





Giving students and young professionals the chance to network, travel and develop their presentation skills, IET Present around the World (PATW) competition heats are perfect for On Campus student communities to organise and host.

Here we talk to members of several Malaysian IET On Campus communities about their experiences developing PATW events.

How did the event idea come about?

Across Malaysia, IET On Campus student communities regularly get involved in the development of local and national heats for the IET PATW competition. A well-established competition, these heats have been taking place for many years.



How did they approach this event?



Many of the IET On Campus communities formed an organising team, assigning roles around promoting, setting up and running the event.

"As the person in charge of the team, I mainly dealt with finding qualified people to act as judges and overseeing the team," says Wilson Yeo Wee Siang, from the Swinburne Sarawak On Campus community. "I also checked in with the participants to make sure they had no concerns."

How did they develop and promote the event?

After submitting their event proposal to the university, the Uniten On Campus community began to design posters and flyers ready to print once they received approval for the event to go ahead. These included information on the event and the prizes available.

There were many ways the groups approached promotion. As well as posters and flyers, the events were advertised via social media, email via university websites and even with onsite registration booths.

"This allowed students to approach us easily," notes Chong Shih Min, from the Uniten On Campus group.

How did the IET On Campus initiative help them with the event?

The IET On Campus initiative was able to provide support to the groups in various ways, as Chin Jian Yuan, from the UCSI On Campus community highlights.

"It provided us with funding for the preparation of the event, such as printing of flyers, certificates, token of appreciation etc, as well as the food and drinks for the judges and also the winners prizes. Besides the funding, IET staff also helped us in preparing the events. We were given clear instructions on how we should prepare the event and they answered any questions we had."

What learnings did they take from the event?

Those involved in organising PATW heats feel they gained a lot of experience in new areas. This included organisation, teamwork, communication and even presentation skills of their own. In addition, the students got a better understanding of the procedures involved in organising an event.

They also got to network with a much wider community of students, academics and engineering professionals.

"This experience really broadened our social circle as well as our networking skills," says Chin Jian Yuan. "Moreover, we also got a chance to watch and learn from those taking part. From their presentation skills through to the content of their presentations, there were countless things we learnt from them."

What skills have they gained from this activity that they could add to their CV?

Many of the skills the communities used to develop these PATW heats are great to highlight on their CVs, such as team management and communication skills.

What feedback did they get from students who participated?

The groups regularly receive positive feedback from both the participants and the audience members. Those taking part enjoy the opportunity to improve their skills and raise their exposure in the engineering community. They also love having the opportunity to work towards competing at a national and international level.

From the audience, feedback focuses on the knowledge they've gained from the presentation and the presentation tips and tricks they've learnt from the speakers.

How has this activity helped their On Campus group?

Organising and running PATW heats has helped the student communities both inside and out. Internally, many of the members have bonded through the experience. Externally, such events have helped expose their On Campus communities to a wider number of students.

"PATW has given us a great platform to promote awareness on our On Campus group to the students at out university," notes Chin Jian Yuan.

Will they run the event again next year?

These events have been run across several universities in Malaysia for many years and the IET On Campus communities plan to continue this work.



We'd love to hear what your group is up to – share your photos and videos to:





To find out more about IET On Campus including event cases studies:

E: oncampus@theiet.org

www.theiet.org/oncampus

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