

# Students unite for a good cause

STUDENTS from the Department of Communication and Liberal Arts (DCLA), School of Arts at Sunway University organised a month long anti-sexual harassment campaign this year.

The "Can't Touch This", part of their project under the BA (Hons) in Communication programme, aimed to raise awareness and educate the Sunway community and the public on sexual harassment.

The campaign began on Sept 13 and comprised activities and events that revolved around the theme.

One of the highlights of the campaign was the "Truth be Told" poetry recital by Poet X, an online poetry podcast that showcases the talents of Malaysian poets.

The poetry showcase successfully attracted over 150 participants, featured four professional poets, two story-telling sessions, three sketches and a musical performance.

Guests in the poetry showcase included Sunway Education Group and Sunway University senior executive director Dr



Story-telling and musical performance by the duo Kita:Orang.

Elizabeth Lee, social media influencers Alicia Amin and Arwind Kumar, and director, writer and actor Andy Darrel Gomes from the film *Ola-Bola*.

In "You'll be A-Mazed", participants walked through a maze where they experienced a simulation of various forms of sexual harassment.

The experience was to provide participants a better understanding on what constitutes sexual harassment.

Participants also tried out a zombie shooting game sponsored by the VR Lab and had the opportunity to learn self-defence moves in a tutorial organised by The Stealth Organisation.

The campaign ended in mid-October. Campaign director and BA (Hons) in Communications programme student Priyanka Lakshamana Raj said, "Sexual harassment is indeed becoming a worrying issue."

She urged all to speak up for victims whose voices have been silenced.

Noticing the lack of statistics on sexual harassment reports at workplaces and in public, Priyanka and the team aims to bring awareness on the issue.

"We also want to encourage more people to speak out when it comes to sexual harassment because this is a global issue that is slowly being recognised, but is not getting the voice it needs," said Priyanka.

She added that the team benefited a lot from their involvement in the campaign such as broadening their networking circle with social media.

Priyanka also gained hands-on experience in event execution.

Present at the closing ceremony were vice-chancellor Prof Graeme Wilkinson, Dean of the School of Arts Prof Harold Thwaites, Associate Dean of the School of Arts Prof Donald Bowyer, Head of the DCLA

Dr Chan Nee Nee and DCLA lecturer Suffian Hadi Ayub.

Also attending were Serene Lim of Empower Malaysia and Malaysian transgender right activist Nisha Ayub.

The BA (Hons) in Communications programme at School of Arts, Sunway University is a three-year degree programme that provides students like Priyanka the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the communication industry.

The programme is validated by Lancaster University and upon the successful completion of the programme, graduates are awarded two certificates; one from Sunway University and another from Lancaster University.

After a solid foundation in the principles of communication in Year 1, students will focus on their particular specialisation in either corporate communication, advertising design or public relations project management in Year 2 and Year 3.

The programme offers a comprehensive and well-balanced curriculum designed to produce industry-ready graduates.

Other than the communication programme, the School of Arts at Sunway University also offers Diploma in Graphic and Multimedia Design, Diploma in Interior Design, Diploma in Performing Arts, BA (Hons) Design Communication, BA (Hons) Digital Film Production, BA (Hons) Contemporary Music (Audio Technology), BA (Hons) in Interior Architecture and BA (Hons) Music Performance.

■ For details on the BA (Hons) in Communication or any other programmes at Sunway University, log on to <https://university.sunway.edu.my/arts> or e-mail [info@sunway.edu.my](mailto:info@sunway.edu.my) or call 03-7491 8622.

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