



Dedicated to

YOU

YOUR COPY TO KEEP



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FOREWORD



As the year draws to a close and approaches the home stretch of the semester, we will be introspective – to evaluate how our lives have progressed in the span of the year or semester. While some thought will be spared to contemplate the possible outcomes of pursuing “the road not taken” (coincidentally our theme last semester), we will mostly be reflecting on the choices made and how things worked out.

“We do not learn from experience ... we learn from reflecting on experience.” - John Dewey

Our experiences have molded us into the individuals we are. Reflecting, and consequently learning from them, help refine the person we become. In addition to the choices we make, we are defined by attributes, such as Perspectives, Opinions, Inspirations, Insecurities, Fears, Failures, Success, along with the people we interact with and such.

*“The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.”
- Aristotle*

However, an individual is more than just a sum of such attributes, and this is how we came up with the theme for this issue – You. We would like to dedicate this to all of us; as unique individuals, we all have something to share. This magazine is a collection of some of our stories and celebrates our identity and everything that defines us. We thoroughly enjoyed the experience of curating 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

This is a magnum opus of sorts of the MUSA 2015 editors. We truly appreciate the contributions and support we've received throughout the past year. What an experience and journey it has been. Godspeed.

Best Regards,
Hao Bin, Jade, Kevin, Sagar
Editors

THEME OF THE MONTH

What is Theme of the Month?

Continuing from the success of last semester, we have decided to continue the Theme of The Month competition in which we give students a platform to showcase their ability and get rewarded for it!

How does it work?

Each month, we released a theme that complements the main theme of this semester's issue of Monga (i.e. You). The themes for the months of August, September and October were Stereotypes, Insecurities and Inspirations respectively.

All students of Monash Malaysia were encouraged to submit a creative piece based on these themes be it an essay, poem, photograph, sketch or illustration. The best piece was chosen from each theme and the winning entries, along with some honorable mentions are featured right here in Monga! The winners of each theme were also awarded a gift card worth RM 50 from Starbucks.

We would like to express our sincerest gratitude to everyone who took the time to participate in our theme of the month competition. This was the first year that we tried this and thanks to you guys it was a huge success for us. Thank you!

STEREOTYPES INSECURITIES INSPIRATIONS

THEME OF THE MONTH: STEREOTYPES

THIS POISON OF OURS.

by Tan Van Hong

Should the birds fly
The fishes they swim?
Where they bid us goodbye
But hello on a whim.
Where's the justice
In this wretched view?
It disrupts the peace
The thinking's askew.

The surface seems fine
Marbled to perfection
But beneath the line
Hidden's the eruption.
Come on now,
Enough of this.
The question is how
To make it cease?

You play dota?
You've got no life.
Doesn't cook pasta?
Not a good wife.
Respect and understand
No one's odd or strange
Lest it gets out of hand
Let's all make a change.

They say I'm Asian
You're middle Eastern
I should like differentiation
And you caused 9/11.

THEME OF THE MONTH: INSECURITIES

THE CHANT BEGINS

by Helena Dodge-Wan

The quiet and cold creep over me
I know I have strayed too far from home tonight

A whisper at first,
Fluttering at the edges of my heart

The chant begins

You are not enough.
You are not enough.

I turn to run
I must run
I cannot let it catch me
I cannot let it win again

Louder now,
Keeping rhythm with my heartbeats

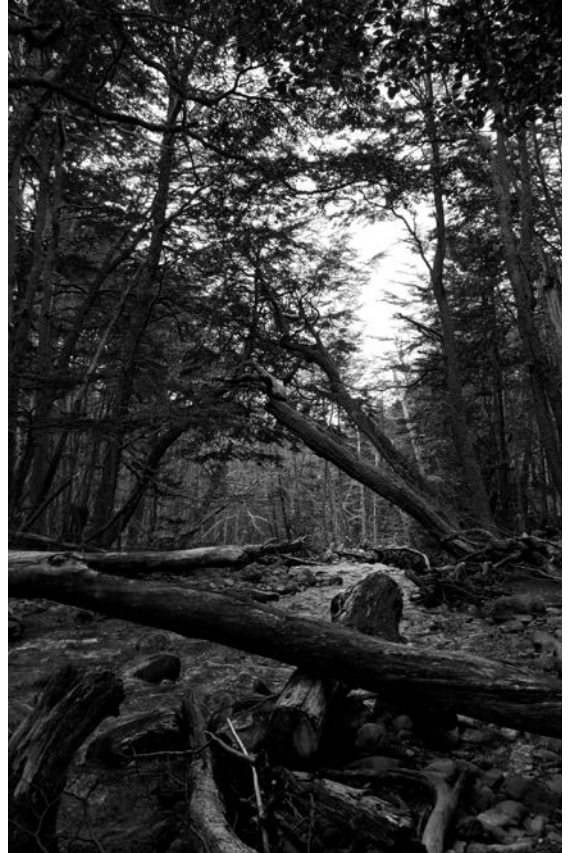
You are not enough.
You are not enough.

I stumble through the fog
Clawing and crawling

I am bloodied and bruised
Blinded and broken
Bent in two

A deafening echo now,
Howling through the sky and the empty places
inside me,
Cleaving my heart in half

You are not enough.
You are not enough.



I wish
I wish I could rest
Settle in the damp grass
Let it take me calmly in its arms
Like before
Perhaps someday

But tonight,
Tonight, I run.

HONORABLE MENTIONS: STEREOTYPES

Written by Febrienne Sukiato

Before I left for Malaysia, my father told me, "You're a smart girl, you'll study something you like then work for a bit. Then you'll find someone who likes you enough to marry you, then you won't have to work at all and take care of your kids at home." That was the life my father envisioned for me, a simple existence for the female gender.

My stepmother calls me out occasionally for having tan skin and a "masculine" attitude to everything. This includes, and I quote, "thinking too much" and "sitting and talking like a man" and "not cleaning my room" (admittedly, I do make a huge mess sometimes, notes and sketches strewn across the floor). She said to me, "You'll never get a husband at this rate. Your in-laws are going to look at you and find you disgusting."

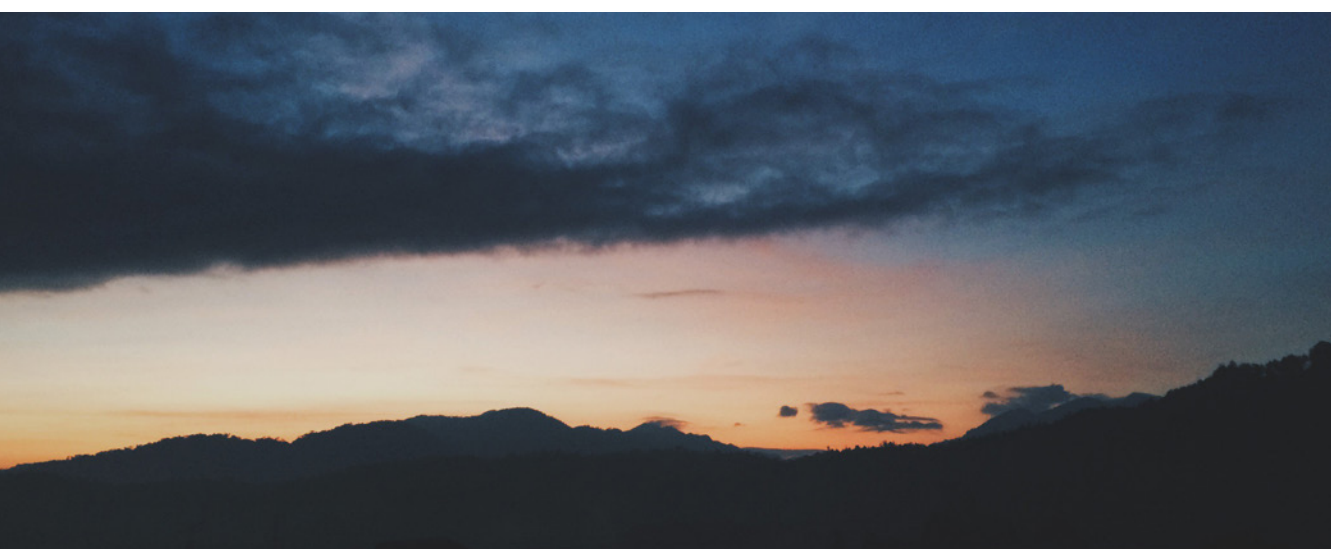
An ex said to me before I excommunicated him that I wasn't his type, he was much more into my best friend who looked and acted like me but much more "feminine". Beautifully unmarked skin, innocent to a fault and adorably shy. But she is strong in a way mothers can be. In other words, society's ideal female.

It is difficult to assign myself a definition. I am a collection of habits I have learnt throughout

my short life, but never have I given them gender characteristics. What I can tell you is a bit of how I became myself: I am studying science, majoring in tropical biology. I scuba dive for fun and marvel at nature. This gave me extreme tans that hurt. I grew up with my father and brother, giving me this genderless attitude.

I cannot care less about the stereotypes some people throw at me, expecting me to comply. It is not inappropriate for a woman to not want to have children, neither is it inappropriate for her to live life the way she wants to. It is inappropriate for people to shut down a female or dismiss them for being the "weaker sex". It is inappropriate to cage women into the constructs of societal expectations, simply because we are born with a body that can reproduce smaller human beings.

To those who criticise me, I'd like you to ask yourself why you think that way. Is it some deep rooted hate towards the female gender? Or could it be because of the way you are raised? If you prefer not to think about it, then you might as well not tell me what you think I should do with my life.



HONORABLE MENTIONS: INSECURITIES

THE ACHE WITHIN.

by Tan Van Hong



Photograph by See Pei Er

As I drag my pudgy feet
Down the dark and silent hall
In this hellish summer heat
The fire makes my dry skin crawl

I passed the full-length mirror
As I stepped back and paused
My eyes stared back in horror
At myself who was so flawed

I hear the voices echo
The mocks, shouts, and teases
All I felt was agony and woe
Words like plagues and diseases

Does my body look that bad
That it shatters a person's
appetite?
Does my presence make you sad
That you would want me out of
sight?

I reach for the blade
It shines and it glimmers
Of all that is said
My blood boils and it simmers

My fears disappeared
My worries they stopped
With pain my skin was seared
As I was no longer robbed

No longer will they judge
In death I find peace
No more 'fat', 'pig', or 'pudge'
No more insecurities

PUTTING A SPIN ON UNCERTAINTY

BY LEE JIAN YUN [SARAH]

'That was the point when I realised that my uncertainty was my greatest asset. I had infinite paths available to me, not just one.'

– Autumn Elizabeth

I stumbled across the above quote in a blog post a couple of months ago as I was about to enter my final year of university.

For many, senior year marks a prelude of opportunities to come. For me, it represented a step forward into uncertainty.

It was unsettling to think that in a little over a year, I would be entering the workforce.

No more going for classes. No more essays to write. No more being dependent on parents.

School was my security blanket. I had been part of the institution for well over 15 years. In a sense, my situation was fairly reminiscent of one particular scene in *The Shawshank Redemption*.

If you've seen the film, you will recall a line said by Red, played by Morgan Freeman: 'These walls are funny. First you hate 'em, then you get use to 'em. Enough time passes, you get so you depend on them. That's institutionalised.'

While my situation is certainly nowhere near as morbid – I am an un-caged person after all – it still gets you thinking.

In school, the purpose of your being there is fairly straightforward and clear: Study hard, get good grades, graduate.

What happens next? If you happen to be studying a professional degree, your path is for the most part set for you.

I, on the other hand, am no doctor, lawyer, engineer or accountant.

Armed with a general degree means that life is not so clear-cut for me. It doesn't help that my interests are vast and varied. This means that I have to go the extra mile to decide for myself which field to branch into.

sparrow // by Sitwat Hashmi



There are options to choose from and the possibilities are endless.

Such a thought can be daunting...or reassuring.

Yes, it's intimidating in the sense that you could go down the wrong path and reach an unwanted point of no return.

Or, it could be strangely comforting to know that you're not restricted to a path in life. When nothing is certain, anything is possible – two sides of the same coin. All of a sudden, life becomes interesting. You are no longer confined to a box.

How serendipitous a revelation and a blessing, given that not everyone is afforded the opportunity of choice.

While I still cannot imagine life beyond the four walls of school, I shall now go forward with less anxiety.

The uncertainty is still there. The decisions to be made are still tough. And the curveballs life throws at you will not be any less. But at least you can have a say in where you want your journey to begin.

Life becomes a tad less mundane when the possibilities of surprises are there.



TRAILS & TALES

Adventures by Jonathan Lim



Four unforgettable days that saw a coming together of music, film, a free-flow of chai and new acquaintances. // Rajasthan, India / Feb '14

Warm smiles and happy faces in North Baluarte, a squatter settlement considered as one of the most populous urban poor areas in the Iloilo province. // Philippines / Jan '13



Jaru, the farmer who hiked up the Ella Rock with me and did it in his sarong effortlessly. // Ella, Sri Lanka / Sep '14

Three villagers remove debris from the river to ease water flow through the dam. // Sarawak, '15



*Stories of people and places,
Photographed and written by Jonathan Lim*

Read more at <http://trstls.co/>

The North-South Railway, established in 1936, connects the country's capital Hanoi in the north to Ho Chi Minh City in the south. The line stretches a distance of 1726 kilometers. It is also commonly referred to as the Reunification Express, reminiscent of the nation's Reunification Day which signaled the end of the Vietnam War in 1975.

