almost 80%. What remains is a mere peripheral vision, or as he calls it, "**Kaleidoscope Eyes**"; intense, burning images of fiery suns and vivid pinwheels.

Mendoza's loss of vision robbed him of many things, yet, he continued to defy the odds. Mendoza was always a very talented athlete, even before his loss of eyesight. In March 1979, Mendoza rewrote history books as he set the record time of 4:31.7 for the 1500m in the United States Association of Blind Athletes (USABA)

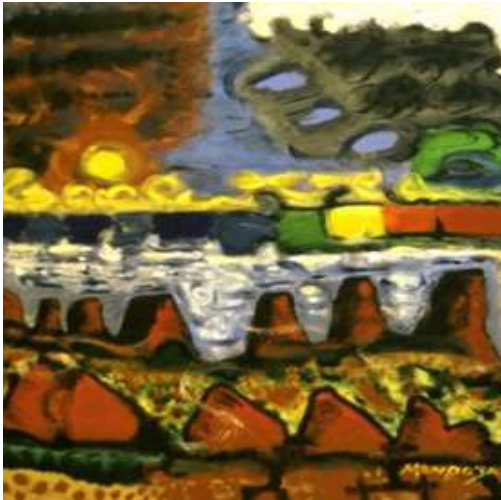
National Championships. Mendoza then went on to represent the United States in the 1980 Paralympics, held in Arnhem, Holland. Building on his success, Mendoza decided to add another feather to his cap with the Spirit Man Trilogy. Published in 2000, this book is inspired by Mendoza's interpretation of his very own **magical experience of running through a gateway towards an enchanted world** while he was out on a long run in New Mexico.

Nevertheless, among all of his incredible achievements, Mendoza's best work is his series of **Colours of the Wind paintings**. The very fact that a visually impaired individual has the motivation and the courage to even pick up a paintbrush itself is an act worthy of admiration, let alone to produce a set of fascinating paintings. However, the main question here is, what inspired Mendoza to pick up a paintbrush? One of the reasons lies within a question that he was





**Kaleidoscope Eyes:** *Mendoza offers a glimpse into his vision as colours dance around in his head, forming vibrant and complex patterns.*



**What Colour is the Wind?** *This represents Debbie's thought-provoking question to Mendoza.*



**Butterfly Eyes:** *One of Mendoza's very first paintings. He went for a hike and soon realised that masses of orange and black were floating around him. They were butterflies.*



**Blind Man Touching the Sun:** *Mendoza loves the sun and thinks of his as his daily companion. Here, he is looking to "caress the sun", his way of saying thanks to their humble friendship.*

asked when he was beginning to lose his vision at the age of 15. "Can you tell me, what colour is the wind?" asked Debbie, a girl who was born without the gift of an eyesight. This question served as the fulcrum to Mendoza's creative senses. What happened next, as they say it, is history.

Mendoza's acrylic Colours of the Wind paintings were showcased at the Ellen Noel Art Museum, in the University of Texas, from July 7 up to September 23, 2015. This exhibition represents Mendoza's most notable achievement in his time as a visionary painter.

Each of the 50 paintings that were showcased illustrated Mendoza's interpretation of the human spirit, rather than being a mere image on a canvas. These paintings provided an insight to the fascinating bits and pieces of Mendoza's gray matter, as they represent a memory and a fullbody sensory experience of a particular journey in Mendoza's life.

No amount of words can be put to pay homage to Mendoza's remarkable achievements. This author, motivational speaker, athlete, Olympian, artist, and above all, human being, has educated many on the virtue of passion

and resilience. Armed with a paintbrush, a canvas and imagination, Mendoza certainly is a living embodiment of an individual who sucks out all the marrow of life. This then begs the point to be pondered upon, maybe, just maybe, Mendoza may not be so visually impaired after all. Perhaps it is us...

# INTERVIEWING ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DR. SHAMSUL HAQUE

by Shazia Fathima

Colours of the Wind can signify various things to different people. The first thought that would occur to most minds would be the song from the Disney movie "Pocahontas", implying the importance of love for humanity and nature. My take on Colors of the Wind would be that the wind signifies our short lives on this planet, just as how wind comes and goes rather quickly. **The colours represent the differing emotions and life experiences across our lifespans.** Depending on context, yellow could mean happiness, red could signify love and anger, blue could represent tranquility or sadness and green could signify spirituality or nature, just to list a few.

As such, I decided to interview a person that lived up to my perspective of the Colors of the Wind and he is none other than the Head of Psychology in Monash Malaysia, Associate Professor Dr. Shamsul Haque. I drew inspiration from Dr. Shamsul after consulting him for a psychology assignment, where he had shared a little

about his life to me and my friends about growing up in a village in Bangladesh with a family of eight through poverty and coming up to where he is today. Below are some excerpts from my short interview with him.

**"I understand that you and your family grew up with a lot of hardships and struggles through poverty. Is there any specific event that you'd like to share with us that taught you life lessons?"**

There are so many events actually. It's not a specific event but it happened everyday. Our residence was about 3km away from my father's workplace - a jute mill situated in the district called Khulna. I saw that my father used to leave home at 7.30 am to start his work at 8 am. Everyday, he used to come back home during lunch break from 12.30 pm to 2 pm. So within these 1.5 hours, he took an hour to walk to and fro, with only half an hour to eat, pray and rest. Maybe he's able to rest for 5 minutes before going back to work. His work used to end at 5 pm. And that's something that

startled me: why does my father come back home for lunch everyday, taking the time and effort? Those days, there weren't many vehicles and my father couldn't afford to take any vehicle anyway. But I know some other people working in the same industry didn't come home for lunch as they bought lunch and ate in the canteen. So one day I asked my father: 'why does he come home for lunch everyday?' He said that food at the canteen is expensive; if he ate lunch at home, he could save money which could then be spent on our education. This statement inspired me to think how much my father was sacrificing for the family and our education.

There are so many memories! I used to see that my father would go back to our village almost every month. He had some inherited land that he gave to local farmers to cultivate. He would get a portion of the crops. As his salary was not enough to maintain our family expenses, he used to sell the crops to be used for the family. And on many occasions, I saw

that, when my father travelled to the village, we ran out of food. My mother would then go to the neighbour's house to borrow some rice - sometimes 1kg, sometimes 0.5kg - to cook for us. As I was the eldest son, it affected me tremendously because I could not do anything for the family at that young age. **These experiences have, however, taught me a few things.**

**1.** We (family) were going through a kind of poverty, so learned not to expect anything from our parents. During the Eid festivals, people would normally buy new clothes. We would however never expect any such things as we knew that our parents could not afford it. Buying new clothes for six children was impossible for them. We learnt that if we asked for new clothes and they could not buy it, they will be embarrassed; so we never asked for anything. Always, I thought: 'we must come out of this poverty.' **My father used to tell me that education is the only way for us to get out of this misery. And education is the only way through which we can build a prosperous life.** He used to say that he may not have enough money to support our education, but if needed he would sell all his inherited land for the cause. This is something that inspired me tremendously and gave courage to continue with my studies.

**2.** I have learned to be humble and lead a simple life. We used to live in a small two-

room tin-shed house. Our meals were very simple; steamed rice, dhal and maybe sometimes, mashed potatoes. Sometimes, small fishes. I don't remember eating big fishes because those were expensive. We used to eat a lot of veggies because they were cheap. Chicken maybe once a month when there was a sudden visit of relatives or guests. **So, the whole experience taught me to be humble and not too ambitious about materialistic things.** When I was in the university doing my undergraduate and Master's degree, I only had one pair of shoes, one pair of trousers and one shirt. I had to wash my clothes almost every day.

**3.** I learnt to be content. I must mention one thing, I did never feel sad because of all this. This was our lives and something that we're going through but we were all happy with that life. The relationship between siblings was excellent; playing, fighting and sharing. I used to bring my school tiffin for my younger siblings. We did not feel sad or hold a sense of deprivation. We had a very happy family. Our parents were extremely conscious of their own behaviour and expressions. They knew that we could be affected by their expressed unhappiness and disagreements on certain issues, so they never fought in front of us. I remember one day they said they were going out, but they had went out to discuss or settle some issues in our absence.

