Study Tour to Singapore and Malaysia on 1 May to 7 May 2012

The Annual Study Tour organized by Department of Building Services Engineering (BSE) of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) and co-organized by Faculty of Civil and Environmental Engineering (FKAAS) of Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM) and National University of Singapore (NUS) was held from 1 May to 7 May, 2012 in Batu Pahat, Malaysia and Singapore. A group of 73 PolyU-BSE undergraduate students, together with 11 academic staff, participated in the tour.

PolyU-BSE and NUS students and staff

The group arrived Singapore in the early morning of 1 May 2012 after 4-hour flight. The PolyU-BSE group started the official exchange program of NUS on 2 May 2012. NUS is the oldest university in Singapore. It is the largest university in the country in terms of student enrollment and curriculum offered. NUS's main campus is located in southwest Singapore at Kent Ridge, with an area of approximately 1.5 km square. NUS is one of the most prestigious universities in Asia. It ranked 28th in the world and 3rd in Asia in 2011 in the QS World University Rankings.

Professor Michael CHEW and PolyU-BSE staff

Explaining “Intensity” through “Machine Gun Model”
Professor Michael CHEW from the School of Design and Environment guided the laboratory tour for all 73 students in 4 groups. Their famous NUS wind tunnel on designing natural ventilation provision for public housing developed by the late Professor Bill LIM, fire safety laboratory and materials testing facility were visited.

After visiting NUS, the team moved to Batu Pahat of Johor in Malaysia and visited UTHM on 3 May 2012. Their Vice Chancellor Professor Dato' Dr. Mohd Noh bin Dalimin met the team leaders in the morning to welcome them and discuss future collaboration opportunity. PolyU-BSE students and staff were warmly welcomed by UTHM leaders including Deputy Vice-Chancellors Professor Dr. Abdul Aziz bin Dato' Abdul Samad and Professor Dr. Wahid Bin Razzaly, Dean of the Faculty of Civil and Environmental Engineering Associate Professor Dr. Ahmad Tarmizi bin Abd. Karim and Deputy Dean of Research and Innovation Associate Professor Dr. Hj. Ismail bin Abdul Rahman.
UTHM is a public university in Batu Pahat, Johor, Malaysia. It was formerly known as Institut Teknologi Tun Hussein Onn (ITTHO) and Kolej Universiti Teknologi Tun Hussein Onn (KUiTTHO). Department of Construction and Environmental Technology Engineering from the Faculty of Technology Engineering was established in 30 September 2000 when Institute Teknologi Tun Hussein Onn (ITTHO) was upgraded to Kolej Universiti Teknologi Tun Hussein Onn (KUiTTHO) and subsequently upgraded to Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM).

PolyU-BSE and UTHM students and staff

Professor W.K. CHOW, thanked UTHM for its support, arrangement and participation. UTHM representatives thanked PolyU-BSE for its visit, and looked forward to future collaboration in research, joint academic program and student exchange. Professor Simon DENG introduced PolyU-BSE research to UTHM staff and students.

The PolyU-BSE group then visited the BSE laboratory of UTHM in the afternoon on the same day. PolyU students tried some experiments at the building services engineering laboratory, piping technology laboratory and fluid mechanics laboratory.
A Dinner was held with staff from both PolyU-BSE and UTHM shared research and teaching experience with each other while students from both PolyU-BSE and UTHM learned more about each other when they presented topics on study life in Malaysia and Hong Kong. Students from both sides had a good chance to appreciate the cultural difference between Malaysia and Hong Kong and develop friendship.
On 4 May 2012, PolyU-BSE students and staff visited some glorious tour sites of Malacca City Attractions in Malaysia, including Melaka River, Melaka Menara Taming Sari and Melaka Maritime Museum. Melaka Maritime Museum is an enlightening trip back into Malacca's past. PolyU-BSE students were particularly interested in some of the museum displays including documents during British Colonial rule that exhibited why the political control of Malacca was essential to maritime dominance of the region.

![UTHM and PolyU-BSE Staff and students at Malacca](image1)

On 5 May 2012, the PolyU-BSE group returned to UTHM and had great fun playing traditional games at UTHM. While students were playing games, leaders of the two teams held a long meeting on further research collaboration between Hong Kong and Malaysia including big research funding application.

![Traditional games](image2)

![Malaysian craft](image3)
Long meeting

Students and staff from both sides enjoyed a happy morning with smiles and laughter. In the afternoon, a closing ceremony was officially held at UTHM. The PolyU-BSE group said goodbye to UTHM students and staff. Professor CHOW once again thanked UTHM for its support. UTHM representatives would like to see students and staff from PolyU-BSE in the near future!

After traditional games

The PolyU-BSE returned back to Hong Kong through Singapore afterward. The study tour ended on 7 May 2012 with great success.