Taken aboard the Reunification Express on a 791-kilometer long journey from Da Nang to Hanoi / Vietnam / May 2013





THE MODERN DAY ERUDITE

PROF. EDUARD J. BOMHOFF

Academician. Politician. Family Man. Prof. Eduard J. Bomhoff is a knowledgeable and well respected individual wherever he has goes. The happy grandfather of 4 sits down for a chat with MONGA to provide an insight on an eventful life so far.

Born 30th September 1944 (quite a young man he is) in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Prof. Bomhoff pursued his Undergraduate and Postgraduate degrees in Mathematics, before completing his PhD. in Economics. His upbringing would provide a foresight of him joining politics – he was the president of the National Union of Students back in his university days, while his mother was an assistant of the co-founder Dutch Labour Party. Prof. Bomhoff's father was a priest who later became a professor of literature.

He started his career as an academician; first teaching A-Level Mathematics in Kenya in the early 1970s, part of a community service program as an alternative to the Dutch conscription. He went on to teach Economics and Finance units in universities back home, before founding an economic think tank – NYFER – in the Netherlands in 1995.

In 1998, Queen Beatrix appointed him Officer in the Order of Oranje-Nassau. Although initially reluctant to join the government (he declined the role of Finance Minister in 1994), Prof. Bomhoff eventually took over the role of the Minister of Health, Welfare and Sport and Deputy Prime Minister of The Netherlands, in the interim government, from July 2002, until his resignation in October that year. In his time in the government, he initiated certain changes in the health, insurance and welfare programs.

Prof. Bomhoff continued teaching Economics in Bahrain as a visiting professor in 2003, as well as the University of Nottingham (2004-2010), before joining Monash University Malaysia in 2010. He has traveled around the world, giving lectures as a visiting professor at several universities. Prof. Bomhoff continues to teach Economics at Monash University Malaysia, while also serving as the principal investigator for World Values Survey for Malaysia since 2005. He also regularly writes Op-Eds for publications in The Netherlands. He has also written a few books; most famous is *Blinde Ambitie* (Dutch: Blind Ambition) which gives an insight on his life in the Government.

Describe your university life to us.

I pursued my higher education – Bachelor's and Master's – in Mathematics at Leiden University, between 1963 – 1969. After graduation, I went to Kenya, in January 1970, for voluntary service to teach A-Level Mathematics, as an alternative to conscription. Upon return, I then pursued my PhD in Economics in 1973 at Erasmus University, Rotterdam.

I was involved in student politics from 1966, as a member of the Leiden Student Council, before having the privilege of serving as president of the national union of students in The Netherlands from 1968. I was so busy in student politics, that it interrupted my studies and had to catch up afterwards. I needed to make up for all the time I had lost through my involvement in student politics – meetings, propaganda and standing on tables giving fiery speeches. So all I did was study and participate in student politics.

Tell us about your days in student politics and what all changes did you initiate.

I was elected president of the national students' union in 1968 – exactly the year when students in The Netherlands, and also countries like Germany, UK and US, were revolting against authoritarian university administration – to push for more democratization – and governments – asking for more scholarships and student housing. In addition, before that time, universities were largely catering to students whose parents had also been to university. We pushed for increased university access for students who were the first from their families to go to university.

Apart from that, I remember advocating the universities' clinics to issue the contraceptive pills to the female students. This was at a time when people felt issuing pills will result in engage in free sex and they did not want to encourage bad behaviour. So that is one battle we won. Moreover, as a part of democratization, we pushed for free access for students of the opposite gender to student residential accommodations.

Your career started as an academician. How did you fit into the political scenario, given the turbulent state the Netherlands was in when you became the Deputy PM?

I was initially reluctant to join the government but eventually relented given the turbulent state of the government after the assassination of Pim Fortuyn (one of the candidates in the 2002 elections), with whom I shared a good relation. I eventually took up the role of Minister of Health, Welfare and Sport and Deputy Prime Minister.

It was not too hard; being an economist allows you to evaluate the chances of policies succeeding or not. My background proved to be my advantage as I was able to better understand and design certain programs to improve the healthcare and welfare system, as well as implementing changes to the insurance system.

Do you have to adapt your teaching style while you are here in Monash? What are the similarities and differences between the educational paradigm in Asia and Europe?

The classes here do not have much student participation; back in Europe, we have discussions with the students during lectures. In Asia, the culture is more teacher-oriented, where the teacher speaks and the students just listen. It could be due to the culture, where students may consider it rude to interrupt the lecturer when they are talking.

I did not have to adapt my teaching style really; all I have to do is explain the subject matter to the students as clearly as possible. And this is where the similarities come in – wherever I go, I have taught students with great mental aptitude which allows them to grasp whatever I am saying easily.

Which role have you fulfilled better? Academician, Political Leader, or Family man (Husband or Father)?

I would not rate myself at all as a political leader, firstly because I did not really want to be a politician. Also, I did not spend much time in the Government, as I resigned about 3 months after my appointment.



Official picture of the cabinet ministers with Queen Beatrix, July 2002

I had feared the coalition government was not going to work and that is how it turned out. But I have no regrets over my time in the government – it's like I always say, you can do something and see what happens or not do it at all and regret it for your life. I got the opportunity and I took it.

I have always been an academician, so I would rate myself as fairly decent here. I do carry out research and do write articles in academic journals and other publications back home for some time now. The work I have done has been satisfactory in my opinion.

But what I think I would give myself full marks in is my role as a husband. I have been married to my wife for about 40 years now and have always done my best as a husband. My wife has always been supportive of me, even when she didn't like me joining the government, but she accepted it anyways. We are always happy and share this special relation and that's why I rate myself highest as a husband. As a father, it is hard for me to judge really, but I suppose I have done alright too. My children have done well for themselves – my son is a professor at LSE, while my daughter is working at a well-known research institute.

Why did you never join the private sector?

I have always enjoyed the flexible schedule of an academician. In the private sector, the work is rather inflexible and you have to answer to your shareholders, your boss, etc.



Prof. and Mrs. Bomhoff with their Grandchildren

But as an academician, you only have to worry about educating the students and your own research, which can be done at your own pace.

Yes, it is true that the private sector pays you more. I have worked as a consultant for some banks, and was even offered the position of a board member of a bank back home. But it's not about the money for me; sure it is nice to have enough to live a good life, but I am happy with what I have. I would not want to give up this freedom I get in this choice of mine. Besides, this way, I get to spend more time with my wife.

Your father was a Minister of the Church, which means you were significantly exposed to Religion and Morality. To what extent have these values influenced the way you lead your life?

Religion is a personal matter, but it gives you a certain perspective on the people around you. There are people who are religious but have bad intentions and there are those who do not practice any religion but have a good conscience. I believe in respecting people, regardless of what their religious affiliation is. Morality is what I value more, as it allows you to differentiate the right and wrong.

How did you prioritize work and personal life?

I have kept my life compartmentalized; when at work, I only do my work. At home at the end of the day, I just spent time with my family. During my time as a minister, I did not even have a television at home, so I was not worried about what was being said in the news. My director of communications said that I was the easiest of all the ministers he had worked with, as I did not call him at odd hours of the day to deal with what was said in the news. It is essential to maintain the balance, putting in effort into one's work and family, and more importantly, not let them get mixed up.

On your days off, including the weekend, or your free time, what do you do?

My wife and I enjoy classical music and operatic performances, so we go to the opera whenever there is one in town. My wife is a singer and whenever there is a function at the Dutch embassy, they specially invite her for a performance, so we do visit the embassy too. Apart from that, I enjoy watching movies, but not in theatres – it gets too cold in there. We buy DVDs and watch them at home in our own comfort. I also write regular articles for certain publications back home.

Like I said earlier, I share a special relation with my wife and are always happy. It comes down to the fact that I get to spend some quality time with her. My wife enjoys sex, but not in movies <GRINS>. (MONGA: what about you?) Well I don't mind it in both.

As for sports, I was never really into it. The Dutch are known for football; I never really played it, just watch it whenever there is big match, like those in the World Cup. In my school days, I played a bit of volleyball though. Sports is not my thing, as I don't have a good sense of body balance. I do enjoy a good game of chess, although I am not that good. I have promised to teach my granddaughter how to play it.

What's next?

I would like to keep working but it is really not up to me. I once interviewed an orchestra pianist who is over 75 years old but still performs with orchestras. He said that as long as he can play the piano, he will continue working. I would like to do the same thing – as long as my body permits, I will continue teaching until the foreseeable future. I do not see myself retiring anytime soon at least.

What do you like most about Malaysia?

The weather here is nice, it's mostly warm and rains occasionally. More importantly, I like how the different cultures try to live in harmony and this is something important for a progressive society.

Given the economic instability of the SE Asian region, is there anything you would like to suggest for the region to implement to realize its potential?

Promoting free trade in the region is quite important. Back in The Netherlands, my house is near this highway, which goes to Germany. And 24/7, you can see cargo trucks bumper-to-bumper carrying goods. (The EU is a Free Trade Region, of which Germany and The Netherlands are members).

Here in Malaysia, along the North-South Highway, which connects Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand, you'll only see a few trucks. The countries should do more to increase trade amongst them and push for free trade. This will also help Malaysia in boosting its Ringgit.

MONGA sincerely appreciates and expresses gratitude to Prof. Bomhoff for taking out some time to chat with us. He can be seen in the cafeteria sometimes during lunch, is is more than happy to chat. Do speak to him.



Mount Huangshan (Yellow mountain), China - the landscape that inspired the Avatar movie



Harbin, China: Ice sculptures



Blind Ambition (2002): an inside view on his life in the Government

DEFYING GRAVITY

Interviewed by Jade-E Lim and Sagar N. Bhambhani

Farah Ann Abdul Hadi is a Malaysian artistic gymnast who had recently competed in the Southeast Asian (SEA) games where she won gold medals in the team event and floor exercise. She is also a student at Monash University Malaysia. The editors managed to interview Farah in order to learn more about her life as a national athlete as well as a student in Monash.

Before we start, tell us a little about your background.

I was born and raised in Malaysia. My dad is Malay, from Negeri Sembilan and my mum is from Canada. I have an elder sister who is a recently retired national synchronized swimmer, and also a younger sister who used to do gymnastics, but she had grown out of it.

I went to Sekolah Kebangsaan Seafield 3 (Seafield 3 National School) and then Sekolah Sukan Bukit Jalil (Bukit Jalil Sports School) before going to Sunway College to do the Canadian International Matriculation Programme (CIMP). Now, I'm here in Monash.

When and how did your interest in gymnastics start?

I took up gymnastics when I was three. My interest started because I was a hyperactive child and there was a gym in Shah Alam, so my parents put me in gymnastics just for fun.

Then, when I was seven, I got selected to train under the National Sports Council of Malaysia. When I was thirteen, I was put into the Elite Training Programme and I've been training there since.

Have you ever, at any point of your life, wanted to quit gymnastics?

Of course! I've had several major injuries. I've fractured my back once, my shoulder once, my toe twice, and my knee once. It took a lot to get back up, especially after my knee injury because I had to be hospitalized and then I had to be on crutches, so I couldn't train for two months.

The period after my shoulder injury was when I had to work the hardest because the trainings



were very different. I couldn't do full body training, but I still needed to train other parts of the body. I watched as my teammates trained normally and I saw them getting better while I was stuck with my injury. The trainings were so harsh and I wouldn't even know if I would get back to the form that I was at so I wondered if I should even continue to do this.

What's worse was when I had trained hard but I got to a competition and I didn't do my best. I would feel like all my hard work had been for nothing and I had failed, so I would think "should I keep doing this?" but that's where passion would come in. I know that this is what I want to do, and I want to achieve so much more, so I think this has helped me to carry on.



So, what are you studying now and what made you interested in pursuing the course?

I'm taking a Bachelor of Arts (Global), majoring in International Studies and minoring in Communications. I've always loved learning about world politics and world economics, so I guess that was what led me to pursue this degree. I also want to venture into fields such as broadcasting, so that was why I chose to minor in communications.

Can you tell us what your schedule is like?

In high school, on weekdays, my trainings were from 7am to 8.30am, then I had classes from 9.30am to 2.30pm, and then trainings again from 3pm to 7pm and then classes again from 8.30pm to 10pm. I also had 9am to 1pm trainings on Saturdays.

Now that I'm in university, my trainings are different every day, depending on my classes. Tuesdays are my busiest as I have a class from 10am to 11am, trainings from 11.30am to 3.30pm, and then classes from 4pm to 9pm. This is why you'd hardly see me around on campus because I jet off from here to training immediately after classes. I also don't come to campus often because I'm only taking two units this semester, so trainings take up most of my time. Besides that, I also need a lot of rest. I've been doing this since I was eight, so I'm quite used to it to the point where if I don't train, I'd feel weird.

How do you manage both studying and training and which one do you think is harder to keep up with?

Well, you don't actually need to keep up with trainings, you just.. train. For schoolwork, on the other hand, I have assignments and due dates to meet. So basically for trainings, I just need to make sure I get enough sleep because I need to be focused and fully alert since what we do is quite dangerous. That is why I'd usually only have time to do my assignments on weekends.