I was big enough to understand that, but not the younger siblings. So those are the little, little things my parents were cautious about while raising six children.

**4.** I learnt to **care for others and think about others' perspectives, needs and preferences, and try to make people happy. I try not to be the reason of people's unhappiness or sadness.**

Words of wisdom from Dr. Shamsul encourage Monashians to **contribute to community activities or projects to open our insights into the lives of others.**

**If every privileged soul could help another, the world would be a much better place to live in.** This help could be a simple gesture of smiling at someone, helping an elderly person to carry items or even opening up a foundation to support causes.

**He encourages us to be kind, to want to genuinely help others from deep down in our hearts and not for any other selfish reasons.** Today, Dr. Shamsul runs a foundation called Haque Foundation to help talented underprivileged children in his village in Bangladesh to receive education.

It was a very humbling experience to interview Dr. Shamsul. A little kindness from deep within does indeed go a very long way.



Humans of Monash began as a photography project in 2014.

The goal was to gain insights about Monashians' short stories from their lives.



# HUMANS OF MONASH

# GWINYAI

IN DEPTH INTERVIEW

**“I like to eat yeast and shoe polish for dinner so I can wake up and rise and shine”.**

That was just something I found online... what I do believe in is this: drive, conviction and willpower. The idea that we can always better ourselves and that our potential is limitless. Speaking from a scientific point of view, you'll find that every organism lives in a way that will fully optimises itself... and I think that it's so strange that humans are the only organisms that don't live this way - we don't live to our full potential all the time. I guess that's why I'm always trying to do more; to work hard, and better myself. I have a lot of goals and visions and things I want to get done. So I'm always asking myself what more can I do, what more I can contribute. This isn't for everyone, but for me, to not make it is not an option. Be unrelenting. In the words of Margaret Thatcher, **“Stand on principle or don't stand at all”.**

For me, my goals are unequivocally about making money... but the reason why has very little to do with money. I know that sounds counterintuitive, but it's about what you have to become to get the money. Billionaires go through drastic character changes: they're hard workers and have so many good characteristics that you have to have to get the gold. **In other words, I want to be who I have to become to become a billionaire.** You don't become a billionaire unless you're providing value, and I want to provide that much value. To provide value you must have value, and so for me, value is gold. It's all about value creation. If you want



to add value to anything or anyone, you first have to be of value yourself, therefore, if you want to make a difference, you first have to get yourself in a position to make a difference. But when you're trying to achieve something, it requires a lot of motivation and I personally find that self-motivation can be dwindling. It's very difficult to keep that up for long periods of time... but the moment you start doing it for someone else, that is an unlimited source of motivation. That will keep you going long after you're tired.

# ABY

IN DEPTH INTERVIEW

I'm not too certain of what I'm going to do later on: maybe a Masters in nursing or forensic anthropology. I'm not really grossed out by disgusting stuff like blood and gore, so I figure if I go into nursing it would be a really good thing because a lot of people are grossed out by that kind of the stuff, so I feel like I can help people that way. I also really like traveling but not to normal, mainstream places; I like going to really weird, random places, so if I work for an organisation like the International Red Cross, I can go to warzones and places like that which sounds way cooler.

I guess what really sets me apart is how impulsive I am. **\*Shows off tattoo of an alien on her ankle\***. I was bored one day and I took a normal sewing needle (of course, I sterilised it first with a lighter) and I dipped it into Indian ink and just kept poking myself until it was done. I've dyed my hair really weird colours, started off with red and when I got bored I



changed it to blue. I'm obsessed with Game of Thrones so I went out one day and bought silver dye and did my entire head myself at home and went around saying, **"Oh yeah, I'm a Targaryen"**. I've also gotten dozens of piercings: I've pierced the different parts of my ears multiple times and had a piercing on my side which got yanked out within like, a week, and had a whole chunk of flesh come out.



My friends and I do lots of crazy stuff. Whenever we get drunk in shopping malls, I stand guard outside the girl's bathroom and they (all guys) run inside to pee into soap dispensers. It's a tradition. The logic is that girls use more soap than guys, so it causes more damage; so if you're in a mall, don't use the soap! We also used to steal candy and nail polish and small stuff like that. Generally, I initiate stuff, but I get my friends to do it and then just go along for the ride... **I guess that makes me the mastermind.**

# SHAH

IN DEPTH INTERVIEW

What makes Shah, Shah? I am adventurous, outgoing and I love discovering new things. I also strongly believe in the phrase '**work hard, play hard**'. If I am assigned to something or I want some to make something happen, I will work really hard for it; but when it's time for me to enjoy, then I'm going to go all out with having fun. I live my life to the fullest. You will notice that on social media I always try to put this message across: work hard, play hard. After all, you only live once.



In 2007, there were 41 students in my high school class and I was the last student. I failed 6 out of my 8 subjects. That was also the year that I lost my grandmother whom I was very attached to. She was always motivating me and pushing me to do better, so after she passed away and when I eventually stopped grieving, I told myself that I would get my act together, both for myself and for her. That's when things really started turning around; I did pretty well for my O-Levels and that carried over to NS, MUFY and subsequently Monash, where I received a scholarship. **Everything that happened that year gradually shaped me into who I am today.** I really believe that when something happens to you, you can let it bring you down or you can recover from it and use it to propel you forward to achieve whatever you want to achieve. It makes you appreciate what you have; so, as long as you try and you learn from your mistakes, it's all good.

I eventually plan to start my own company and one day, when I'm financially capable, I want to give back to society. I want to run an old folks' home, because it's sad that in society, there are a lot of old folks that are not cared for by their children. I see all these old women selling *keropok* and I keep thinking that if it was my grandmother, I wouldn't be able to take it. I have a really soft spot for old people because of her. And if I'm really successful - I don't know if I'm being overly ambitious - then I want to build an orphanage as well.



# FILIAH

*IN DEPTH INTERVIEW*



Performing Arts Club and Radio Monash, and along the way got to meet people with the same interests as me. These clubs gave me an outlet to express myself and I feel like I gained family. My friends are the most important thing about my university life and I'll be really glad to be graduating with the group of friends that I started this journey with... I **can't wait to wear the graduation robe, cry and be happy that I'm graduating!**



I'm Singaporean, but I moved to Johor Bahru when I was 7 and came to KL when I joined Monash University, where I'm now in my final semester. I measure life in the different cities in terms of escalators: in Singapore, you put one foot on and you're already at the top whereas here in KL, you get on the escalator and you have time to contemplate about life. Singapore is very fast-paced and competitive; but I suppose KL is somewhat similar, it's still quite hectic but it's a little bit more relaxed. For me, JB is the perfect mixture of the two. Coming to Monash was great for me as I got to join clubs that I like, like the



# UMAR

*IN DEPTH INTERVIEW*

I am an exchange student from Copenhagen Business School and I've been here for about three months. Coming here has had a big impact on me and I think I've changed a little; I feel like I've become more open and that I want to travel more. Obviously, at the start I was a little nervous because I've never done anything like this before, but within a week I was so comfortable with my surroundings. Malaysia has so many places to visit and I've been making trips to different places with the other exchange students. The food here is very different from what we get in Denmark, which is all very simple, and we definitely don't have the variety and complexity that you get here, but I've gotten used to it. **It's still weird that Malaysians eat rice for breakfast though.**



I've enjoyed every day I've been here; I'm having fun just living in my unit at SMR. My housemates and I go to the gym and to the pool together, we play cards and watch movies every day, and I don't even think about Denmark anymore... **My mother knows that and she keeps telling me to come back and just for fun, I'll keep saying that I won't.** My parents are actually coming to visit me in Week 10 and they're saying that it's to drag me back home...

