Experience creative Physics at Sunway’s CIMP classes

HOW can science and creativity be combined to become a learning experience?

To find out the answer, ask the students enrolled in the Physics class of the Canadian International Matriculation Programme (CIMP) at Sunway College.

Creativity in Physics may be a difficult concept to believe or imagine but CIMP students at Sunway successfully undertook the task when they displayed their projects to the rest of the college.

As part of their Physics course, students were asked to design Rube Goldberg Machines, an extremely complicated machine designed to perform a very simple task.

In this case, the students were asked by their lecturer Scott Paterson to design a machine that would lift a flag representing a country of their choice up a one-metre flag pole.

It may sound easy enough but before the flag is lifted, the machines are required to complete 15 to 20 independent steps.

The students worked in groups of four for three months before completing their task.

The results were nothing short of impressive with balloons exploding, boats sailing through narrow canals, candles burning and dirt flying through the air — all in the name of science.

In addition to presenting their machines, the students had to hand in reports describing the forces and energy transformations involved in each step taken by their creations.

The CIMP is a pre-university programme which allows students to gain entry into universities worldwide.

The one-year programme is identical to those offered in Ontario, Canada, and is approved by Malaysia's Ministry of Education.

The programme, which is taught mainly by Ontario-qualified teachers, is also approved, supervised and inspected by the Ministry of Education and Training in Ontario, Canada.

At the end of the programme, students are eligible to receive the Ontario Secondary School Diploma upon the completion of six Ontario Academic Courses subjects.

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