Time management is really important, especially when competitions are near and I've got assignments due but I wouldn't even be in the country. This is when keeping up with schoolwork is more difficult for me, because I would need to focus on trainings more. I try my best to finish my assignments early, but most times I would have to talk to my lecturers to explain my situation. Likewise, I would also talk to my coach to switch training times to allow me to keep up with my schoolwork.



I'm also underloading this semester. I didn't in my first year, but it was a bit too much to keep up with, especially now that I'm focusing on World Championships and also the Olympics. I could take all four units and not do well, but I'd rather underload and do better.

You've won awards, and we could say that you've achieved fame because people know you. Do you think it has affected you?

After I got back from the SEA games, people would stare and some would ask if I am Farah Ann. It's weird that people recognize me, but it's also nice because they would congratulate me and it's good to know that all the hard work you've put in is being recognized, and it's bringing pride to the nation. Nothing has really changed though. I still need to go for classes and trainings, but I guess it has made me better and it pushes me more, because now people expect something, and I feel it's my job to live up to their expectations.

How did you rise above the controversy?

You've just got to know who matters. I understand why it was a controversy and I don't mind people giving me advice. Religion is important to me, so I get what they're saying. What I didn't get was the backlashing and the cyberbullying.

However, out of that also came a lot of support and positive comments. I realized that in everything I do, there will be people who would be happy for me, and there will be those who would be unhappy, so I've just got to decide who I would want to listen to.

I've got so many things to do and if I were to let the negativity affect me and let it get to me, I wouldn't get anywhere. It was, of course, quite



upsetting, but I had a lot of family support. It has actually taught me a lot about myself and other people. It also taught me how to just.. move on.

Tell us someone who inspires you or someone you look up to.

I look up to my dad a lot. He came from a poor family and he had to work his way up. He was the youngest in the family but the first to go to university. His values have been passed on to me and he is who I aspire to be. I look up to my sister as well, because she's also an athlete and I admire not only her determination but also her personality.

In the gymnastics world, I look up Simone Biles. She's an incredibly talented gymnast but she's very down to earth and it's amazing to watch her. She makes my jaw drop.

So, what does the future hold for you?

Right now, I'm training for the World Championships, which will be in Glasgow this October, and that would be the qualifying for the Olympics. To get to the Olympics has been my lifelong dream. Maybe we're still not at the level to win, but just to qualify would be a very big accomplishment for me.

All the best for the coming competition and we really hope you'd make it to the Olympics!

Editor's note: Huge thanks to Farah, who'd graciously taken time out of her busy schedule to talk with us. Try to spot her around campus, take a picture with her and tag us on Twitter @MUSAMongaMondo just for fun! You'd get absolutely nothing but a picture with Farah. Teehee.



Baked, Photographed & Captioned by Lian Zi Ning



"Never underestimate or be over-confident about something, that's what pulls you down." – Lesson learnt from baking macarons. They require the simplest ingredients, but are one of the most challenging pastries to conquer. Humility, perseverance and love are what you need to see their 'feet'.



Cherish your family, they are limited edition.
(Background: This was baked to resemble my family members who are limited edition to me)



Because they said, "If you can't do big things, do small things in a great way". I wouldn't mind getting out of bed early, as long as it makes you smile, everything is going to be worthwhile.



MONSTER DAYDREAM
by Jade-E Lim



Written by Navin Ramathevan

RIDING THE BULL

Here's a 'tell-all' piece on my job as a Student Brand Manager (SBM) at Red Bull highlighting my trip to Austria (everything else is nonsense). It's also partly fiction, hence if you pick up a copy of the magazine and stumble upon this article, I strongly suggest you refrain from taking anything here too seriously.



Running severely low on gambling money, I took up the job at Red Bull to make some cash on the side and get free drugs (still haven't found any yet though). Coming into office on the first day was akin to that of a puberty-stricken teenager discovering the phenomenon that was streaming internet porn for the first time. How do I say this without sounding like a male chauvinist pig and offending the female population? I'll be frank- having to walk day in and day out of an office filled to the brim with ladies that have all the charm and charisma of Audrey Hepburn isn't such a bad thing. If anything, it serves as an added encouragement to wake up at ungodly hours in the morning and brace myself through the hell hole that is the Malaysian traffic. So there you have it. Sleep deprived, bursting at the seams with barely contained road rage issues and out of breath from swearing at an 80 year old peg-legged woman who can't stick to her lane, and it was all worth it.



This is inside a random castle you'll read about below. (CR: Red Bull Content Pool)

Jokes aside, despite the added constraints of juggling my life as a student and part time Red Bull crony, I can honestly say that I've grown every bit as much on a professional level as I have from an individual perspective and I've enjoyed every second of it. This is no ordinary 9 to 5 gig, this was barely even 'work', well at least it never felt that way to me. From taking up new responsibilities as project lead, learning to deal with different kinds of people (there are some real d**kheads out there) and just engaging with a whole new spectrum of culture was a reward in its own and hey, I really wanted my own business card. There you have it, the real reason why I joined Red Bull.



These are the people that make everything happen at Red Bull...and skateboarder Koya Miyasaka

It isn't all about debauchery and getting sloshed, the fuel to our fire comes from the fact that when push comes to shove, all of us work our asses off. This is an industry where overtime and emails at 3am become part and parcel of daily life and you become no stranger to eye bags and a mild case of hair loss due to tugging at your scalp from dealing with some deranged local numb-nut, and while taxing, I've loved every second of it. I'll be the first to admit, we work hard and play even harder.

Being at Red Bull for a year now, I had been given many opportunities on the job. Biggest of them all was being the project lead alongside my partner Calvin Roy on Red Bull Paper Wings. In case you're still reading, it's a paper plane competition, that's right, paper plane! Icing on that cake was being selected to be our first-ever national representative and lead the two national participants as team captain to Austria. I was ecstatic and I won't lie—the all-expense paid trip to Austria was the real kicker, forget all that nonsense I mentioned earlier about that experience crap. Its f**king Austria

we're talking about! Right from the get-go I was bombarded with thrilling stories of how R-Rated Redbull events could potentially get, little did I know those "stories" were served as more of a fair warning than what I originally perceived to be light hearted high school locker room banter and what with all the drinks and lavish meals, we wined and dined like classy, refined 16th century royalty. Albeit minus the classy and refined part and add wasted, college party gone awry. Hopefully my kids never have to read this.

While in Austria and looking to soak up some of that Austrian culture, I paid visit to Mozart's birthplace and being a connoisseur of the fine arts (I honestly don't know jackshit) it was a captivating moment to be there where it all began. I used to play the triangle back in the day you know.



This is the Ottoman Empire, just kidding. It's Red Bull Turkey



This is Old Man Mozart's house



This is the symphony orchestra I told you about, I wasn't lying (CR: Red Bull Content Pool)



This is when we dined with the King like 16th century royalty

Well, my Mozart love affair only began after day one in Austria, where we were taken to witness the, oh-so-glorious symphony. Now I don't fancy myself as a renaissance man, seeing as how I define culture as visiting the red light district of a foreign country. So yeah, I'm probably not the best person to talk to about haute culture. But in a strange turn of events I find myself outside the gates of a castle awaiting the prospects of being regaled by the majestic sounds of Mozart. At the beginning, I anticipated myself to be drooling over the shoulder of some random duchess seated to my left, however by the end of it all, life has a funny way of showing you, that you really are more elegant and refined than what your mother tells you. Intoxicated and overwhelmed by all these emotions I never knew, I even found myself becoming slightly aroused, and this is something that only happens when I secretly listen to Avril Lavigne, but like I said, life has a funny way of surprising you.



This is a group shot at Hangar 7. Spot the inverted Malaysian flag. (CR: Red Bull Content Pool)

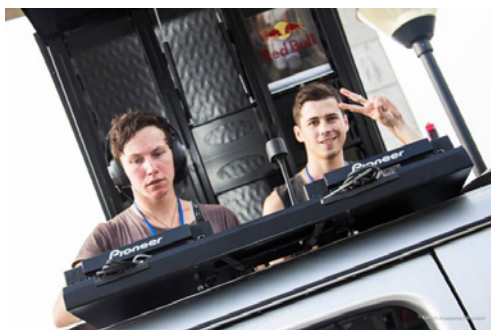
You know, not everyone can say they do what they love, but you can say I'm passionate about what I do. You can't put a price on this, the places I've been, the people I've met, the stories and experiences we've shared, you can't touch it. It's funny how a piece of paper brought all of us from every corner of the world to converge in one place...for 5 days! It's not about the differences, it's about what we have in common. That night, all the guys could've been speaking Swahili and it still wouldn't have stopped us from sharing what was an experience of a lifetime.



This was during the Red Bull Formula One live viewing



That's me outside the (above mentioned) club with fellow SBM's from Belarus and Austria



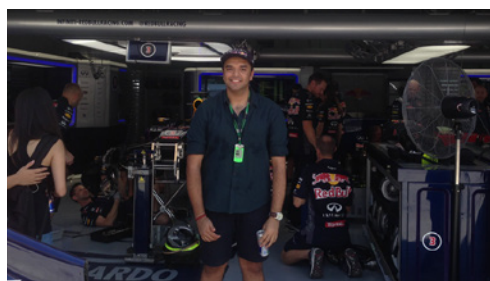
Ben (left) and Jamie (right) tearing it up at Monash Revival on board Chief



This is my prepossessing (former) Manager Joelah Charles.



Red Bull Racing's garage tour during Formula One this year



Kishen Shashikant, was one of the lucky few to tour the Infiniti Red Bull Racing Garage

This is a company that sees buying billboard space through sponsorship as too passe or dreary, in fact it gets directly involved and organizes its own events. Other than giving out the occasional freebies for students to access the paddock area with tickets they can't buy, one of the best things about Red Bull, is that it serves as a platform for budding talent to showcase their skills and abilities. This to me is priceless because it encourages opportunities outside the four walls of a conventional classroom. It allowed for some talented students like Kumail and Zishan Rizvi of Monash Media to showcase their talents, so much so that Redbull invested in rehiring these guys. All things considered, it gives me immense pride to vaunt at being a part of a company that embodies all of that.

P.s: My most heartfelt gratitude to everyone who's been a part of my journey hitherto at Red Bull namely all the people on the CC Team, Kumail & Zishan; my digital manager Gabriel Ong who taught me quite a bit.. about the internet; my former-partner Calvin Roy (he's moved on to a full time position at Red Bull) for being on the ball all the time; Melvyn Lim for being a top notch SBM leader; Jessica Lim, my marketing manager who told me no idea is a horrible idea; and of course my prepossessing (former) manager, Joelah Charles who had my back through it all, then sent me to Austria!

No actual bulls were harmed in the of writing this article. Danke!



MAP OF THE PEREGRINUS

**“Traveling - it leaves you speechless,
then turns you into a storyteller.”
- Ibn Battuta**

Boy, was Ibn Battuta on to something! All my life (so far) there has only been one and only one constant thing - moving! Just to give you an idea of how much I move, picture little me, getting a new passport towards the end of 2013 and having only 4 leaves left as I type this article in 2015. Yes, my family and I frequent airports more often than malls. So often, in fact, that we sometimes decide to fly one night before and we completely lose the capability of feeling anything when any of us does fly. Flying is almost routine to us and we are regulars for the airport staff - THEY ACTUALLY RECOGNIZE US!

No, this is not to brag. What all the generic quotes say about travelling is true, but it's not the whole truth. This is my life. The life that I wake up to every single day. A life so lonely that you take people walking out of your life for granted and thus, fail to get close to anyone. A life where you have no one to reminisce with because your inseparable companion is now an estranged stranger. Feeling no patriotism towards a single identity but feeling the need to defend every part of the world you have ever stepped foot

on. Existing only for the purpose of packing up your entire life to move on to another part of the world where you would never belong.

It is not all bad though. Loneliness, sadness and anger, these are the primary emotions - the RGBs of creativity. Why I say that Battuta was on to something is because feeling lonely, sad and angry through my travels have been key to my creativity - to my ability of becoming a storyteller.

I am a student.

I am an author.

I am a designer.

I am an alien.

Due to the lack of friends to confide in, I developed the habit of writing a journal (I am not embarrassed to admit that Mag Cabot's Princess Diaries also played a big role in this decision). I had been carrying around with me a small red diary that buttoned shut prior this but I never did write it regularly. Most times I forgot I even had it on me! It was only after I read Cabot's books that I really gave regular journal writing an honest shot. It was from there, and endless reading, that I developed the passion and appreciation for language. My mother even got us a French teacher

but that didn't last very long. Bullheaded as I was (and remain), Mum stood no chance against my crazed gibbering about the fact that French was too similar to English for my liking – that I didn't feel like I was learning a different language. My mulishness has led me to make some disagreeable choices, no doubt, but I'd like to think I have learned from them. Nevertheless, this did not weaken my love and thirst for literature.

"Thus hath the candle singd the moath," was what I was essentially whispering to my books as I found myself despairingly attached to them by the spine. I couldn't bring myself to part from them. I found myself reading in the light of my bright pink Sony Ericsson W595, as I wept at the ending of Cecelia Ahern's *If You Could See Me Now*. I would lie in bed and wait to hear my parents' door to click shut after they'd done the rounds to ensure my siblings and I were in bed, just so I could turn my lamp back on and resume reading Goosebumps.