**MUSA DAY**

**ORIENTATION BASH**

**C&S WEEK**

**WOM\*N'S WEEK**

**MONASH CUP**

**MONASH RACE '16**



# **MONASH EVENTS**

**2016**

**ASEAN ENTREPRENEUR  
WEEK**

**MONASH ANNUAL BALL**

**MONASH WELLNESS WEEK**

**UNICODE**

**DAY OF THE DEAD**

# MUSA DAY

*Photographs by Janice Ng and Ashween*





# ORIENTATION BASH

Words by Janice

Photographs by Ashween, Janice, Tiffany & Claudia



29th of July 2016 was no Saturday to sleep in. Approximately 200 first years gathered at Monash University Malaysia at 7.30 am for the Orientation Bash. The weather was excellent; the sun beaming its glorious golden rays. Breakfast was provided to energise the students for an adrenaline-filled day of fun and activities organised by the Activities Department of Monash University Student Association (MUSA).

Before heading to Tadam Hill Resort, an ice breaking session was held at the field where students were split into 15 groups. This provided the opportunity for students to bond (and make new friends!) with their teammates and facilitators. Things started heating up as teams began identifying their competitors (naturally). The facilitators brought up the hype by confidently proclaiming, "My team will be champions today!" to their competitors.

Unlike the many previous Orientation Bashes where activities consisted of series of games and tele-matches, there are two game stations ran concurrently in two sessions: Land and Water. In Land, participants played a few games, one of the highlights is teams were required to work together in constructing an airplane model. As for Water, teams would need to work together to 'rescue' their fellow 'injured' teammate located on the other side of the lake via a raft. It was indeed a sight to behold to see everyone helping and looking out for each other!

It was all fun in the sun where many waded in the lake, soaking up the rays. Some bold and brave ones decided to take a leap of faith to either jumped or swung from a platform. A few decided to show off their creativity, unleashing their inner Pande-lla Rinong participating the diving competition. The sporty ones had a go at a water polo competition. Meanwhile, those who refuse to risk getting soaked had rousing games of volleyball and the all-time favourite among the participants: a giant Human Jenga. Of course, keeping up with the unofficial Orientation Bash's tradition, a few 'lucky' committee and council members got their sweet revenge from an overly enthusiastic bunch of freshies: being thrown into the lake – all in the name of additional points for their teams!

Dinner was a full-spread buffet, overlooking the picturesque hills and greenery, accompanied by the sight of the majestic setting sun! Prizes were presented shortly after and buses were quickly filled once again to send the Monashians back to reality and to battle the semester ahead!



# C&S WEEK

Photographs by Janice





# WOM\*N'S WEEK

Words by Shazia

Photographs by Claudia, Tien Chia & Tiffany



Wom\*n's Week is commemorated in Monash every year to empower one another, celebrate the achievements and pride of being a lady! Likewise, this year, it was celebrated in Week 5 with a variety of events across the week.

The week was kick-started with donut give-aways and a photobooth for everyone to capture memories. One can't deny free food and a great selfie or wefie, can we? ;) Subsequently, a complimentary manicure session was offered for the ladies during the week where they could be pampered and adorn their nails as they desire... with a colour that may be exotic and wild or as pretty and sweet as one could fancy! It was indeed a life

saver for many ladies during that hectic week, allowing us to have some 'me time' amidst our tiring week. The week was rounded up with a movie session of the much raved about 'Me Before You' along with some high tea. Many of the ladies were emotionally stirred, with lots of *awwws* throughout the movie. And yes, there was free food again!! The sumptuous high-tea included chicken quiche, *kuih ketayap*, blueberryscones with jam and cream, mini cream puff, chocolate rolls as well as hot coffee and tea.

Overall, the week was fruitful and couldn't have been better. Most of us ended our week with having some 'me time', pampering, giggles and made new friends!

# MONASH CUP 2016



# FEW WORDS

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# FROM MONASH CUP ATHLETES

**What are a few things you do currently in your training that are keys to your success?**

**Vie Vie:** In my opinion, ambition and persistence

**April May:** Obey my captains, cooperate with my team mates and never give up!

**What was your worst injury?**

**Christiana:** I broke my leg and could not walk for an entire week!

**Lucas:** I sprained my ankle in the starting of a competition and I could not play for the rest of the game.

**Eunice (Manticore Women Badminton TwM):** Recently, I just gotten anterior cruciate ligament partial tear with patella dislocation. I'm not supposed to play competitively but, oh well.

**What drives you play this particular sport?**

**Yamani:** I honestly think futsal is the most fun compared to other sports!

**Dina:** I have been playing volleyball since primary school, its different because team work is necessary which sometimes can't be found in other sports, you share happiness of winning and sadness of losing together.

**Izetta:** I chose badminton because it's a family sport, and I was influenced by my parents, especially my mom. I used to play badminton with my brother back in Philippines, but now I'm here playing for Manticore.

# FEW WORDS FROM COMMITTEE



## Moses Kum

"Monash Cup, four houses clash in a Battle Royale. Four houses, one winner, who will own the Monash Cup Shield next? Who will have it in the MUSA lounge for the year?"



## Navneet Singh

"Monash cup gave us a lots of laughs, great times and unforgettable memories"



## Xher Rael Choo

"It was truly a humbling experience to have been able to be a part of Monash Cup 2016, and to have witnessed everyone come together with amazing sportsmanship."



## Sarah Narcis

"Everyone gave it their all, everyone made it to the finish line. All in all, it was truly great to be apart of Monash history"

PS: Sorry for all the facebook spams :p



## Ee-Janne Yap

"Organising Monash Cup was a challenging but fulfilling experience. I learned a lot and am truly blessed that I got to be a part of it with people who I call family. C&S Division 2016, I love you all. To each and every one who made Monash Cup a success, thank you so much. <3"



## Jia Jun

"With student experience in mind, we wholeheartedly committed to ensure that Monash Cup was an event worth looking forward to"



## Lih Ling

"It brought about new friendships, healthy rivalries, and special bonds that will last far past our years in university :)"



## Timothy Leong

"Our goal was to make Monash Cup the biggest sports event in Monash, and we feel that we have accomplished that."



## Rusvin Dhevan

"It was amazing to see everyone in Monash coming together to achieve a common goal. Monash Cup will truly be an unforgettable experience for everyone!"



## Yuen Min

"Friendships were built and strengthened throughout the journey but together, we made Monash Cup a success"

# MONASH CUP 2016



## THE WAR RESUMES, A NEW CHAMPION SHALL RISE

Monash Cup 2016, I can't believe it's over. Loud cheers, colourful balloons and four very hopeful teams, that's how it all started. Our theme for Monash Cup this year was "Enter the Arena". The theme resonated from the idea of the coliseum and how battles between gladiators took place there. In the same way, the four house teams represented the gladiators. All 4 teams gave it their all during this event. There were a total of 18 events in this year's games. From badminton, futsal, table tennis to even rock climbing. All house captains did their best to encourage all their members to join and to support and boy, did they do a great job.

The games lasted for 2 weeks and was carried out at various locations in and out of Monash. Prior to this, all four houses trained tirelessly for multiple weeks just so they could take on each other in "battle". During each game, you can see how

dedicated the players are to the sport as well as their team. Team Spirit can strongly be felt when supporters are screaming and chanting to their teammates "Leviathan! Culebre! Manticore! Opinicus!". It was something great to be around.

However at the end, even though it was a close call between former reigning champions, Leviathan and Manticore, only one team could take all the glory and that team was.. MANTICORE!! Opinicus came in third while Culebre came In fourth. The experience was unforgettable and this will go down in Monash history! Despite the minor setbacks along the way, we hope you too had a fantastic #MonashCup2016 experience On a side note; beware of manticoreans because they have bragging rights and you can hear them ROAR!

