Connecti|ng UniSIM

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En|joy. Entertain. Engage

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Win!

UnisIM Luggage Tag
A quarter of enjoyment, entertainment and engagement!

I am certain that some of us are still feeling the buzz surrounding the recent Presidential Election.

That fateful day in late August would have provided some of us (those who took leave on Aug 29, a Monday) a very long weekend given that Aug 30 was a public holiday; it being Hari Raya Puasa! I must admit that I had suffered from a ‘post long weekend blues’ for a couple of days as I had been on leave a day and a half prior to the election day. I had tried extremely hard to get my gears ‘oiled’ so that I could get back to the grind.

It is with this lingering feeling of enjoyment that we introduce this issue – a breakaway from our usual features – even as we delve deeper into the fun and exciting activities put together by the alumni volunteers and the Alumni Relations department.

You will get to experience the series of activities that were carried out throughout the months of June to August and immerse yourself in the different ways of engagement brought to you by the staff from the Alumni Relations department and alumni volunteers. These activities include an evening ride on a topless bus along the colourful stretch of roads around Geylang Serai whilst immersing in the festive hustle and bustle of the Ramadhan Bazaar; an action-packed movie evening; a great trip down the river near the Marina Reservoir in a transformed military vehicle; and also an insightful talk with tips on and ideas about the property market.

And, if you’re feeling all excited about the happenings in this issue as an alumni, why not step forward and be a part of the exciting group of volunteers? Just contact alumni@unisim.edu.sg to find out how you can do so.

Mohammad Noor  Editor (Alumni Volunteer)  Newsletter Editorial Group

Enjoy. Entertain. Engage

It was with great scepticism that I registered for the inaugural ‘Unwind Saturday’ movie event organised by the UniSIM Alumni Relations department in 2007. I had my reservations as I wondered if it would be an enjoyable event. I had registered to watch the movie ‘Starosta’ as it would only open the following week and I had always been a fan of Neil Gaiman’s books. To my surprise, the entire event was way beyond my expectations! As I proceeded to the registration counter, I was impressed by the well-organised and seamless registration procedure. And little did I expect a delightful buffet spread before the screening and a complimentary photo service which gave out free photo prints! At the end of the entire function, I wondered if the movie event would be the first and the last organised by the Alumni Relations department.

And I did not have to wonder for long! Not only did the Alumni Relations department organise more movie events, there were many other activities that engaged and enriched me.

One event that I was blown away with was being onboard the ‘Imperial Cheng Ho’ vessel on National Day and viewing the beautiful bursts of fireworks right above me as I dug into a meal. This was indeed one of the most enjoyable and exciting evenings as I spent it with other UniSIM alumni. Apart from spending such an exciting time with other alumni from the University, I had and still have the option to bring a guest to such events; at a minimal fee. This is indeed a wonderful privilege as I can share the enjoyable moments and activities with people who are close to my heart.

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Duck Tour

By Edmund Sim

Years ago when air transportation was unheard of, land and sea were the most common modes of travel. From the stormy seas to the bumpy roads, our pioneers braved them all to lay the foundations for the thriving city of today.

To relive a piece of our past, the alumni fraternity gathered for an amphibious history lesson through a Duck Tour organised on June 11. Starting from Suntec City, the hovercraft travelled to Marina Promenade before diving into the Kallang Basin. As the vehicle waded past the iconic Marina Bay Sands, Merlion and One Fullerton, participants eagerly posed for photos with the picturesque sights as backdrops, all this while listening to the guide’s commentary.

Following the ‘swim’, everyone was taken on a tour around the Padang where important ceremonies such as the National Day Parade and the World War Two Surrender Memorial Ceremony were held.

“The most memorable part of the tour was when the hovercraft passed major landmarks which depicted the nation’s progress over the years,” said Jasmine, from the class of 2010. Choong Cheong, from the class of 2008, added: “It’s a history lesson in a fun and relaxed setting.”

The Art of Being Transformed

By Gregory Francis

Amidst the clanging grind of raw metal churned out by Decepticons and Autobots in battle, our alumni too were being transformed into being regular participants of UniSIM’s ‘Unwind Saturday’ movie series organised by the Alumni Relations department. Held on July 2, the movie “Transformers: Dark of the Moon”, a science fiction-action thriller in 3D, captured the imagination of the likes of alumni Yvette Yeo and Ismail bin Kamarudin. They both cheerily admitted to attending the movie series regularly with their loved ones.

Yvette, who graduated in 2005 with a BSc in Computer Science, considered the movie event as a family outing and looked forward to the screening and buffet spread of delicacies. Ismail, who graduated in 2010 with a BSc (Hons) in Multimedia Technology and Design, was present with his partner for the second time and looked forward excitedly to the action-packed movie.