I remember reading every R.L. Stine book that I could ever find and living and breathing by every word Roald Dahl ever scripted. I loved being swept away into another world, a world of my choosing. I was unequivocally rendered speechless as I marveled at the power that mere words possessed. How something someone had written years ago could resonate with me and make me curl up in bed feeling intense capacities of sadness, happiness, and every other form of -ness overwhelmed me. I was enchanted. I was in awe.

As my passion for consuming stories grew, so began my affair with telling them. I foolishly thought if Christopher Paolini could start his writing voyage at the tender age of 14, I could surely do the same if not surpass him; never had I ever been so wrong in my life. I did begin writing what has now become my first published work, *Too Good To Be True?*, when I was 14 too.

However, the novel was then titled *I Are You* and was meant to be a murder mystery. One with a serial killer with many split personalities, murdering people that had wronged their vessel. Needless to say, it did not turn out quite as well as I had hoped and so the direction then changed to a much more light hearted story. During the writing period, I suffered through a full year of writer's block which I feel was due to the fact that I stopped reading altogether in order to focus more on my writing – this was yet another

regretful decision on my part.

A year or so later, while preparing for my O Levels, the time to move again had arrived at our doorstep. This time, we were moving to Malaysia. The packing, the flying, the unpacking, and enrolling in schools was exhausting. The food here (in comparison to KSA's) fell short in delivery. The portions were too small, the taste was too bland and I had trouble pronouncing half the things on the menu. In time, however, I adapted to the environment and started to prefer being here than Pakistan or even KSA. This was largely because of the diversity that coexists within the country.

See, with the constant travelling, I am now left being someone who is different from both the Pakistanis and Saudis, thus I struggle to be accepted amongst both the nations. In Pakistan I am considered ungrateful and obnoxious because my Urdu is almost always a hybrid of Urdu and English, Uglish (pun not intended). While in Saudi Arabia, I am seen as an immigrant, as someone who has no business being on their land in the first place. A foreigner. An alien.

I don't want you to get the wrong idea though. These experiences, these travels, have added to my ability of seeing things through different perspectives – perspectives that I may not necessarily attribute to myself. And this particular tool has been my golden egg in writing. And so, it is no surprise that my book, *Too Good To Be True?*, was not solely written in KSA or Malaysia. It was written in both the countries as I kept travelling back and forth. This, in turn, added to the quality of content of the book and my writing style significantly.

Similarly, when it comes to my artworks, a lot of it comes from a very personal and vulnerable place. My piece, *Sky Station*, for example, is a perfect thumbnail of my life as a briefcase child. Besides the nature of my content, the quality of the content itself has been also affected by my travels as I have had the opportunity to collaborate with various people from various walks of life.

I had been seduced by the art of photography when I first joined a group of photographers in Jeddah but was only able to hone my skills once I had the pleasure of knowing Sidney Chan upon moving to Malaysia. In fact, he was one of my very first friends here, and now, under his mentorship, I have been fortunate enough to be able to experience working

with recognized names in the industry such as Jared Lee of GRIM FILM. Malaysia has also provided me with a platform for my creativity as I have had the opportunity of being a part of various conventions here, such as Comic Art Festival and Animengaki, where I have been fortunate enough to display and sell my own art and my novel.

My lifestyle is alienating, crippling and erratic but it is the life that I lead and because of it, I have been led to epic things. With my travels, I have lost the sense of belonging to one place and have instead become one with every place. I have memories and people that bound me to these countries – I am from them for a greater reason than merrily being born in them.

I am not 'straight outta' Islamabad or Jeddah or Kuala Lumpur. I am 'straight outta' all of the above. I eat my food more often with chopsticks than roti but I love a plate full of spicy biryani laced with raita. I also think that there's no dessert greater or more appetizing than Baklava in this whole wide universe. There's no

snow purer than that of Muree, no palm trees as tall and lush as those of Khober and no place as scenic as Redang.

My Urdu may not be fluent but Aye Jawan to this day remains my most nostalgic and favorite song of all time. I may not be a Saudi but my trips to Maidan-e-Saleh and Maidaan-e-Khaibar were the most life changing and surreal experiences of my being. I may get kaki and kuku mixed up but Mamak will forever remain my first choice for dining out.

I am a student.

I am an author.

I am a designer.

I am an alien.

And dare I say, being an alien has served me well!





Sea in a room // Sitwat Hashmi

THE PARADIGM OF POWERLESSNESS

Words by Kevin Richard

Time will pass me by. Inexorable in nature.

Merely a jester have a duty to embrace on and aspire for
thy predecessor.

What clout do I enjoy? Who am I alongside the aeons?

Apprehension: Do so forth which seals the body, heart and
emotion with zeal.

Be vehement. Be Solicitous. Be Doting.

*“It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory;
It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power;”*

WHY I JOINED (AND CONTINUE TO PARTAKE IN) DEBATING

Words by Abdul Mateen Qadri

There are a lot of activities and extra-curricular societies that are available to the students in Monash. Many students do not take advantage of this opportunity, which is dismaying. I encourage all students to use this unique opportunity to widen your horizons and explore activities that you have never tried. I joined the debating society, and it honestly changed my life (for the better definitely). I do not wish to make an epistemic claim that everyone should join debating or that debating is perfect for everyone; just that you should consider the value it has on an individual's mindset.

First, debating helped me develop critical analysis skills. For all the engineers reading, no; engineering does not provide critical analysis skills. I'm referring to skills of figuring out how logic functions, how to make coherent arguments, understanding flaws and assumptions, and noting logical fallacies. This is valuable because we always come across individuals making claims that we wish to engage with but are unable to do so. By acquiring critical thinking skills, I was able to critically evaluate (to an extent) all statements made around me. I also began to realize that all statements made by MUSA election campaigners lacked any logic or substantiation. Pure assertions. Although I'm not sure you need well-developed critical analytical skills to realize this.

Second, debating exposed me to fields and information that I would possibly never have known otherwise. Debating requires you to make a seven minute speech after fifteen minutes of preparation. To do this effectively, you need a wide base of knowledge. I learnt about notions of feminism, politics, economics, gender, sexuality,

ethics and morality. I probably would have never learnt it otherwise, and debating provided me a fun and accessible way to do so. For a student from a science background, to understand all of this is pretty amazing. It also made me advocate for positions that I would have been opposed to in the past. I think there is high value in understanding alternative viewpoints.

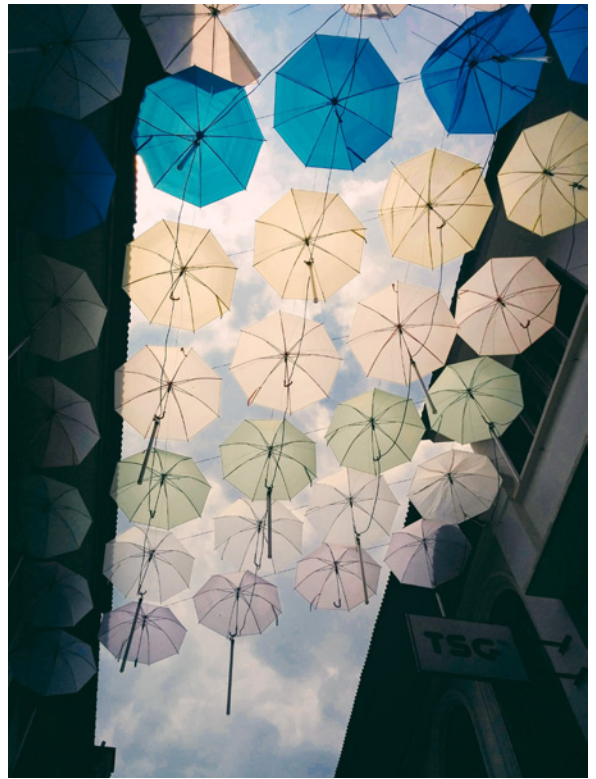
Third, debating as an activity is enjoyable and exhilarating. Debating is a sport, and an intellectual activity. There are few other activities which allow you to pit yourself against a person on an intellectual level. It also exposed me to people who have remained my close friends after many years. For that, I am extremely grateful.

Fourth and lastly, debating improved my public speaking skills. I could hardly speak for a few minutes a couple of years ago, and now after my experience in debating, I can barely stop! There are no other societies in Monash that require you to speak for a considerable length of time in a single speech advocating a position that you have been randomly assigned to, involve generating material on the spot, and speaking on a wide range of substantive issues that are not based on your personal experiences. The ability to speak confidently is underrated and can help you for future employment opportunities.

Overall, debating was pretty awesome. I'm not here to say a priori that everyone should join debating; just that you should be cognizant of the benefits different societies can have on your development.



*"Haze, oh haze. When wilt thou go away?"
// Illustration by Eishatur Rodhiah*



Concubine Street // Photograph by Daniel Leong

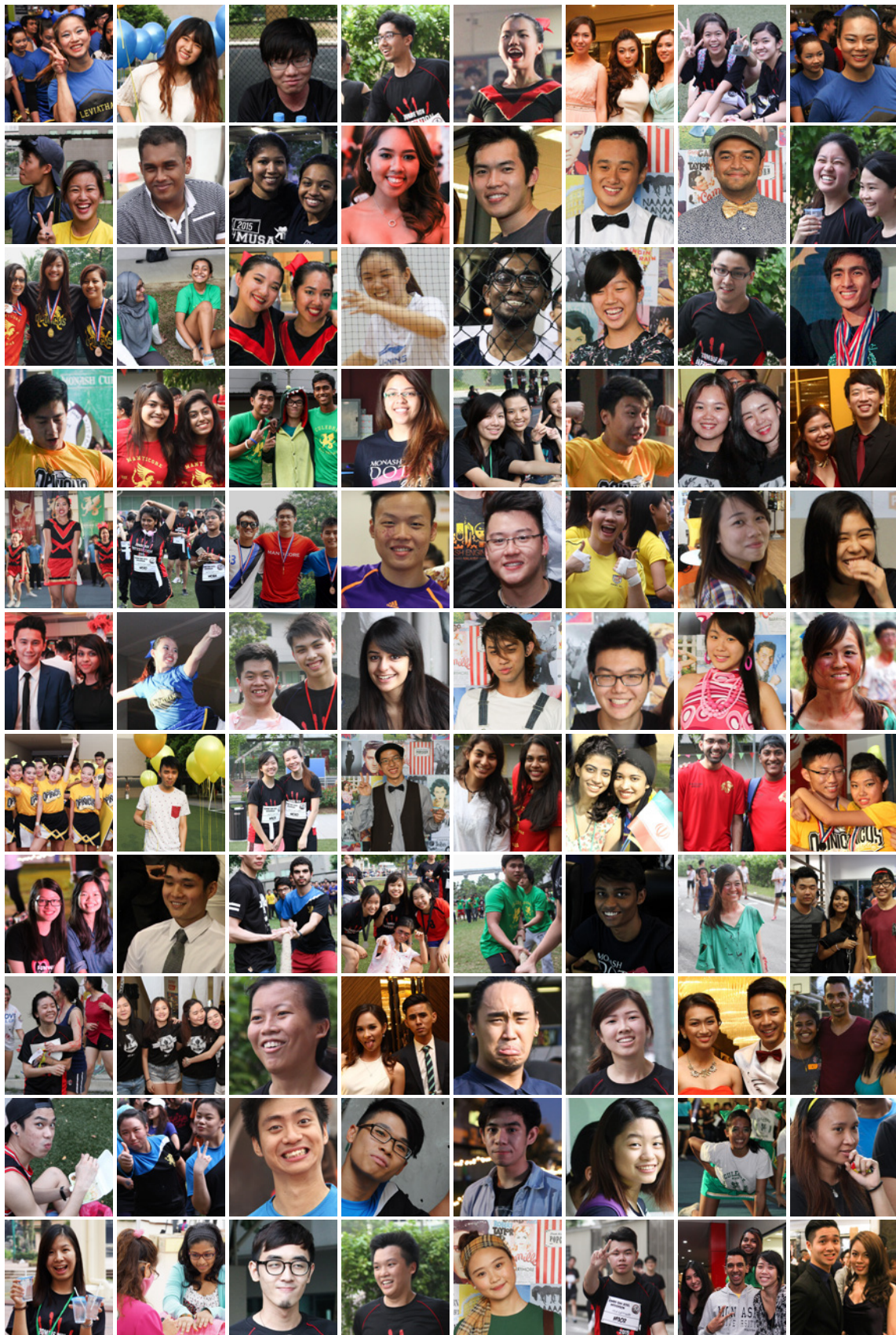


Don't be a fool for the city lights // Photograph by Hao Bin



HUMANS OF MONASH









"This is my sidekick. Her name is Xena Warrior Princess. She glides like the wind and she's the other wild animal in my pants."

"As a Korean, people always ask me whether I had gone for plastic surgeries or if I have any plans for one."

And many people don't believe I'm Korean because the Koreans they see are often celebrities from the media—tall and pretty."



*"Why did you choose this color for your nails?"
"I prefer bright colors, like the colors on my toes right now, but I will go for red on my fingernails this time."*

Taken during Women's Week, Manicure Session



(Conversation translated from Malay)

"How do you feel about your job?"