- Sarah Narcis -



**DAY 1**



**OPENING  
CEREMONY**







**DAY 4**



**DAY 5**







DAY 6

DAY 7

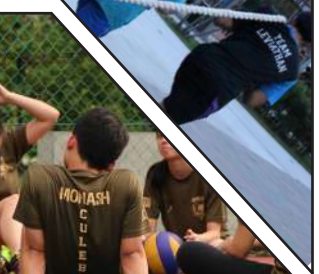




**DAY 8**



**DAY 9**





DAY 10



DAY 11



**DAY 12**



**CLOSING CEREMONY**



# 2019 MONASH CUP SCOREBOARD



Sports	Houses			
	Manticore	Leviathan	Culebre	Opinicus
Athletics	-	30	20	10
Badminton (Male)	10	20	-	30
Badminton (Female)	30	10	-	20
Basketball (Male)	10	20	-	30
Basketball (Female)	30	-	10	20
Captain ball	-	20	10	30
Cheerleading	30	20	-	10
Chess	30	10	-	20
Cricket	-	20	30	10
Dodgeball	30	-	10	20
Foosball	-	20	30	10
Frisbee	30	10	-	20
Futsal (Male)	20	10	-	30
Futsal (Female)	20	10	30	-
Obstacle course	30	10	-	-
	20			
Pool	10	30	20	-
Rock climbing	-	10	20	30
Swimming	20	20	-	30
Table tennis	10	30	20	-
Tug of war (Male)	10	30	20	-
Tug of war (Mixed)	10	30	20	-
Tug of war (Female)	20	-	30	-
Volleyball	10	20	-	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>350</b>

Organised by MUSA Clubs and Societies Division: Moses Kum, Rusvin Dhevan, Ee-Janne Yap, Lih-Ling Liew, Xher Rael, Yuen Min, Timothy Leong, Sarah Narcis, Ewaldo, Jia Jun and Navneet

Photography by Samuel Goh, Christina, Claudia, Kelly Goh, Terence Kong, Pei Er See, Tien Chia Lim, Ashween & Janice Ng

# MANTICORE



I remember walking into the Manticore AGM for the first time seeing a few familiar faces, exchanging pleasantries and wondering whether I would get the house captain position to only find out it was cancelled. So I attended the second scheduled AGM to run for the House Captain role. I remember giving my House Captain Role acceptance speech saying "I realize the hard work and dedication put in by the previous Manticore committee and Manticore House Captain Martin. So I'll try my very best to match his achievements or do one better. Anything other than that would be a failure for me and a disappointment for Martin. Go Manticore!"

I knew the task ahead was tough and to realize that I didn't know any of my committee personally or professionally made me ponder what was in store for me. It took us a while to figure each other's strengths and weaknesses. We didn't even have a full committee until the end of the semester and our Manticore sports captains were only confirmed in the 3rd week of the semester! But, that didn't stop us from trying our very best to work like a well drilled oil machine. Although it took us a while to put together a full committee I'm glad to have met every single one of my committee, sub-comm and sports captains. I'm a firm believer that when you want some-

thing very badly, the universe has a funny way of giving it to you. This whole Monash Cup experience has been a testament of that belief. For if it wasn't for their abilities, dedication, support and wisdom I would not be able to keep my oath to Martin the Ex-House Captain of Manticore. To quote someone who mattered once "when you're part of a team, you stand up for your teammates. Your loyalty is to them. You protect them through good and bad, because they'd do the same for you" and that is what we achieved together.

Now before I end this and focus on my assignment that's due I would like to thank Harish, Rhea, Kelly, Sharvin, Eugene, Pathana, Lim, Brian, Rachel, Vraj, Heng Len, Alex, JoYee, Krishna, Jasvin, Elin, Ken, Christy, Bryan Lim, Kokum, Andy, Audrey, Stephen, Krishen, Yu Jing, Shaun Tan, Ryan Loh, Hoo, Boon, Aaron, Alex Tng, Zeno, Suaid, Aiman, Darvin, Bryan Hung and all our dedicated, hardworking and patient athletes for winning Manticore the Monash Cup! Now we can move forward with fond memories and new friendships made at the Monash Cup 2016. All the best for your piling assignments and dreaded exams.

Kriishand Gopal  
Manticore House Captain



# OPINICUS



Sitting in the library, staring at the books and notes in front of me yet all that is on my mind is Monash Cup. Something I never would have thought about a few months ago became something so major in my life.

I still remember every single detail about Monash Cup, the election of the committee, the beginning of trainings, the sales of merchandise, mingle night and the list goes on. Monash Cup has brought a lot of strangers together, formed a lot of bonds between people and most importantly brought the best out of everyone. The supporters were all cheering their heart out, the athletes were fighting and putting their best on the field and yet the whole event was filled with laughter and joy despite it being a competitive event.

I would like to sincerely thank all Opinicus members for supporting or participating in the events, the team captains for leading the teams to do the best they could and most importantly my committee members for staying by me and assisting me in every way possible. It has been my greatest pleasure to lead the house and this has been a very challenging yet fruitful and memorable experience for me. Good luck and all the best to Monash Cup 2017!

Lai Kai Bin  
Opinicus House Captain



# CULEBRE



I couldn't be any prouder and thankful to ALL of you. From committee members to subcommittee members, sports captains, athletes and of course all the supporters, you all did your very best and for that, I am forever grateful.

We did not come out as champions and accepting defeat might be hard to swallow. Losses are heartbreaking, the thought of a missed shot, a ball off the post or a bad call by the ref. (Because let's face it, it's usually the ref's fault right? Kid-ding.) We think about what could have been. But we keep playing, we keep competing and that's what sport teaches you - to give it your all. It's that feeling of knowing that you've given everything you have in you that makes it worth it because there's just something about the ping as the ball connects with the bat, that last step you take when you cross the finish line, the crisp-

ness of an assist, the perfection in a well-timed shot, the adrenaline rush and that feeling you get when a goal is scored that keeps us going and to carry on the flame to fight for the game.

Do not be discouraged nor disheartened by defeat as all of you have gained so much. Do not forget the friendships forged and memories created. But most importantly, keep up the fighting spirit and **DO NOT EVER** give up playing the sport you love. Continue to play with love and passion because Culebre is nothing without you.

Last but not least,  
**CULEBRE - ALL THE WAY**

Cody Su  
Culebre House Captain





# LEVIATHAN



The House of Leviathan represents one of the houses in Monash Cup of Monash University Malaysia. We were the first champions of Monash Cup in 2015. This year, in Monash Cup 2016, Leviathans were tied with Manticore. We were only able to be the first runner-up, as the winner was determined by the highest number of gold medals. However, Leviathans were the actual winners from the bottom of our hearts. The title did not really mean too much to us at the end of the day. This is because everyone from Leviathan had obtained those valuable experiences, unforgettable memories and a multitude of friends. Something far more valuable and greater than the desire of being a champion.

As the house captain of Leviathan in 2016, I am really grateful to all the team players who represented the House of Leviathan and all the members who gave full support during the Monash Cup. To be honest, our committee and I were worried about if we could maintain our title this year, therefore, we tried our very best to serve our players the best we could. In the end, we all realized that the most crucial thing was to have fun together, go through hardships together and build memories together.

Because of the Monash Cup, I personally felt like there was an opportunity and destiny that tied all Leviathan members together. At the beginning of semester, some new students who just enrolled

into Monash were curious about the Monash Cup, what being a Leviathan was all about, etc. Some students who had already participated in 2015, were excited to participate again in Monash Cup 2016. Notably, more experienced students were willing to sacrifice their time to teach the newer students about their respective sports. Everyone became increasingly dedicated as time passed. However, this dedication was not powered by the desire to be champions, but fostered by the strength of an indescribable bond too valuable to lose- friendship. During the Monash Cup, all our Leviathan athletes gave an outstanding performance and all our members cheered with maximum spirit. At that moment where everyone else fought to be champions, was it really important to us anymore?

Leviathan defines legacy, leviathan defines unity, leviathan defines legendary. Leviathan has its own tradition and spirit which differentiates us from other houses, like our cheer: LEVIA-THAN-THAN-THAN! Without every single athletes representing Leviathan, there will be no 'Leviathan' in Monash Cup. Even so, everyone from Leviathan is also the essential component to the foundation of Leviathan. Without all of you, Leviathan is nothing. It is all about being a LEVIATHAN.

