

The Annual Study Tour 2011 in Malaysia

The Annual Study Tour organized by Department of Building Services Engineering (BSE) and co-organized by the Faculty of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM) was held from 27 May to 2 June, 2011 in Batu Pahat at Johor, Malaysia. A team of 19 students from Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) in Building Services Engineering (BEng (Hons) in BSE) led by Dr Horace K.W. Mui and Dr Hilda H.D. Cheung participated in the study tour with other BSE academic staff, Professor W.K. Chow, Dr T.M. Chung, Dr L.T. Wong and Miss Y.G. Tong.

The team was warmly welcome by a team of staff and students of UTHM, led by Mr Izudinshah bin Abd Wahab at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport.



KL Int'l Airport



Auditorium

The whole group then visited the skybridge of the supertall building, Petronas Twin Tower. That tower was the tallest supertall building at one time, now overtaken by the Dubai Tower, Taipei 101 and the Shanghai WFC. BSE staff and students learnt the building service design of supertall buildings, particularly on safe egress. As reported by TV, it will take over 2 hours to evacuate the whole supertall building, and at least half an hour using elevator. The team also visited the auditorium located between the twin towers and learnt the acoustics design, particularly noise and vibration from the adjacent underground subway systems. Such acoustic design might be useful in controlling noise of BSE new offices in the PolyU phase 8 development with an underground railway workshop accessed to the MTR-East Rail.



The PetronasTwin Tower



Jumping on the skybridge

After staying at Kuala Lumpur for a night, the whole team visited the historic city, DeMa Lacca at the Ming Dynasty recognized as a heritage area by the UNESCO in 2008 on 28 May 2011. Dr Zainal of UTHM met the team and all together visited the prehistoric features including natural ventilation design of the museum which was the governor office under the Dutch VOC age. The group arrived the newly developed city Batu Pahat at Johor at night. The group toured around the areas including new farming research areas and the shopping malls design similar to Hong Kong. Greenhouse design and ventilation control in Agricultural Engineering are very impressive.



Maleka Museum



Southern Chicken Rice Ball Dinner



River Maleka



Malaysian Village

The group started the official exchange programme at UTHM on Monday 30 May, 2011. The opening ceremony was jointly launched by Professor Ir. Dr. Abdul Aziz, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International) and Professor W.K. Chow, Head of BSE Department. Professor Chow thanked UTHM on supporting, arranging and participating in the study tour. Both Malaysia and Hong Kong were under British Administration for a long time. UTHM and PolyU are able to work out good collaboration. Professor Ir. Dr. Abdul Aziz thanked PolyU-BSE in visiting them, and looks forward to future collaboration on student exchanges, running joint programme on BEng (Hons) in BSE programme and research collaboration. Research and teaching activities at both sides were briefly introduced by Deputy Dean, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abd Halid bin Abdullah at UTHM and Professor Chow. Staff and students from both universities got a good chance to learn more about each other. PolyU-BSE staff were invited to have lunch with the senior management of UTHM.



UTHM campus



Opening Ceremony



Meeting with UTHM staff

Professor Chow discussed with the UTHM Vice-Chancellor Profesor Dato'. Dr. Mohd Noh bin Dalimin on further collaboration during lunch. Dato'. Dr. Mohd Noh expressed strong interest in collaborating with PolyU, and look forward to running the joint BEng (Hons) in BSE programme, which is well recognized internationally.



Souvenirs exchange

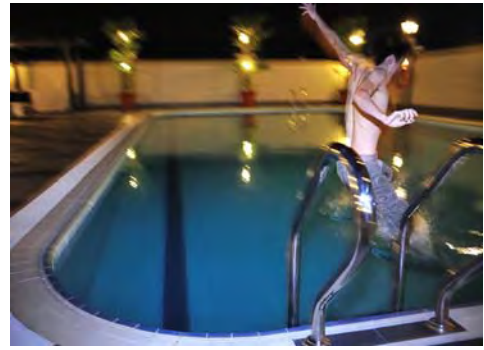


Group photo at UTHM

Students from both Universities presented topics on study life in Malaysia and Hong Kong respectively in the afternoon. PolyU-BSE students learnt not only on university life and building services installations in the rapidly developing country, but also Malaysian history and culture. A dinner, hosted by BSE to thank UTHM, was held at the Hotel Kathrina. BSE and UTHM staff and students were given more opportunities to understand each other better in this social gathering.



Dinner with UTHM staff



Jumping to the pool



BSE Student's presentation



Student Discussion

Students visited the BSE laboratory of UTHM in the morning of Tuesday, 31 May 2011. Some of students tried the experiments designed by building services engineering laboratory, piping technology laboratory and fluid mechanical laboratory. PolyU-BSE staff held a meeting with UTHM management chaired by Professor Ir. Dr. Abdul Aziz, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International). The meetings discussed 5 key topics on running the joint BEng (Hons) in BSE programme, undergraduate student exchange, joint research student supervision, visiting professor and research collaboration. In fact, a joint research on acoustics is being conducted by one of BSE staff, Professor S.K. Tang, and UTHM. Ms Y. G. Tong who is a current PhD student with Professor Tang in PolyU-BSE is supported by Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia as 3-year UTHM staff development programme.



Lab visit: Density Jump



Games played by BSE students and UTHM students

The team visited the UTHM Library Building and learnt the building services design for green buildings in the afternoon. The building services consultant explained the new BSE features on AC, electrical, fire, control and lighting to the students. Games and completion among PolyU-BSE and UTHM students were held afterward.



Site Visit of UTHM Library Plant Room

The Team left Batu Pahat on Wednesday, 1 June 2011, and visited with UTHM students in the Diamond Building at Putrajaya which was just opened by the Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister on 31 May 2011. Diamond Building is the headquarter of the Energy Commission with many new green features. All the building services installations were demonstrated and explained by the officer-in-charge. That was the first time they entertain overseas visitors.



Diamond Building



Zero Energy Building

After staying at Kuala Lumpur for a night, students visited the Zero Energy Building (Green Building) and toured around Putrajaya, the capital district where all ministry headquarters located, in the morning of 2 June 2011. PolyU-BSE students then said goodbye to UTHM staff and students. They accompanied BSE students and staff to the Kuala Lumpur International Airport.