"I'm glad to help students refresh after a long tiring day."

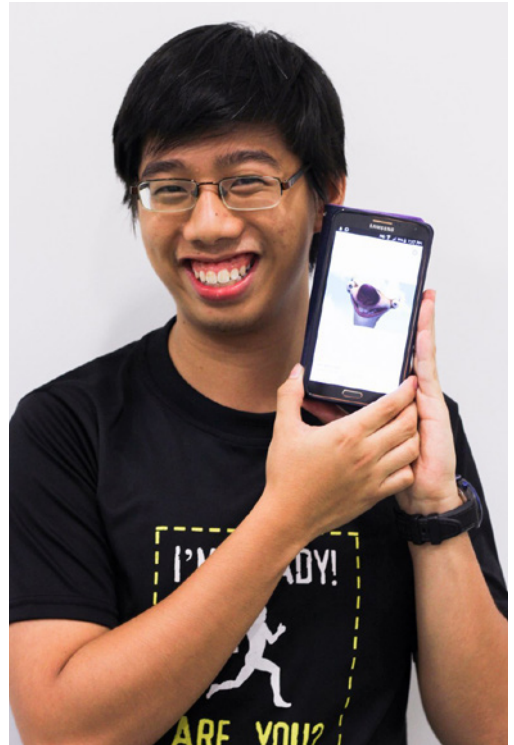




"I started to get involved in organizing events in high school, when I helped to organise an interschool Chinese society camp, then subsequently numerous events during MUFY times. Then I got into Monash and became MUSA 2014's Activities Chairperson.

Being involved in activities and seeing students being happy, that's what made me passionate about organizing events. I've been helping out in almost every orientation in all my three years here.

But it's been a long time coming, I'm thinking to retire from organizing events and move on to some other things..."



"I look like Sid the sloth."

"Yay, I'm now 21 and legal! I can finally legally go to casinos! But I have class tomorrow..."



"I think dark colours fits me more than bright colours. I wanted something that is somewhat not too dark but not too bright either. So I ended up with this dark violet brownish color."

Taken during Women's Week, Manicure Session

"I've been playing hockey for the past 10 years, it started off as a difficult experience, but being dedicated helped me overcome my initial difficulties."



"I've just started hockey a few months ago, and he has been a great inspiration to me. The experience of playing the game is rewarding, as it is not really a mainstream sport, and I hope that I can help to increase the popularity of this sport."



"My greatest fear is not being good enough.. well, not being good enough for my dad."



"People say I look better with glasses... but I feel insecure when I have them on..."



*"Would you rather know the date of your death, or the cause of your death?"
"Date of the death, so I can prepare myself, and know when to say goodbye."*



Taken during Music Night (organized by Monash Music Club)

"Who is your music inspiration?"

"My biggest music inspiration is Jay Chou. He does a lot of music improvisations, playing piano, composing with just three notes. But when I started performing, it was my best friend who inspired me. My first performance was in front of 800 people and I kinda screwed it up. Since then I have always just helped other bands arrange songs, make medleys, rearrange things..."

"Any advice for other aspiring performers like you?"

"For all of us performers here, of course we had wanted to be musicians at first, but we're here doing engineering, science, whatever, I get it, it's tough. Parents might not let you, other people might look down on you, but just do it now, who knows, you might be able to make something out of it later."

Taken during MUSA Day, July 2015.

"How was orientation week for you guys?"

"Today was the most fun, met lots of new people, other days were so boring. When asked about what would they like to achieve in university, we got mostly blank stares."

"Not sure about it yet... lots of HD maybe? Graduate, get great jobs, awesome friends..."



Taken during MUSA Day, July 2015.

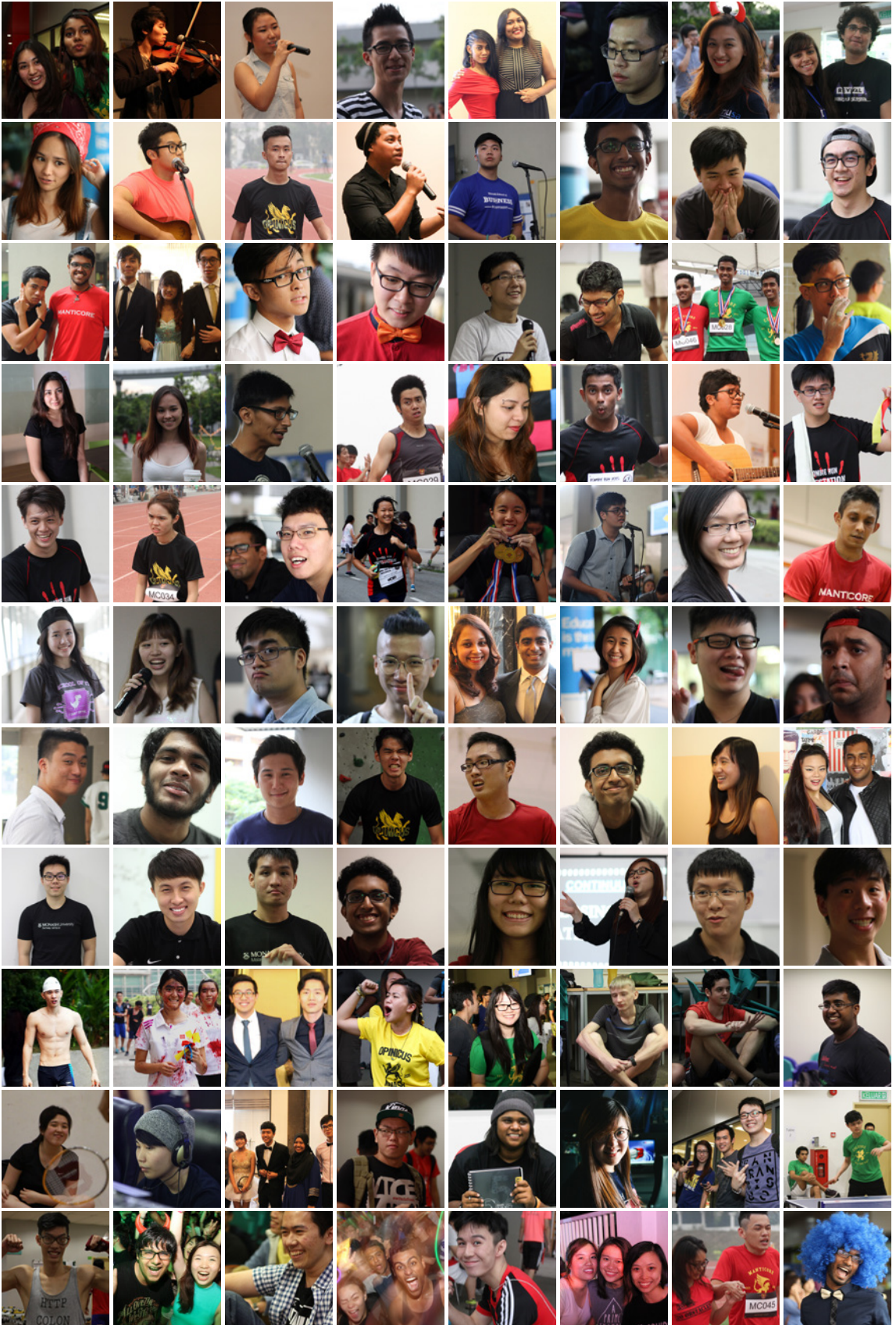
"Today was the best day of orientation... I would never ask my juniors to attend other days. So boring."

"What do you plan to achieve in your studies?"

"Deep question, we haven't thought that far ahead yet, we just hope to graduate at the end of all this."

"Do you feel prepared for uni?"

"We don't know what to expect yet, but we feel we're ready for this!"





EVENTS @ MONASH

2015 Semester 2

Here is a non-exhaustive list of the events that had taken place on campus so far!

MAY
21

STARLIGHT CINEMA

AUG
24

WOMEN'S WEEK

SEP
19

ZOMBIE RUN

MAY
28

MUSIC NIGHT

AUG
29

MUISS WORLD CUP

SEP
27

DOTA 2 TOURNAMENT

JUL
20

ORIENTATION WEEK

SEP
2

POOL TOURNAMENT

OCT
9

MUSIC FESTIVAL
ULTIMATUM

AUG
1

ORIENTATION BASH

SEP
7

MUSA ELECTIONS 2015

OCT
13

FRIGHT NIGHT

AUG
3

C&S WEEK

SEP
10

MONASH CUP

AUG
20

MIDWEEKMINGLE 2

SEP
12

MONASH ANNUAL BALL

AUG
22

MUVP FUN FAIR



STARLIGHTCINEMA

Coverage by Sagar N. Bhambhani

Under the moon and star-light illuminated sky, Monashians congregated at the field outside Monash Sports Centre. A fascinating thursday night it was indeed; 21st May was one of its kind – there was an open air screening of movies (TWO!! Not just One. TWO!).

Riveting movies in 'Birdman' and '17 again' were displayed on a rather large screen – slightly smaller

than an actual cinema one. More than 300 were in attendance, which was astonishing, given that it rained heavily that afternoon. Credit to the organizers who did not fret the obstacle but implemented an effective solution by laying shower curtains (which functioned as makeshift plastic mats). All this, complete with Pizza, Snacks and Drinks, truly made it a spectacle to remember. Monashians look forward to more of such events in the near future.





MUSICNIGHT by Music Club

28th May 2015



28th May 2015, plenary theatre was the place to be. Monash Malaysia's finest musicians assembled to enthrall the audience with their exquisite talent.

It was a truly mesmerizing experience for the audience present, being serenaded by some fine voices, regaled by the strings of guitars and violin, and enchanted by every piano key stroke, amongst other instruments.

While some pieces were contemporary, others were classical recitals – both truly captivating. This did more than enough to dispel the myth that Monashians are just brainy nerds.



Words by Sagar N. Bhambhani & Kevin Richard



ORIENTATION **JULY**2015



Photographs by Daniel Leong, Hao Bin, Sagar N. Bhambhani, Jade-E Lim, & Kevin Richard.







WOMEN'S WEEK

Wom*ns Week was held throughout week 7, an initiative by the MUSA Wom*en's department. There were a barrage of activities planned for the women of Monash ranging from sports such as futsal and badminton tournaments right down to a self defence class.

A makeover workshop was conducted by Bobbi Brown where the ladies were then presented with a RM30 Bobbi Brown voucher to expand their collection of cosmetics. There were also special appearances by Miss Malaysia finalists, Denise and Shaelina, who were present to share with the participants the importance of being able to love oneself. They addressed the crowd on strength and vulnerability. Free 15-minute express manicure sessions were arranged and made possible by Nails On Wheels, with 40 lucky girls being privy to this exclusive privilege.

The futsal and badminton tournaments drew large crowds with the gentlemen coming down to support the girls as they battled it out on the courts. The winners were presented with H&M gift vouchers worth between RM50 to RM150.





Words by Krishna Vishinpir | Photographs by Tien Chia Lim, Pei Er See & Sathishaa Mohan



MIDWEEKMINGLE2

The evening started with an introduction within the various groups. The event was a little delayed as some of the students were running late from class. The event started with a meet and greet session between the newbies and the seniors. After the groups were formed and the students were settled in, everyone moved to the indoor court for the main event.

The games began with a team building game. This game was to get the teams to work together. All the members of the team were blindfolded with only one left to see, and gestures were induced through movements made through the shoulder. The game was indeed a lot of fun as students were laughing as they guided their team through various routes to pick up objects lying on the floor, which had its use for the game that followed. The teams were kept intact, for the game of the

evening, dress up your Prince or Princess. With whatever objects that they managed to retrieve from the first game, teams were supposed to dress up a prince or princess of their choices alongside other materials provided by the organizer. The teams came up with some rather unique and hilarious ideas of princes and princesses. The highlight of the game was the catwalk by each of the models that left the crowd in tears of laughter.

The evening ended with a water war between the groups, in attempts to protect their prince or princess from getting wet. Teams came up with various battle strategies that was rather amusing to watch. The event ended with a beautiful buffet for the hungry participants which was followed by the prize giving by the organizers. All in all it was an evening well spent, and definitely a memorable night for the freshies.





MUVP FUN FAIR 2015

“An eventful and memorable day,” as quoted by several volunteers and committee members. The Fun Fair was held especially for the children of 3 MUVP NGO partners from Muhajirin Rohingya, City Revival Children’s Home and Praise Emmanuel Children’s Home (PECH) on August 22nd, 2015.

The event started off with five different games followed by a scrumptious lunch, a magic show ending the day with exciting activities such as henna, limbo and bouncy house. The volunteers and MUVP committee members felt blessed and grateful to have had the opportunity to relive their childhood days with the children. At the end of the day everyone had a fun and memorable experience.





Written by Anchalee Sudechawongsakul
Photographs by Claudea Yenica Tanata & Beatriz Ng



MONASHCUP 2015

A few words from the organising committee...



Season Chan: We are delighted that the event has brought life into the campus of Monash University Malaysia, uniting the student body through different means despite academic boundaries. It is to our joy and satisfaction that Monash Cup has made its way into the history of Monash University Malaysia.