Cheong Wei Yang  
Leviathan House Captain



# MONASH RACE'16

Photographs by Ashween & Tien Chia







# ASEAN WEEK

# ENTREPRENEUR WEEK





by Sandeep Dhanoa

There are not many things in this world which screams 21st century louder, than Taylor Swift. Back in the day though, Olivia Newton John was the Taylor Swift of her generation. And while on her journey to achieving greatness, there was one particular band that once played for her, which stood out. Yes, the band of our very own Tan Sri Dato Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah, AO.

On September 22, at 7pm, Tan Sri Dato Seri Dr. Jeffrey Cheah, AO addressed a full house of students in Audi 1, as part of the ASEAN Entrepreneur Week. Held from September 19 - September 23 and organized by the Monash Entrepreneurship Club, this event was made up of three parts - a Start-up Fair, a Speaker Series and a Mega Bazaar.

The Start-up Fair, which was the first of its kind in our campus, brought together more than 30 organizations, and paved the way for students to build on their networking. Furthermore, the Speaker series, spearheaded by the humble Tan Sri Dato Seri Jeffrey Cheah and complemented by four other very capable leaders, was as inspiring as it was eye opening, as they offered a glimpse into their failures, before touching on their well-documented successes. Meanwhile, the Mega Bazaar served up an array of treats, with clothing, jewellery and of course food and drinks on offering. The RM 4 sugarcane and RM 10 lamb cutlets certainly did please my palate, but not so on my wallet.

If it doesn't differentiate our club from the rest, we would not have gone for it. But because it's the first ever campus wide event running for a week here in Monash, we have indeed achieved a milestone said Madeleine, Monash Entrepreneurship Club Vice President. Besides that Monash Entrepreneurship Club President Liang Hong also mentioned that: "Because we're committed to our member's satisfaction, they can always enjoy world class experience here, such as MEC Membership Card, ASEAN Entrepreneur Week, Singapore Company Visit and more. We always embrace why not instead of why."

Nevertheless, kudos to our Monash Entrepreneurship Club for successfully bringing together one of the most insightful events of the year, despite being under the pump with assignments, tests, and trying to find a parking spot anywhere around campus.

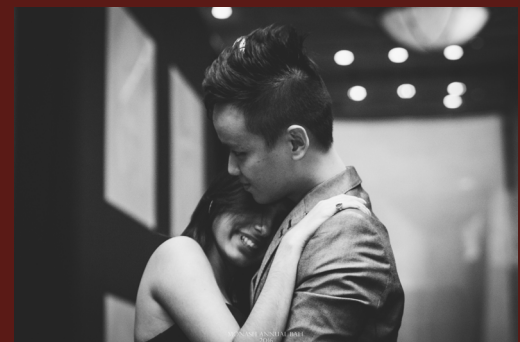




# HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD

—◆— MONASH ANNUAL BALL 2016 —◆—









One of the most awaited events for most students, especially those in their final or first year, the theme for the Monash Ball this year was Hollywood Boulevard. From the announcement of the theme of the night, a high level of expectation was set from the organizers of the event, the MUSA activities department.

The venue, Hilton hotel, was a beautiful place and as the guests started flowing in, the 'cocktail' area became flooded. Three different photo booths were set up; one having a gold background from where polaroid pictures were being printed for everyone, the second one was on a red carpet where interviews also were being conducted and the last one, which was by far the most eye catching one, was the big, bright HOLLYWOOD sign. There was also Harley Quinn and Tyrion Lannister doing rounds and clicking pictures. However, when one thinks of Hollywood Boulevard, the first thing to come to mind is the Hollywood Walk of Fame and its stars, which was missing from the décor.

The show kicked off at around 7.30pm and food was served as well. The promised 4-course meal was served, starting with an appetizer filling a quarter of the plate with rolls of vegetables. Then came the pumpkin soup with pieces of apple inside, followed by the main course consisting of a grilled chicken breast and anna rostipotato. The dessert was the most satisfying plate of the night with a star anise and mango Dacquoise served with a refreshing vanilla ice-cream. The menu was overall one full of different vegetable and fruits mainly, blending them in an innovative way.



The show of the night was emceed by Will Quah and had a very enthusiastic presence on stage, even though throughout most of the show everyone was busy devouring their meals. The show started with a band performance consisting of different types of drums, which was very impactful. This act was followed by a great act by a dance troupe called ..... which played along with laser lights during their performance. Then while having dinner, Johannes Koo, who represented Malaysia in the Voice China, did a singing performance on a few very popular songs such as,.....

comedic timings. After that came the election of Mr and Ms Monash 2016. While this used to be a greatly entertaining part of the evening, the election was cut short due to the lack of audiovisual and music and hence, only the votes of the students decided who to be elected. The event ended with the couples slow dancing the night away on the dance floor. All in all, even though plagued by some problems, the Monash Annual Ball 2016 was a great night where some amazing memories were made for many.

❖❖❖ END ❖❖❖

After that act, there was a sudden power cut and no audiovisual or sound was available anymore. For around 45 minutes, the entire show was down. Following this incident, when the show reprised, there was a stand-up comedy show from three comedians who entertained the crowd with their

# MONASH ANNUAL BALL 2016

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# MONASH WELLNESS WEEK

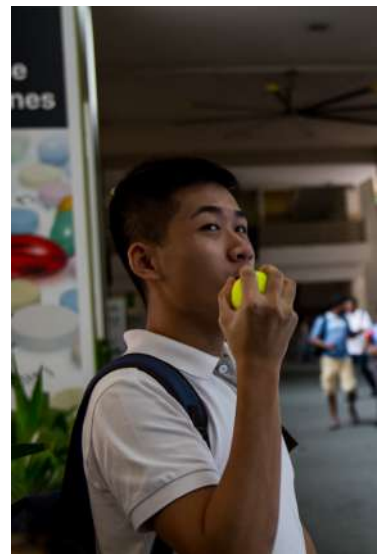
Words by Katherine  
Photographs by Kelly



Even as the semester draws to an end, with exams and assignments due, health conditions are bound to deteriorate. Thus, the Monash Wellness Week held on 5th & 6th October is well timed. Many activities are held to cater to the students' health needs, be it physical or mental. There are booths everywhere, ranging from free shoulder massages, a dunk tank, free hugs and even pillow fights!

A forum is held on suicide prevention, healthy eating, plus the launching of the 10 000 Steps Campaign. There is a recognition that one needs to take care of themselves, that there is a need for a healthy mind and body. Thus, Monash University Malaysia is truly a campus that looks after its students, equipping its facilities with counselling services and psychological first aid. The event ends with a Zumba workshop.





# UNICODE

*Words by Jonathan*

Here in Monash, you are likely to find sporting events taking place every weekend throughout the second semester. Running events, treasure hunts and the Monash Cup ruled the season and tested the physical capability in us. However, on the weekend of 7th October, brain matter, rather than muscle matter, was tested and strained in a competition for a whopping 24 hours!

UniCode, made for students by students, was held at INTI International College Subang on the 7th and 8th October, running for 24 hours continuously. Pioneered by a group of 4 spirited students from the University of Wollongong (UOW) programme in INTI International College Subang together with the School of IT MUSA School Representatives, UniCode was born with the idea of introducing Malaysian undergraduate students to competitive programming. With students nowadays being hesitant to join such competitions, UniCode also served to build confidence in students to join other hackathons. Its name UniCode, however, should not be confused with the universal encoding standard used on computers, but rather signifies the participation of universities all over Malaysia.

Participants were allowed to join with teams comprising of 1 to 3 members. The teams were challenged to 3 rounds of questions with 3 hours each to solve and submit their solutions. The solutions were judged based on their correctness, efficiency and in the event of a tiebreaker, the time of submission. It is worth pointing out that the question prepared by our very own Mr Lim Wern Han from the School of IT was not solved by any team during the competition!



However, the event was not all full of serious matters. Participants had the opportunity to take a break in between the rounds at the Chill-Out Hub with some snacks at the Snack Bar, a wide range of board games courtesy of All Aboard Community Gaming Centre, unlimited free iFlix viewing as well as some League of Legends and FIFA Online 3 gaming with Garena Malaysia. Attendees at the event also took part in an interesting tech forum with Josh Teng, the founder of Next Academy and exchanged views on issues regarding the local start-up scene and the emergence of coding in Malaysia.

The event saw 106 participants, with Monash University Malaysia leading the pack with an enormous 37 participants. Other participating universities included INTI International College Subang, UTAR Kampar campus, Nottingham University Malaysia campus, Sunway University, HELP University, INTI University Nilai Campus, INTI International College Penang, Management and Science University, Lim Kok Wing University, Erican College and 1 participant all the way from the University of Wollongong.

The top 3 teams coded their way to win some cold hard cash, street cred and the chance to represent their school and university! Our very own Monash students managed to sweep the runner-up positions! Team CodeBlue comprising Shan Lee, Joon Keet Wong and Jesh Khor from the School of Engineering and Team Mr. Robot comprising Daniel Lee and Tee Woei Jer from the School of IT managed 2nd and 3rd respectively! They cashed in a total of RM1000 and RM500 respectively for their achievements. Jin Cong Ho from Nottingham University Malaysia campus impressively won the competition riding solo and took back a whopping RM2000!

All in all, UniCode was a defining moment for the School of IT as well as the UOW students from INTI as it was the first time students from both faculties had rolled up their sleeves and gotten their hands dirty by taking the initiative to participate in and facilitate their first large-scale external event, led by the students themselves, for the students.

# DAY OF THE DEAD

Photographs by Christopher & Keith





# CREATIVITY



# ACTION



# SERVICE

CAS is a new addition to the magazine as this section was established to include clubs' and societies' events in Monash University Malaysia. Under Creativity, the club-related events ranges from dance concerts to business ideas. Action includes any events related to sports. Lastly, charity and volunteer-related events which serves the community are under Service.

\*Any clubs and societies that would like to request for event coverage next semester, please email: [musa.editor@monash.edu](mailto:musa.editor@monash.edu)!\*



# MONASH MUSIC CLUB

*Jamming Session (8th September)*



# MONASH DANCE FUSION CLUB

*Dinner & Dance (23rd September)*



# MONASH ACCOUNTING & FINANCE CLUB

*MICPA Investment Challenge (24th September)*



# MONASH STREET DANCE SOCIETY & MONASH MUSIC CLUB

*Dance & Music Night (5th October)*



# MONASH PERFORMING ARTS CLUB

*Year End Production (6th & 7th October)*

CREATIVITY



# MAPCU ATHLETICS *(6th October)*



# MUVP CHARITY CARNIVAL *(13th August)*



We, the Monash University Volunteer Program (MUVP) had our annual MUVP Charity Carnival this semester and invited 3 of our partner NGOs (Muhajirin Rohingya, Shelter Home for Children and UNHCR Manna Learning Center) to come and have a fun-filled day. In total, we invited over 200 children and their respective caretakers and with the help of our dedicated Monash students as Volunteers, we were able to give the children a day filled with excitement and entertainment. We had many fun and interesting aspects to the carnival like a massive bouncy castle for the children and volunteers to play in. There was free flow of popcorn and cotton candy which the children thoroughly enjoyed, a magical clown performance and we even set up many game stations for the children to run around and play with.

MUVP believes in caring for the society and that every child's life should be enriched in not only fulfilling necessities but to experience childhood as a whole. The idea of this annual Charity Carnival is to provide a platform for Monash students to volunteer and interact with the underprivileged children and cultivate a volunteering culture – which is aligned with MUVP's mission of providing an opportunity for students to volunteer and promote volunteer-ism among students and inspire students to make a difference in the society through a Community Development program and Non-Governmental Organisation Collaboration (NGOC). We at MUVP try to do our best in giving back to society and I believe that everyone should play their part in helping people that are not as lucky to be given the same opportunities that we have been given. I am truly humbled and grateful of the response MUVP got this year for our programme and I hope and pray that more students are willing to take out just a few hours from of their day to make a difference in someone else's life because it might just be 2 hours for us, but it could make a lifetime difference for them.

Thank you Monashians and till 2017, #WeServeWeCare

Shashtidaran Prasanan  
Coordinator  
Monash University Volunteer Program

# SERVICE



# LEO CLUB

## Waterfall Cleaning (10th September)



## SCHOOL OF

## BUSINESS



## ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

## ENGINEERING

# HAPPENINGS



**IT**

**PHARMACY**



**MEDICINE &  
HEALTH SCIENCES**

**SCIENCE**

**AT SCHOOLS**

# GRILL NIGHT (29th May)



## SASS PICNIC *(3rd August)*

This barbecue-cum-picnic event comprised of live music, warm lights and as the name suggests - lots of food. This initiative served its purpose in advocacy of community-building; strengthening ties between junior and senior undergraduates within the faculty.



## DONUTS & BADGES GIVEAWAY *(16th August)*



# CHATS WITH MYBURGERLAB *(15th August)*



# MOVIE NIGHT - TRAIN TO BUSAN *(14th September)*



# COMPANY TRIP TO DELOITTE *(12th October)*



# ORIENTATION BUDDIES *(20th July)*



Orientation Day Buddies- unforgettable orientation due to the B&W photo.

# MUSA DAY *(22nd July)*



MUSA Day Team Engineering



# SETU COOKIE GIVEAWAY

*(12th October)*

Cookie Giveaway- 500 cookies given away to those who filled up their SETU

# METALTECH *(28th May)*



Field trip to Metaltech

# MAXIS *(19th August)*



Field Trip to Maxis

# ENGINEERING T-SHIRT



Engineering T-Shirt 2016 – Best looking school t-shirt and best selling with over 700 sold.

## ENGINEERING PAINTBALL *(27th August)*



Engineering Paintball – First paintball event ever in Monash

## PHARMGINEERING PAINTBALL *(29th September)*



Pharmgineering Paintball – Collaboration with Pharmacy to foster relationships between the two schools.

## MOVIE NIGHT *(5th October)*



Movie Night Sem 2 – Miss Peregrine’s House for Peculiar Children – 180 students, free movie, popcorn and drinks. Registration finished in 3 minutes.

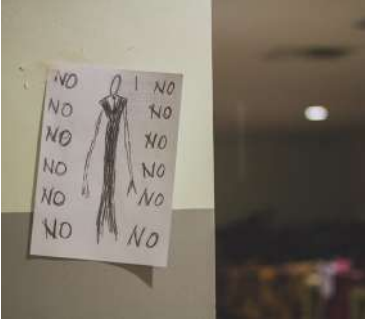
## BUDDY-BUDDEE NIGHT *(11th August)*



Buddy-Buddee Night Sem 2 – 160 students showed up



# MINGLE NIGHT *(17th August)*



Props for the event made it all the more realistic



Students thoroughly enjoyed the BurgerLab dinner



One of the station masters all dressed up for the night



The awesome sauce organising committee



Despite the hectic schedule, students enjoyed the event

# DOTA 2 TOURNAMENT *(26 & 27 September)*

One of the School of IT's largest events, the annual Dota 2 Tournament, was held during the beginning of the semester break. The two-day event saw 80 students participating in the competitive gaming tournament for a chance to win lucrative prizes. It was also the first time the MUSA tournament was live-streamed, drawing in more than 800 viewers!



Spectators enjoying the match



The funny and amazing casters for the finals



Players deeply immersed in the game during the match



The champions of the tournament, MMR Assassins!

## MOVIE NIGHT *(10th August)*

Movie Night was held early in the semester to keep in line with all the superhero movies this year by going for the highly anticipated Suicide Squad. We managed to cater 67 students whilst giving out free popcorn and drinks!



The IT squad all excited for the Suicide Squad movie

## INDUSTRIAL VISIT TO CONFIGURA *(20th Sept)*



The industry trip to Configura was organized by School of IT lecturer, Dr. Sylvester in collaboration with MUSA. The students were able to interact with people in the working world and gain some exposure to possible career options post-graduation.