Zhi Yu Liao: Thank you for giving us an opportunity to host this event. I can't express how grateful I am to witness students enjoying themselves in the event. Thanks again for giving me a memorable experience!



Bing Hong Heong: We are proud to have hosted the first ever monash cup and more than happy to see that this event has brought people closer. Sincerely hope that there will be Monash Cup 2016 and the year after and after...



Thiviyah Kailainathan: Monash cup 2015 has truly been a tremendous event that is close to our hearts. We have all grown in so many ways. I hope it has not only brought out sport spirits but also everlasting friendships.



Dickson Chew: At the end of the day, it's not about whose crest stays in the middle of the shield for a year, it's about getting everyone together for a similar cause. Strangers to friends to families, it's about those invaluable new bonds made. Monash Cup 2015, we are all winners.



Vecknish Baskeran: It was an amazing experience and we truly enjoyed every bit of it (we hope you did too). The journey was a roller coaster ride and everyone was responsible for this success. So we thank you and you.



Alvin Tan: We're glad to witness the spirit of sportsmanship, forging of new friendships, and the fortification of existing ones.



James Seow: I feel very proud to witness many fellow Monashians participating in our very first Monash Cup. It's good to see so many students who loves sport events.



J-Mee Chong: We couldn't be more honored to be a part of this event, seeing the joyful faces and passionate cheers has undoubtedly made this experience so worth it. This will certainly be one of the most fulfilling and unforgettable chapters of my life.



Natalie Tan: Everyone now has somewhere to call "home" within the University. C&S has successfully created not just an event but a family within each houses. And today we can say proudly - We are a family, not just strangers who crossed paths.



Wee Li Mah: It wasn't a straightforward task to organize Monash Cup for the students but the joys and smiles on each and every student's face showed me that the efforts we had put in were worthwhile.



Jeffrey Chung: And so I thought, let us turn Monash into Hogwarts!!

MONASHCUP 2015

SCOREBOARD



Sport	Houses			
	Manticore	Leviathan	Culebre	Opinicus
Tug of War	20	30	10	-
Table tennis	-	20	30	10
Dodgeball	30	20	10	-
Swimming	30	20	-	10
Rock Climbing	-	10	20	30
Athletics/Track&Field	-	10	20	30
Cricket	20	-	30	-
			10	
Obstacle Course	-	30	10	-
		20		
Pool	20	30	-	10
Basketball (Female)	20	-	10	30
Basketball (male)	20	10	-	30
Badminton (Female)	20	30	-	10
Badminton (Male)	30	-	10	20
Futsal	20	-	-	30
	10			
Ultimate Frisbee	20	-	10	30
Captain Ball	-	30	20	10
Cheerleading	-	20	10	30

Scoring: 30 points for 1st place, 20 points for 2nd place, and 10 points for 3rd place.

Creative Social Media Post (FB) (10pts)	10	-	-	-
Creative Social Media Post (FB) (10pts)	-	10	-	-
Most Active House on Social Media (15pts)	15	-	-	-
TOTAL	285	290	200	280

MONASH CUP 2015

Organized by MUSA Clubs and Societies Division: Jeffrey Chung, Thiviyah Kailainathan, Alvin Tan, Zhi Yu Laiu, Dickson Chew, Season Chan, James Seow, Vecknish Baskeran, Bing Hong Heong, J-Mee Chong, Natalie Tan, Wee Li Mah & subcommittees.

Photography by Shaphan Lim, Andrew Peter Lim, Hao Bin, Jenny Wong Jie Xuan, Pei Er See, Tien Chia Lim, Sathishaa Mohan, Jade-E Lim & Kevin Richard.



THE WAR IS NOW, CHAMPIONS SHALL RISE

The idea of Monash Cup came about late last year with the main intention of unifying students of different courses, intakes and social groups- bringing students of such diverse backgrounds together. And what better way to do that than through SPORTS? Our vision was to see the students united in the spirit of sportsmanship as well as for them to develop invaluable bonds with one another.

The committee overcame the first hurdle to kick-starting this event by introducing the “house sorting system” in which the students are allocated to different houses based on the last two digits of their student IDs. Now, all students belong to one of the four houses, namely Leviathan, Manticore, Opinicus and Culebre. And behold! We bring to you the first ever campus level sporting event of such a large scale and uniqueness.

The Organizing Committee put the pedal to the metal early in the year to ensure every detail for the success of the 8-day event wasn't overlooked. In the following few months, weekly meetings were held, ideas and suggestions were exchanged, the rules & regulations were finalized and all sorts of decision were made. All that was left was the unpredictable start of the Monash Cup Week.

Finally, after months of preparation, the Opening Ceremony begun! The ceremony brought together the four houses after all their training to initiate the event. Students roared with pride for their houses and showed so much energy and enthusiasm for the event. What an exciting beginning to the event! The ceremony went smoothly with the releasing of balloons of the four house colours as well as the unveiling of the mysterious main prize for the champion house.

With each sport that went on day by day, winners were determined and points were earned for their beloved houses. Unfortunately, the haze started to spread like wildfire half-way through the event, obstructing the schedule of several outdoor sports. The committee had to make the decision to postpone the events for the greater good of the participants' health. Although the haze tampered with the scheduling, no

one was any less enthusiastic. Nothing could put a stop to the undying eagerness of the participants to bring glory to their houses. The competitive spirit was clearly visible (and audible) amongst participants from all four houses. Eventually, all sports were able to be completed before the closing ceremony.

Alas, the Closing Ceremony was upon us. The ceremony brought the students together one last time to run the last mile with their houses. The cheerleaders gave us a treat as we watched them perform for the very last competition in the Monash Cup. As the judges deliberated, medals were given out to all participants who won a placing in the remaining 13 sports. After the cheerleading champions were announced and claimed their medals, it was time to announce the overall champion house. The crowd stayed on eagerly and in suspense to witness the very first crowning of the first Monash Cup winner.

Leviathan won the Overall Champion of Monash Cup 2015 with accumulated 290 points followed by Manticore, Opinicus and Culebre. The minute margin separating the top two of only 5 points signifies the importance of every point earned and the competitiveness of the event.

It was a challenging yet rewarding experience. An event initially viewed as impossible to be a success was accomplished with blood, sweat and tears from the committees, sub-committees as well as cooperation of all parties. However, no amount of effort from the organizers would have been able to turn this event into a success without the enthusiasm and eagerness of the students, and for that we are eternally grateful. The Organizing Committee are proud to have given students an opportunity to participate in a sporting event of this scale and hopes that the moments of the 2015 Monash Cup will forever be etched in the memories of many.

#monashcup15 #leviathanmc15 #manticoremc15
#opinicusmc15 #culebremc15 #withdrawalsymptoms

DAY 1

Opening Ceremony, Tug Of War,
Dodgeball, Table Tennis



DAY 2

Pool, Dodgeball, Badminton



DAY 3

Swimming, Rock Climbing

DAY 4

Athletics, Cricket



DAY 5

Badminton, Pool



DAY 6

Basketball, Futsal, Obstacle Challenge



DAY 7

Frisbee, Badminton, Captain Ball



DAY 8

Basketball, Futsal, Pool, Cheerleading, Closing Ceremony







HOUSE OF THE YEAR: LEVIATHAN



My core focus as the very first Manticore house captain is CHANGE. Despite the various experiences of the committee members, we were given a task that is entirely fresh, hence, we needed to be adaptable to changes. I honestly believe the committee deserves more credit for pulling it off smoothly.

Initially, I was never a fighter, rather a peacemaker. I wanted my players to have fun, and I stressed less about victory. However when your players tell you, 'we don't train n-times a week just to have fun, we train to win', then you need to know that this house means business and you as a captain need to adapt to keep up to their mindset.

With that being said, there are also players who told me they train just to get last place. As pessimistic as it sounds, these are actually the players who trained every day—literally every single day. They showed me that, sometimes it's not about whether you are good or not, it's about what you are willing to sacrifice for the things you love. They truly deserve our respect.

There are also sport teams who use the same roster and went for external competitions before and after the Monash Cup. To them, it's not just about winning or losing, it's about a bunch of strangers sharing nothing other than a common interest and a student ID range encourage, motivate, improve, keeping



the passion on with each other and enjoying the hospitality of being in a team.

As the House Captain, it was heartbreaking to hear your players out there saying 'sorry' whenever a match or game is lost. In this House, as long as you gave it your all, scored every point until you dripped your last drop of sweat, then you do not owe anyone an apology. There is nothing more Manticore could have asked for from you. Your opponent may win in glory, but they were forced to bring out the best in you to claim victory and because of that, you will always have pride to bring back home.

Throughout this wonderful journey, my thoughts have been highly influenced by the rest of the House. I have never expected myself to have grown so attached to the House and the teams, and I'm sure most of us felt the same way. Being the pioneers of Manticore, the values we set for this House are definitely dedication, sportsmanship, unity, risk-taking and confidence. This is how we have defined ourselves from our actions and I couldn't be more proud to be your House Captain.

We scored 285 points in the first year. To those who are still unfamiliar with Manticore, please expose yourself to the House and explore more or else this will just be a number. But to those who have been active— whether you were an athlete, a committee or just a very supportive member, remember, ***it is what we lost that makes us fight harder; but is it what we won that we should appreciate and remember forever.***

Martin Ng,
Manticore House Captain





Clackity clackity clack. As I was drifting through my work as a final year engineering student, I looked at my watch—it's 5pm. Feeling excited, I dropped everything, put on a change of clothes and dashed towards the Monash field. Something I never knew I would have picked up months ago has now become something unforgettable for the rest of my life. Monash Cup happened for the first time in Monash University history.

Without doubt, it has definitely brought many of us closer together, from strangers to friends, friends to better friends, or perhaps better friends to lovers. During Monash Cup, I've seen how the supporters cheered their lungs out, how the players strive to win their games and notably the great display of sportsmanship between opponents. There were people who came to me and said: "Gosh, I've never met so many people within one week in my entire life!" or "I'm happy that I get to be part of something big." Invaluable and priceless responses, it is experience like these that truly serves the ultimate purpose of Monash Cup.

I remember it all, the recruitment period, the committee election, the orientation week, house shirt sales, mingle night, not to mention the little competition between houses to reserve their training spots for the players—all filled with



joy and laughter. Life has never been more challenging and intense juggling between studies, personal life, and taking care of the house with so many children in it, catering to their needs and demands. My deepest gratitude goes to my entire team for their boundless effort and unconditional support to the house. Victory or defeat, I am positive that each house has already won the hearts of its occupants. Kudos! Cheers and all the best to Monash Cup 2016!

Sincerely,
Zac Chai
Opinicus House Captain



Fellow dragons, I cannot be prouder of all the things we have managed to accomplish over the course of the Monash Cup. Seeing everybody come together, from different states, backgrounds, schools and countries has been an inspiration. To everyone involved, it introduced to you people that you would have otherwise not known and I hope that you were able to forge new friendships through this oppurtunity. Seeing supporters and participants come together gave me great joy and you are all winners in my eyes.

Since day one, I had stressed the importance of sportsmanship and I can attest to the fact that every game Culebre played was played fairly and righteously. You have trained hard, sacrificed your time and effort, and it has not gone unnoticed. On behalf of the committee, we would like to extend our warmest gratitude to all of you who have made this house what it is. We admire you. Culebre is nothing without you.

Congratulations to all the teams that have allowed us to lead 6 out of the 8 days. That in itself is an accomplishment. I would also like to thank the sports captains as well as the house committee for your unwavering support and dedication. This astounding result would have been impossible to attain without you.

One day soon, it will be our green emblem on that cup. And until then, we shall keep the talons sharp, the wings mighty and the jaws strong. Because inside all of us is a green dragon, and we will see it through all the way.

It has been an honour serving you, *Draconnes Conscendo!*

Sincerely,
Krisha Vishinpir
Culebre House Captain





The Monash Cup has truly been a ground-breaking experience for everyone involved. As the first of its kind, each and every one of us had the privilege—nay, the honour—of having participated in an event as memorable as this. From the screams and the cries of the Tug-of-War to the tumbles and flips of the Cheerleaders; trying to explain what being a Leviathan felt like is impossible to describe. Hair on end, goosebumps on our skin and body trembling as we screamed for our House.

We screamed—not cheered, not shouted, but screamed—with every fibre of our being, with every ounce of energy that we had, until our voices could not be heard and until our throats were sore. Each word, in victory or defeat, a cry of support to lift up each player on every field. Each word, a sign that we would never give up and that we were with our athletes all the way. Not every story was one of success, not every tear was one of joy but the Spirit that every Leviathan kept was something to behold.

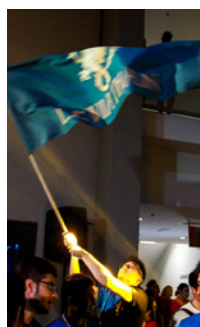
Every time you picked yourself up off the ground and tried again, you added to that Spirit. Every time you were battered and bloodied but stood the test, you blew wind into our sails. Each and every time you were defeated and fell but huddled close, comforting your teammates, consolidating your strength before raising your head as your captain screamed 'LEVIA~!' and you screamed 'THAN-THAN-THAN-THAN', you let everyone know that they should be afraid! Not because we

had fallen, not because we were weak but because each time you screamed your defiance, you poured fire into the inferno that is our Spirit.

You showed them that strength does not show itself in times of victory; but True Strength, the strongest that you can be, lives in the heart of every Leviathan. Every moment, Every place. Never forget that. Be proud, and remember the memories we have made. They will endure long after we are gone.

Long Live Leviathan!
Long Live Our Legacy!

Gavin
Leviathan House Captain



VIVA LEVIATHAN!





MONASH ANNUAL BALL
MONTE CARLO



READY TO GO ALL IN?

Monte Carlo, a sunny beach haven in Monaco, a world famous casino located in Las Vegas, a probability simulation technique used to understand the impact of risks on financial projects (I'm sure not many of us knew that) but most importantly, Monte Carlo was the theme for the 2015 Monash Annual Ball.

On the 12th of September, the Majestic Hotel Kuala Lumpur opened its doors to 800 Monashians who were all dressed to impress—Monte Carlo style. The expectations were high and the crowd was in euphoric mood.

Of course, as most of us in Malaysia, many were looking forward to feasting on the 4-course meal that was promised. Sadly though, the general consensus from the students was that the quantity was insufficient and the quality did not fulfil the expectations that many had in mind. However, the entertainment on show that night certainly made most of the attendees feel that they had well received their money's worth.

The entertainment started even before anyone had stepped foot into the hall with a blackjack table set up at the entrance, in which students were allowed to test their luck (or skill) by playing with poker chips that had been given upon registration. And indeed, many went all in! – And lost.

Everyone then entered the hall and the arrival of the VIPs for the night was greeted by a marvellous performance by the Paladin Orchestra who brilliantly combined classical masterpieces with modern day hits. A performance that made Monashians appreciate the classical style of music.

The next performance was by Rejuvenate Dance Crew, who was also on show at the 2014 Annual Monash Ball. As usual, the boys gave us an energetic performance that proved why they are rightly regarded as one of the best dance crews in the country.

Next up was Viva Vertical, who gave a... fascinating performance. Their combination of acrobatics, aerial arts, hip-hop dances and *ehem* tease dancing? I don't really know what to call it. But it was definitely

unique and entertaining and something that caught everyone by surprise.

There was also a magician on show to bring some mystic to the night. Mark Yong gave some tricks that were not so magical and some that truly bewildered the audience.

The last thing on the agenda was, of course, to crown Mr. & Miss Monash 2015. The finalists, paired together as couples, walked along the red carpet and showed themselves off on the stage. They then had to answer a question about themselves such as "What are you most proud of?". Although most of the finalists took longer than the time they had been given, they still managed to capture the attention of everyone in the hall. They were then asked to show off their dance moves in a head to head dance battle against some (unlucky) random students.

The whole random dance-to-whatever-song-the-dj-plays segment was made infinitely more enjoyable thanks to the awesome Master of Ceremony for the night, Melvin Aeria. His execution of well-timed jokes, quirky dance moves, and well known comprehensibility of various languages meant that he was the perfect choice to host the event! Kudos to him for making the night so much more special for everyone.

Back to the topic of MMM. It was time to crown the winners!

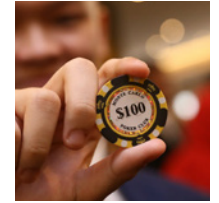
Mr. Monash 2015 – Ahmed Al-Mansari

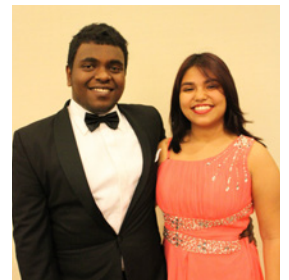
Finalists Chang Foo Khang
 Anson Cheong

Miss Monash 2015 – Nahal Ataei

Finalists Yassamin Zainal
 Nur Sarina

Overall, the night was a huge success and special thanks should be given to the MUSA Activities Chairpersons Kishen and Jack, as well as their entire team who had put in countless hours of work and sleepless nights in order to give us a truly memorable Monash Annual Ball. Minor hiccups were to be expected but they dealt with the issues pretty well. We hope that next year's annual ball will live up to the very high standards that have been set by this team.







MONASH ANNUAL BALL 2015

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DOTA2015

On the 26th and 27th of September 2015, 24 teams of five brave heroes (and supports) were gathered for the tournament of the year to defend their ancients. The battle was held at Autosurf SS15. Each team drew lots to be randomly assigned to their competitors. Day 1 was divided into three sessions, and the team that won best of three rounds moved on to the next stage. At the end of Day 1, twelve teams remained standing.





At 9am the next day, the battles continued and twelve teams dwindled down to six. Soon, only 3 teams remained which were Boboleon, Harrison Jones and Sashimi Gaming. A compendium was held and A-Team was given a second chance to reach the finals. In the end, Boboleon claimed first place and each member took home a Razer BlackWidow Chroma keyboard. A-Team claimed second place, and each member won a brand new Razer DeathAdder Chroma mouse. Members of Harrison Jones, who had won third, each got two RM50 Steam wallet.

The DOTA 2 tournament ended successfully, although several technical and connectivity issues delayed the matches by a few hours (we ended at 2am on Day 2). Phew.

ZOMBIE RUN

Sept 19



be fast or be DEAD

A 7km run infested with zombies was held on the 19th September 2015. Monash University was filled with an apocalyptic mix of danger and undead terror.

Excited runners arrived on campus bright-eyed at 7am; while zombies, who had to get ready as early as 5am, waited bloody-eyed at several points along the 7km route. The runners were given multiple coloured ribbons which represented their "lives" and these had to be taped around their waists. Their main mission was to be the first to complete the race of life and death (not literally, of course!) while having to protect these ribbons while the hordes of the undead tried to snatch the ribbons from the runners.

The race ended at around 10.30am, and the top 50 participants were awarded their "Top 50 finisher" medals whereas all other participants were awarded finisher medals. After that, the zombies and the runners had a brief photo-taking session.

The event was overall rather interesting and exciting for every one regardless of whether they were runners, zombies, helpers or merely spectators.





MAY THE ODDS BE EVER IN YOUR FAVOR?





BRAINSZZ... WE MEAN RIBBONSZZ#sgem





Movie Night [20th August 2015]

What could be a better than enjoying a movie describing human's emotion to start a new semester? This is an event where SPIN provides a space for students to relax and learn more about emotions at the same time.



Blown Up [17th September 2015]

Blown Up is a 'hunt-or-be-hunted' game where you have to find the terrorists and jail them before they implant a bomb in your building, or before your building BLOWS UP!



Tea-Gather [21st September 2015]

Having a casual chat with psychology lecturers, tutors, administration staff and students from all schools while enjoying the food served makes a perfect tea break.



Help Us Grow Stronger (H.U.G.S) [5th - 7th October 2015]

Chances are, there are people around you who are experiencing depression but are ashamed to tell you or they don't even know that they are struggling with this mental illness. In conjunction with World Mental Health Day, H.U.G.S is a depression awareness event to allow students to understand depression and to give support to those in need.



MBBS Annual Charity Carnival 2015 [20-21st August 2015]

Year 1 and Year 2 medical students from Monash University Malaysia organised a charity carnival to raise funds for National Kidney Foundation (NKF). The slogan for the carnival was 'No Kidding with Kidneys'. Various activities were carried out, such as food bazaars, sports tournaments involving basketball, badminton and futsal, creative performances by students of Monash University and lucky draw sessions. The event was a great success, raising a total of RM8,171.40 from the sales and donations.



School of Medicine and Health Sciences Mingle Lunchie [4th September 2015]

Approximately 150 MBBS and Psychology students showed up. Students from different schools are randomly paired up to encourage them to get to know new friends. The first ten pairs of partners that correctly answered questions from the school reps won mystery gifts.



ITEX Field Trip (23rd May 2015)

Collaboration with Motor Sports Team Monash(MSTM), The Institution of Mechanical (IMechE) & Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM)



MUSA Day (24th July 2015)

Finally Champion after 1 and a half years! On top of that, 3 out of 5 teams made it to the top 5!



Buddy-Buddee Night (13th August 2015)

One of the School of Engineering's tradition. As usual, the juniors and seniors had fun!



School of Engineering Bubble Sports Tournament (12th September 2015)

1st ever Bubble Sports in School of Engineering



Movie Night (15th September 2015): 200 of them made this the biggest movie night among 7 schools!



School of Engineering T-shirt Photo Competition (21-25th September 2015)

Not only breaking past T-shirt sales record with a total of 500 pieces, students also participated in the T-shirt photo competition.



In Search of Yangon 2015
© KWM

In Search of: Yangon

Since 2004, the School of Arts & Social Sciences of Monash University Malaysia has been organizing study trips within and outside of Malaysia. From 27th June to 7th July 2015, they took a journey to Yangon, Myanmar. To read more: <http://insearchofyangon.wordpress.com>



Nasi Bungkus Cinema

Founded by Dr Yeoh Seng Guan, it is a space for independent cinema where there are weekly screenings of short films by students, staff, and local independent film makers.



SASS T Shirts for the year 2015



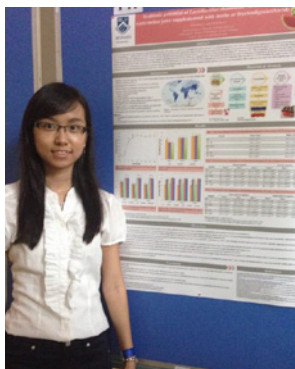
Company trip to Astro in collaboration with SOB and SOE



The largest book collected out of a total of 262 books for underprivileged children through Hope Worldwide Malaysia! "Give A Book & Change A Life"



I was on exchange in Malaysia when I went for this trip. It was amazing to be a part of the Malaysian group studying pristine, stunning rainforest. Best trip of my uni life. - Jake



Elvina Amanda, an Honours student under the supervision of Dr. Choo Wee Sim won one of the 10 best poster presentations at the 26th Intersvarsity Biochemistry Seminar at Monash University Malaysia, on the 16th May 2015. Congratulations!



SOS movie night 2.0, 26th August 2015.



Six newly established companies were ready to be in Science in Action.



Evening with Industry 3.0: DuPont Malaysia, AAA Solutions Sdn. Bhd. and Fisher Scientific (M) Sdn. Bhd.!



Ohana means family, family means nobody gets left behind or forgotten. - Lilo & Stitch



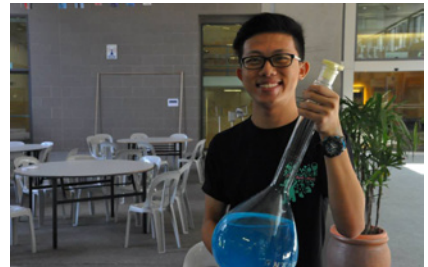
Pharmacy T-Shirt Sale
 Priced at RM10 only, its definitely something everyone can afford to get!



AbbVie Young Leaders Awards



Movie Night Sem 2, 2015
 Free tickets again, but this time it will be to the Scorch. With Minho and Thomas in store, it's worth Running for!



Pre-U Workshop
 Organized by the school of Pharmacy for Pre-U students to have some fun activities and understand more about the course.



Dodgeball 2015 (Welcome Back Event) by MuPhas



Years 2 and 4 visited Xepa Soul-Pat-tinson



Years 1 and 3 visited Kotra Pharma



Year End Camp 2015
 The Return of The Camp, The Camp Strikes Back, whatever you call it, what better way to celebrate the end of exams other than having fun together close to nature?



Our School of Information Technology's FYP student's project: NAO Robot made a special appearance at a SUHAKAM ATHAM Comic Launch Event today!

The robot interacted with SK Taman Tun Dr Ismail 1 primary school children to educate them on children's rights. The event was launched by Yang Berhormat P. Kamalanathan, Deputy Minister of Education and Higher Learning II.



School of IT Mingle Night
5th August 2015



School of IT Movie Night
11th September Friday 2015, Friday



Movie and popcorn for RM5, who would say no?! Around 130 SOB students attended the TGV Movie Night to watch Man from U.N.C.L.E. on the 19th of August 2015.



SOB's very first team-building event was held on the 11th of September at District 21. Students had to play a round of various challenging station games followed by a 'free-n-easy' and lunch.

9.10.2015





// artworks by sitwat hashmi



SOMETHING IN THIS PLACE

by Joshua Wong Seng Shuan

I have made my choice,
To embark on this journey,
Listen to my inner voice,
Like you, each of us has a story.

Was this what I expected?
When I first signed up,
That this place that I've entered,
Was more than an education hub.

A thousand more unfamiliar faces,
I thought that I would drown,
Introvert, my inner self embraces,
But this place turned me around.

Different cultures and background,
I have neither seen nor heard,
Beautiful friendships I have found,
Encouraging people has had me spurred.

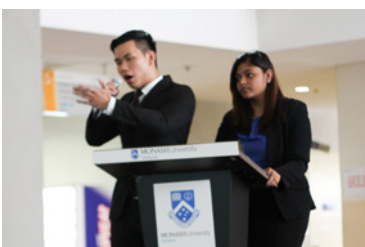
There is something around here,
Where I continue to grow,
No longer will I dwell in fear,
For I'll be ready even for tomorrow.

MUSA Elections 2015



CONTINUUM  VS  IGNITE

For detailed results, please refer to
the-mondo.com/2015/09/25/musa-elections-2015-results/





MUSA 2016

Meet your student representatives for year 2016!
Compiled by Anchalee, Janice, Ikraan, & Aurelie.