# SCHOOL OF IT T-SHIRT SALES



The School of IT T-shirt Sales were conducted for the second time to cater for the July and upcoming October intake. The students loved the design of the T-shirt and were eager to get their hands on them.

## GARENA ROADSHOW *(4th October)*



The legendary players who beat the challenge!



The School of IT invited Garena Malaysia down to Monash to allow students to take some time off their hectic schedules to play some FIFA Online 3! There was also a Legendary AI challenge, in which only highly-skilled players proved to be worthy!

# MINGLE MOVIE NIGHT *(4th August)*



# TRIP TO OASIS *(26th September)*



Provides a better understanding of how autism affects kids and adolescents.

Discover the wide range of jobs opportunities that a psychology graduate could pursue.

Make new friends, gain new experiences, and be content with the things we have.



# CHARITY CARNIVAL *(17th August)*



# CAN-SIR-RUN? *(20th August)*



# SOP CAMP *(21st June)*



Our first ever collaboration with MuPhaS and it was a huge success thanks to everyone!

## MOVIE NIGHT *(10th August)*



It's a tradition to have a movie night for every sem in SOP! In Sem 2, we watched Suicide Squad and thank you all for attending!

## FIRST AID COURSE *(27th August)*



Continuing what we started in semester 1, we bring you yet another first aid course in sem 2 catered for SOP students.

## MONASH RACE *(10th September)*



SOP students and lecturers in Monash race! Oh, did we mention that one of our lecturers, Dr Anton clocked the fastest time, finishing the race in 27 minutes!



# PHARMGINEERING PAINTBALL *(29th September)*



Our first ever collaboration with SoE! Thank you all for attending!

# HEROES WITHOUT CAPES *(8th October)*



SOP students going all out contributing back to the community, putting a smile on every kid they met in Rumah Juara. It was a success thank to everyone's effort and generosity.

# LET'S TADOM *(21st & 22nd November)*



Stay tuned for our upcoming event! Our 2nd collaboration event with MuPhaS. Ending the year with our SOP Retreat in Tadam ! See y'all there! Wooohooo

# MASSIMO FIELD TRIP *(20th May)*



# FUSION NIGHT *(15th September)*



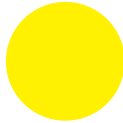
# SIME DARBY CANCER RESEARCH FIELD TRIP *(26th September)*



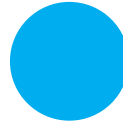
# MUSA Elections 2016



**GENESIS**



**VS**



**REVELATIONS**



# MUSA 2017

Meet your student representatives for year 2017!  
Compiled by Tiffany, Samuel, Andrew & Calvin.



**President: Janesh**

1. To bridge the gap between students, administrators and MUSA by being approachable through interactive forums to pro actively address the issues and concerns of all stakeholders.
2. To drive MUSA to achieve milestones in organizing events and putting forward initiatives that will include students from all schools within Monash University Malaysia to ensure every student gains a memorable experience here.
3. To ensure that MUSA, as a student body functions efficiently in carrying out the promises made to every student as they have given us the mandate to realize these promises



**Vice President: Vandana**

1. To increase awareness of support services such as subsidies for students.
2. To provide to students the support needed for academic excellence such as increasing PASS sessions.
3. To bridging gaps and enhancing Monash culture through collaboration among faculties to organise joint projects for students.



**General Secretary: Priyanka**

1. To cultivate a transparent checklist system that serves to show students the plans MUSA has in store and no non-feasible promises are made
2. To uplift the organization of the administrative jobs in MUSA
3. To further enhance awareness of MSC meetings with the students of Monash.



**Activities Chairperson:  
Franklin & Akanksha**

1. To build an environment which is more stimulating and beneficial
2. To create events which allow students from different schools, genders, ages and religions to come together and to share meaningful memories.
3. To nurture the welfare of the students through the events that we carry out.



**Head of Clubs & Societies:  
Kai Bin & Wei Yang**

1. To build a close relationship between C&S Division and all the clubs and societies.
2. To encourage all the clubs and societies to be active in organizing event.
3. To encourage most of the students involved in Monash Cup.



**Treasurers:  
Brandon & Michelle**

1. To make financial reports more accessible on the MUSA website.
2. To be honest and fair in the management of funds and budgets.
3. To promote transparency between the administrators, office bearers and students.



**Welfare Officers:  
Mohak & Shaun**

- 1.To increase awareness about mental health.
- 2.To create a more cozy and comfortable environment for students.
- 3.To bring the Monash facilities to a level deserving of the Monash's image.



**Wom\*n's Officer:  
Hannah & Jasmine**

- 1. To promote and foster gender equity on campus.
- 2. To provide a safe space free of discrimination and judgement (primarily) for women.
- 3. To create more opportunities for women to participate in both academic and non-academic events



**Publicity Officers:  
Charmaine & Shaun**

- 1.To make MUSA known to all students, ensuring that they are fully aware of what MUSA can provide to each and every single one of them
- 2. To create strong relationships among students both on and off campus despite the difference of age, race, nationality, etc. through active usage of our social media platforms and also by organizing events.
- 3.To promote MUSA Annual Election more in 2017 by setting up a booth on campus where students can come and enquire about MUSA.



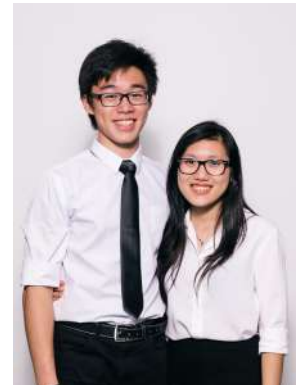
**Editorial: Calvin, Samuel, Tiffany & Andrew**

- 1. To emphasize on transparency and to maintain neutrality to the highest standards in all aspects of reporting.
- 2. To ensure that all aspects of what makes this university diverse and exceptional is highlighted and appreciated and to thoroughly maintain inclusiveness, leaving no man behind.
- 3. To produce quality pieces for the students of Monash, whether through photography, articles, and reporting, and ensuring that the students of Monash only get the best out of our hard work.



**School of Business: Kai Teng & Nur Addina**

- 1. To focus on enhancing students' academic life by emphasizing on improving our student-lecturers relationship and to provide platforms for students to enhance their entrepreneurship skills and at the same time protect textbook sellers and buyers from frequent change of modules.
- 2. To encourage interaction among business students by introducing new mingle events and day trips.
- 3. To further utilize digital communication in order to be more informative such as the constant reminder of invited speakers from business firms and industrial visits that we planned to organize.



**School of Arts & Social Sciences: Jaryl & Samantha**

- 1. To organise more events that cater for all students to facilitate a higher level of integration between students from the SASS.
- 2. To organise other different types of events which allows for the integration for students from different schools.
- 3. To ensure that all suggestions and recommendations of the students be conveyed and worked upon by the administration.



**School of Engineering: Terry & Jun Mann**

1. To bridge the gap between Monash students to allow a better understanding and closer relationships between students of individual schools through collaborative events with different schools.
2. To implement for every lecture conducted in Monash to be recorded enabling the students to have e-lectures as references and for those who are unable to attend class due to an event of emergency to be able to catch up on missed lectures through online means.
3. To impose that all engineering software which are frequently used to be made available in all campus computers and laptops to ensure engineering students are equipped with the necessary software with every single devices that they can get a hold of to prevent any further delay on their tasks at hand.



**School of IT: Hidayah**

1. To represent the voices of IT students
2. To organize more memorable events & activities
3. To improve and sustain the welfare of IT students.



**School of Medicine & Health Sciences: Ejuin & Tze Lin**

1. To strengthen the relationship between students from Psychology and Medicine.
2. To voice out for the students and help to channel opinions and problems faced by them to appropriate departments for better improvement.
3. To encourage collaborations between students of different disciplines



**School of Science: Jasvin & Soo Suen**

1. To be the best that I can as a medium between the students and the admins.
2. To be attentive and responsible towards students' opinions, and try my very best to help them with their problems in Monash.
3. To organise more science-oriented events.