President: Shahandyka

1. Fostering greater unity amongst students and creating greater awareness for MUSA through collaborative events with MUISS and MUPA.
2. Collaborative events with external organisations to create a platform which allows greater exposure for Monash students beyond the campus.
3. Championing the need for the general improvement of current facilities made available on the campus.



**Vice Presidents:
Rachel & Samuel**

1. Collaborate with TEDx for a big scale conference for all students.
2. Continue to champion the increase for scholarships available for all Medical students.
3. Increase publicity for funding available such as conferences, competitions and student initiatives by prioritizing the first 2 weeks of each semester.



Secretary: Claudea

1. Boost the efficiency of administrative jobs in MUSA.
2. Enrich the awareness of MSC meeting to students.
3. Punctiliously assist MUSA President and Members.



**Treasurer:
Andrew & Hong Li**

1. Ensure the MUSA accounts are of the highest level of transparency by posting interim reports on a quarterly basis.
2. Budgeting will be thoroughly planned to maximise the use of funds to provide students with the best university experience.
3. Plan a more student-friendly budget to create a great university experience for students.



**Activities Chairperson:
Vishag & Wei Onn**

1. To give a reason for the students to smile, laugh, enjoy and a memory for them to take even after they graduate from Monash.
2. To provide a platform for the student from different faculties to interact with each other through events.
3. To actively engage students in activities that will make them feel comfortable out of their comfort zone.



**Head of Clubs & Societies:
Moses & Rusvin**

1. Implement a toolbox system to share resources, such as vendors or suppliers, useful contacts, collaborative initiatives, such as bulk orders, or joint events.
2. For the Monash Cup, we are planning on starting early and adding more things to it such as friendly matches.
3. Establishing a more active feedback loop, to connect with the Clubs and Societies in Monash on general issues pertaining to how the system can be improved on the admin side.



**Welfare Officer:
Sadman & Constance**

1. Improvement of the gym facilities and vending machines all over campus.
2. Installing more CCTV cameras in MUSA lounge & the locker areas.
3. Implementing a sitting arrangement around the food trucks.
4. Repairing chairs, toilets, lights all around the campus.



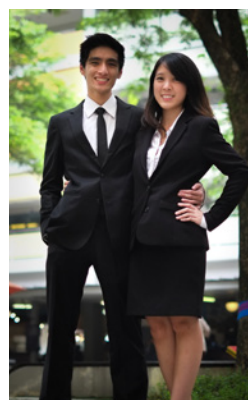
**Publicity Officer:
Ken Xin & Gaik Sim**

1. Expanding MessageMUSA by not only giving feedbacks online but also physically by placing suggestion/ complain boxes.
2. Creating a Snapchat / Instagram account for MUSA to inform students about on-going and future events organized by MUSA.
3. Improving poster designs and ensuring every MUSA notice board on-campus would have the same posters.



**Wom*n's officer:
Mihiri & Lavenia**

1. High tea sessions with 'discussion topics' being introduced to engage students.
2. Food bazaar which will include information boards where men can gain insights into a woman's mind.
3. Conducting talks and inviting guest speakers.



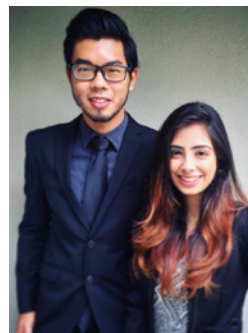
**School of Engineering:
Andrew & Sarah**

1. To continuously have diverse events selected by students for the students throughout the year involving all disciplines.
2. Push as hard as we can for an engineering student lounge.
3. Conduct a 24/7 online anonymous continuous feedback system throughout the year to ensure all student voices are heard.



Editor: Anchalee, Aurelie, Ikraan, & Janice

1. Implement the CAS (Creativity, Action, Service) section in MONGA to represent the diverse clubs present in Monash.
2. Regularly update MONDO to keep the students aware of the current events happening in Monash University.
3. Focus on club events as well and not only on mainstream ones.
4. Spread awareness about MONGA and MONDO.



**School of Arts & Social Sciences:
Keith & Anju**

1. Create awareness among undergraduates pertaining the general landscape of Monash via mentorship through social interaction.
2. In addition to recurring activities such as movie nights and bazaar events; consistent introduction of new activities such as library days, book sales, field trips, and community service events will be among the proposed avenues for student enrichment.
3. Engage in correspondence with other schools to uphold accountability



**School of Business:
Josephine & Samuel**

1. Improve and facilitate communication between Business School students.
2. Encourage interaction between students by having dialogues and small forums.
3. Events include small interactive talks from working alumni.
4. Publicize SSLC to encourage students to voice out problems and enhance student welfare as well as encourage students to join the PASS program.



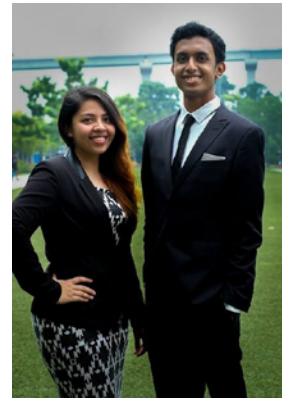
**School of Pharmacy:
Sean & Jo Yee**

1. To foster good relationships between seniors and juniors within the School of Pharmacy.
2. To foster good relationships between students of school of pharmacy and students from other schools in Monash University Malaysia.
3. To encourage better community involvement.
4. To bring a better study environment for all students in school of pharmacy.



**School of Science:
Kangsan & Yvonne**

1. Interactive events (intra and interschool): Senior student advisory session, open textbook market, charity bazaar, interschool competition and etc.
2. Collaborative events involving students and lecturers.
3. Ask for more efficient arrangement of study materials on Moodle (lectorial slides, tutorial sheets and etc.)



School of IT: Melissa & Jonathan























1. Bring back the industrial talks but instead of focusing only on work experience, we would have talks that would also provide students with the technical skills that would be relevant in the working industry.
2. Resolve the issues regarding the unstable WiFi connection. We hope to do this by ensuring follow up meetings with ITS and work towards a solution together.
3. Help the students in integrating academics and a fun lifestyle by organizing events that would allow the students to utilize the skills that they have learnt while allowing them to interact with their peers in a fun manner.



**School of Medicine & Health Sciences:
Jasmine Wong & Jun Hao Hong**

1. To unite the School of Medicine and Health Sciences: Sometimes, the Health Sciences part of our school gets overlooked, and we want to make it up to them and better incorporate them into our activities, events and social circle.
2. Organize the budget: since budgeting plays a huge role in any event, we believe that a more efficient budgeting process can help fund and organise more events that would help enrich the lives of the students in our school.
3. Increased transparency: feedback from the cohort shows that little is known about the inner workings of the current MUSA representatives for our school. Increasing transparency would allow for a more democratic process to help make decisions.

FEW WORDS FROM US...

-  **Shihab, President:** Being given the opportunity to serve the students of Monash and influence their lives for the better has been an unforgettable experience. It has changed me for the better and is definitely the highlight of my uni life. I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you from the bottom of my heart to everyone who have supported us throughout this year! :)
-  **Grace, Vice President:** It was a pleasure to be a part of MUSA and to have the opportunity to serve all of you Monashians, while creating many memorable experiences throughout the year. Hope you had an exciting year with us and thanks for all your support!
-  **Ili, Vice President:** It's been a great year for me being in Musa. We've become like a #fabulous family and I wouldn't have wanted any other experience to culminate my time in monash as a final year student.
-  **Jeremy Lim, Treasurer:** Thank you for granting me this opportunity to be a part of MUSA 2015. It was of great pleasure serving all you Monashians. And also, thank you to my fellow MUSA for all the work you guys have put forth. It was a truly wonderful experience. All the best! Carpe diem!
-  **Jocelyn, Treasurer:** Being in MUSA, there are a lot of hard times, a lot of commitment to be given. However, it cannot be described by words how grateful I am to be part of this family, recording every successful events, seeing the changes we could do and all are for Monash students.
-  **Yasmine, General Secretary:** Further and more. I always seek for them, and MUSA is more than I imagined and I am indebted to it for the memories, the experience, and the hard work. It has in fact been one of my greatest experiences in Monash, and it is to be engraved and learned from for the future :). Thank you all!
-  **Kishen, Activities Chairperson:** In classes, you're taught a lesson, then given a test. In MUSA, you're given a test that teaches you a lesson.
-  **Khai Jeik, Activities Chairperson:** Reluctant to join at first, reluctant to leave at last, definitely my best year in Monash.
-  **Heshwinder Oon, Welfare Officer:** My time in MUSA has taught me how to appreciate all the little things other people do for us.
-  **Aidan Lee, Welfare Officer:** Musa has been like a roller coaster ride for me. But im glad to be part of it. :)
-  **Ashwin, Publicity Officer:** We hope that we have served you well in being the point of communication in MUSA, ensuring that you are informed with happenings around campus and having your concerns heard.
-  **Aishah, Publicity Officer:** Updating the FB page, putting up your posters and serving you guys is our pleasure. I have gained many new friends and experiences from this opportunity, and I'm very grateful. Glad to be a part of this family, and I wouldn't change a thing.
-  **Narmatha, Wom*n's Officer:** Being in MUSA has made me a less socially awkward person and has given me the chance to work and be friends with #fabulous people. Definitely the highlight of my university life :)
-  **Jennifer, Wom*n's Officer:** MUSA has and will be the best time of my life when everything around me changed. Memories made here will never wash away from my mind and my heart.
-  **Jeffrey, Clubs and Societies:** I'm glad that I had the opportunity to serve the students. Thanks Monashian and all the best for MUSA 2016!
-  **Thiviyah, Clubs and Societies:** Being in musa has not only thought me patience but also responsibility. We all had our up and down being in this. But I will never regret it and all the friends that now we have become a family.
-  **Jade, Editor, Doodler, Emoqueen:** It has been a great year and I'm glad to be a part of MUSA15, but joining MUSA is one of those things that you'd only ever want to do once in your life.
-  **Sagar, Editor, Debator, Pundit:** The year in MUSA has been alright, although I believe personally I could have done better as an editor.
-  **Kevin, Editor, BMW Connoisseur, Aspiring Horologist:** Our year in musa has been tough, but amazing Through the highs and the lows, the fights and the laughter, I feel so grateful to have been given this opportunity to serve the students alongside the people who I'm proud to call my friends. Undoubtedly the best way to end my time in Monash.
-  **Hao Bin, Editor, Glutton, IT student:** I hope I've helped to make a difference, and I'm really grateful for the year and memories, though it was a challenge having to balance studies, events, rushing magazines, and assignments!
-  **Lance, Arts & Social Sciences Rep:** MUSA has been a great experience and it wouldn't have been this great without the awesome people at musa. I want to send out a special thanks to everyone who supported us. I hope we made you proud :)
-  **Sara, Arts & Social Sciences Rep:** Being a part of MUSA has been an incredible, challenging and rewarding journey but i wouldn't change anything about it. Through the highs and the lows I would like to thank my fellow members for allowing me to be a part of this with you, the administration and the student body for supporting us.



William, Business Rep: Truly am grateful for those who supported me and allowed me to stand at where I am today. This journey have definitely taught me a lot valuable lessons about the society and I hope that the students have also gained some experiences throughout the events created.



Reena, Business Rep: My time in MUSA has been #fabulous. Not only is it brimmed with new friendships and cherishable memories but it has also taught me a lot. I would not have traded this time for anything else as it definitely is a highlight to my university experience!



Mei Shien, Engineering Rep: My time in MUSA has reminded me of assignments to be done, errands to run and events to be outdone and yet never do I fail to keep my hair #fabulous in a bun.



Anson, Engineering Rep: We have always tried our best to enhance the School of Engineering activities and we are glad to receive overwhelming support from the students. Thank you fellow future engineers!



Daniel, IT Rep: Being in MUSA for a year has taught me a lot especially when it comes to partnership. You may get pretty jaded after awhile, but you've got to remind yourself why were you in the position in the first place.



Pei Ling, IT Rep: Thank you all for the support, it's been an amazing year! Gratitude! :)



Stephen, Medicine & Health Sciences Rep: Hey guys, thank you all for your support towards MUSA 2015. It has been a great pleasure serving you all as the Medicine representative.



En Yng, Medicine & Health Sciences Rep: Thank you all for the support, it's been an awesome year! Do approach us if you face any medical emergencies or in need of special treatment.



Daryl, Pharmacy Rep: Time at MUSA was filled with ups and downs. It was truly a challenge to juggle both studies and musa duties. What kept me going was the satisfaction when an important task was completed and when students are happy with things that my partner and I have planned. This 1 year has taught me alot of valuable lessons that I will cherish for a long time.



Xin Qi, Pharmacy Rep: Life is a learning process and being in MUSA has taught me new things for which I am grateful for. I'm most thankful for all the wonderful people I have met.



Wee Li, Science Rep: What we do for ourselves die with us, but what we do for others and the students remains and is immortal.



Kai Ling, Science Rep: Whenever I feel like quitting, I think about why I started. But in the end, seeing all the happy smiles on every student because of our effort is definitely the greatest joy being in #MUSA2015.



ATTRIBUTIONS

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