**School of Pharmacy: Sean & Serene**

1. To enhance the overall student experience for Pharmacy students by creating a balance between leisure and academic-based events and activities.
2. To inculcate a greater sense of "Pharmily" and Monashian identity among Pharmacy students.
3. To listen and serve proactively along with facilitating communication between Pharmacy students and the administration and academic staffs.



Photo Credits: Sidhant



Photo Credits: Goh Kim



Photo Credits: Andrew



Photo Credits: Daryl



Photo Credits: ZJian

# COVER PHOTO CONTEST



Photo Credits: Zubair

# FEW WORDS FROM US...



**Shahandyka, President:** To have been able to serve Monash University Malaysia and the students of this campus was definitely a pleasure and a great honour. I would sincerely thank all students for their support and contributions towards MUSA 2016. The journey in university goes beyond the four walls of a classroom; work hard, play hard!



**Constance, Welfare Officer:** Always expect the unexpected, that's what I learnt being a part of MUSA. I'm truly grateful to be able to work with such a bunch of 'crazy' people. You know what they say about the hot and crazy ones.

**Sadman, Welfare Officer:** MUSA has taught me a great deal of things actually. And now that experience is gonna be super glued to my life forever.



**Samuel Anthony, Vice President:** Being a MUSA VP has definitely been an experience to remember. It has provided me a platform to serve the students and learn various skills simultaneously.

**Rachel, Vice President:** I have a pen. I have a nut. Ugh, penat #gedditgeddit Sidenote: Regardless, it was all worth it :)



**Ken Xin, Publicity Officer:** Really glad to be given the chance to be part of this year's MUSA as it was the greatest yet most challenging experience for me while in Monash. We hope you guys, Monashians, had an amazing year with us.

**Sim, Publicity Officer:** Being part of MUSA has been great, really made my uni life the unusual one. You will never be able to find another experience like being in MUSA and dealing with students which make you feel young all over again :))



**Claudea, General Secretary:** Deadlines, reminders, and paperworks definitely my never-ending and enjoyable experiences in 2016



**Jia Ling, Wom\*n's Officer:** There were ups and down during my term as the Wom\*n's Officer but more importantly, I learnt a lot and was given the opportunity to meet amazing people along the way. What's not to love? :)

**Mihiri, Wom\*n's Officer:** : Deciding to run for MUSA was something I'll never regret. It's been an eye-opening experience and has made the past year so much more enjoyable.



**Hong Li, Treasurer:** I'm grateful to be a part of MUSA and to have the opportunity to serve all of you Monashians. It was truly an amazing and fruitful journey for me. Thank you all. All the best!

**Andrew Lim, Treasurer:** I had great time in MUSA and am grateful to have been able to work with an interesting bunch of people



**Aurelie, Editor:** Being part of MUSA this year was quite challenging in many ways but it's an experience I would never regret! I hope that MONGA has served as a vehicle to bring you guys back to the good memories you've had this year :)

**Ashween, Editor:** The experience and knowledge I've received by being a part of MUSA is priceless. It was an amazing yet a crazy roller coaster ride!

**Janice, Editor:** Just when I thought I can finally retire my council days coming to Monash, guess not... just yet :P To sum up my MUSA experience: truly blessed to be given this opportunity contributing to the Monash University Malaysia community and rekindling my passion for all things editorial (while unleashing the inner perfectionist at the same time) <3



**Rusvin, Head of C&S:** It has really been an unforgettable experience serving as a student council member for MUSA 2016

**Moses, Head of C&S:** MUSA is the ultimate experience, it will test your mettle, push you to limits impossible, it will make you, or break you, mentally, emotionally, physically. At the end of the day, what will you become? The spirit of the made or the broken.



**Keith, Arts Rep:** Having contested three times prior to being elected as a school representative, my experience in MUSA has been a fulfilling one. In addition to learning the inner workings of the council and administrative aspects of MUM, it has facilitated an experiential learning process which is indispensable. I highly recommend students to actively engage with MUSA as office bearing candidates, sub-committee members, or event helpers. Collectively, we can be the change we want to see.

**Anju, Arts Rep:** MUSA has been an experience of a lifetime and I wouldn't trade it for the world.



**Wei Onn, Activities Chairperson:** MUSA is like an adventure to the unknown, there are moments that are up and there are some which are down, but the best thing about it, is that we get to cherish the moments with the friends who supported you and learned a lesson or two from this "adventure"

**Vishag, Activities Chairperson:** MUSA has taught me a lot of things and given me priceless experience which I will definitely treasure throughout my life. Alongside my dedicated partner and my amazing council members with the endless support, I couldn't have asked for a better team to work with.



**Sam Goh, Business Rep:** Being in MUSA is all about the hustle. Work hard, study harder and everything else. In some ways MUSA doesn't become a duty, it becomes a lifestyle; one that inspires and pushes me above and beyond.

**Josephine, Business Rep:** MUSA is a place for you to learn all those experiences that you could not get from your studies and it really brings a big impact to my university life. Your university life ends fast before you even know it, so make yours a great one!





**Andrew Peter Lim, Engineering Rep:** MUSA 2016 has been more than a council to me. The entire council, especially the school reps have felt like family throughout the year. Engineering students have always been the best students in Monash, and they've proven it once again. I've enjoyed the entire year and I would like to thank everyone who have helped and participated in our events this year and I hope that it has been a memorable one for you too! <3

**Sarah, Engineering Rep:** Sometimes I regret not transferring to Australia, but when I see the smiles of the students after any Engineering event, I don't regret staying



**Jon, IT Rep:** It's been an extremely fulfilling experience being part of the council to serve the IT students, what more with the new friends and connections I've made throughout my term. However, it's something that I'd only want to do once to make it a great memory to look back upon. I'm really looking forward to apply the many lessons I've learnt later in the future! :D

**Melissa, IT Rep:** MUSA has been a great experience. Work, friends and fun. What could be better :D It was a great way to not only make changes but to meet new people and move outside my comfort zone.



**Sayeef, Medicine Rep:** I consider myself fortunate to have received this opportunity to work in MUSA 2016. It was a pleasure serving the students of Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences. I am really grateful to my friends and acquaintances of my school, my colleagues in MUSA and the admins who have been continuously supporting me and pushing me forward, making this journey an amazing part of my university experience.

**Jasmine, Medicine Rep:** Having isolated myself among my people last year, being a part of MUSA this year was fun because it allowed me to meet all kinds of great and interesting people I probably would have never met :)



**Yvonne, Science Rep:** It has been an honor to be part of this great adventure. A meaningful journey with absolutely no regrets.

**KS Kim, Science Rep:** Challenging but enriching



**Sean, Pharmacy Rep:** What's the best part of being one of the school representatives in MUSA? Meeting people from different background and schools and working together with them is one of a kind experience. Imagine, 14 reps from 7 different schools, working closely and having fun together in the same time, there's no other events in this university could have granted such opportunity. However, what I really appreciate most is, being a part of MUSA, I came to realise that there's a lot of things we as students of Monash University can do but we are not aware of it. Therefore, before I end my term by December 2017 (or earlier), I want all students from School of Pharmacy get what they deserve and able to enjoy their campus life to the fullness.

**Jo Yee, Pharmacy Rep:** Having the opportunity to be in MUSA 2016 has been a great pleasure. I have made mistakes, learned and grown from it. I am ever grateful and humbled by the experiences and people I've met throughout this whole journey, whom had shaped me to who I am today. It has been a journey of self-discovery and I am looking forward to what lies ahead for all of us! :) Signing off, Jo Yee woots woots!



# ATTRIBUTIONS

(Names in no particular order)

**Thank you to everyone who contributed, without which we wouldn't have made it.**

*We claim no right to certain photos, graphics, or creative works in this publication; all rights and credits belong to the original creator of those works.*

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**Monga: Colours of the Wind**

***Crafted with cookies and coffees, by MUSA Editorial Board***

**Anyone wishing to contribute their skills in photography, design, writing, illustrating, art, etc, or wishing to submit their work to be published, are welcomed to email us at [musa.editor@monash.edu](mailto:musa.editor@monash.edu)**




# TILL THEN.

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