UniSIM’s President Professor Cheong Hee Kiat, who grace the event and addressed the participants, reiterated his call to the alumni to be actively engaged with the University both as an alumnus and a volunteer. He noted that the alumni community was growing steadily and one could network and develop the mutual relationship with the University through one’s knowledge, expertise, energy and enthusiasm which were tremendous assets that would benefit their alma mater.
Property Talk –
Why and how you should invest in property

On July 23, the Alumni Relations department organised a property talk that attracted about 110 alumni and guests.

The large turnout was not unexpected as the speaker was LTC(NS) Mohamed Ismail, Chief Executive Officer of PropNex Realty, Singapore’s leading real estate agency, and its parent company P&N Holdings.

A millionaire at the tender age of 28, Mr Ismail is an inspiration to many. His wealth of knowledge and experience in the real estate industry, as well as his success as an investor and entrepreneur made people sit up and listen as he shared his belief in "making your money work harder".

During the talk, Mr Ismail shared that any time was a good time to invest as long as one can identify the right property at the right location. He added that the Housing & Development Board’s build-to-order flats and landed properties were worthwhile investments. However, he cautioned on the inherent risks that came with all investments.

Mr Ismail sharing with his audience on what would make a good investment.

HiPPO Tour:
Hari Raya Puasa Light-up

On August 20, the Alumni Relations department organised a ride onboard the HiPPO bus that attracted some 50 alumni and guests. This was the first time that UniSIM customised the route for its alumni to view the Hari Raya Puasa light-up around Geylang Serai and Kampong Glam. The tour came complete with a HiPPO guide, who shared with the alumni and guests some interesting history. Apart from the historical sites, the bus also passed tourist attractions such as the Esplanade, Singapore Flyer and Marina Bay Sands.

Do check out the Christmas Light-up HiPPO Tour coming your way!
As part of the School of Arts and Social Sciences’ activities for both our students and alumni, a series of film screening was organised for 2011. The most recent film to be screened entitled ‘Sepet’ – Malay for slitty eye – was shown to an appreciative audience on July 30. A highly acclaimed film directed by the late Yasmin Ahmad, ‘Sepet’ won the Best Asian Film Award at the 18th Tokyo International Film Festival in October 2005 and also five other best film awards – the 9th Malaysian Video Awards, the 27th Créteil International Women’s Film Festival in France, the 18th Malaysian Film Festival, the Global Chinese Golden Arts Awards and the Anugerah Era 2005. The movie, which highlighted the relationship between a Malay girl and a Chinese boy in multiracial Malaysia, resonated with our students and alumni who reflected on issues such as inter-racial relationships, racial stereotypes and use of language.

A lively discussion involving the audience and a panel comprising Dr Fazilah Husein, a visiting lecturer from UPM Malaysia and a well-known Malay film and theater academic; Mr Yazid Hussein, a local literary figure and MLL 217 Malay Films tutor; and Miss Norsena Bte Mohd Yusof, a bright and active BA Malay Language and Literature (BAML) student, took place after the screening.

Forty people including students from the BAML programme taking the MLL 217 Malay Films module turned up for the screening. Some alumni, who also lent their support, shared that they enjoyed both the film and the opportunity to mingle with faculty and students.

Please keep the following date free for an exciting time at the movie with us:

**Madras Town**

**Date**  
Oct 8, 2011

**Venue**  
SIM HQ, LT4.02A

**Time**  
2:00 pm

**Organiser**  
School of Arts and Social Sciences

This blockbuster love story about a British girl and an Indian lad is set in colonial India. It depicts an inter-racial marriage, as well as the nationalistic feelings of the Indians who suffered under the British rule.

Come witness the pulsating and whirlwind romance straight out from Kollywood (Tamil movies from Tamil Nadu).

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**UniSIM Launches New Degree in Building and Project Management**

UniSIM, in partnership with the BCA Academy (BCAA) has launched a new degree programme in building and project management. The programme equips students with a repertoire of specialist knowledge and skills for the productive management of projects. Students will also be trained in a broad spectrum of competencies including interdisciplinary studies in building design and technology, construction management, international project management, cost management, contract administration, safety management and sustainability.

The programme is suitable for practicing professionals in the building and construction industry or in related areas and students with a polytechnic diploma or GCE ‘A’ levels. Designed to meet the academic requirements for professional recognition, the programme is also intentionally positioned to be application oriented and industry-relevant.

For more information on the programme, visit [www.unisim.edu.sg](http://www.unisim.edu.sg)
In 2008, I learnt about the transformation of the property market in Singapore from a talk by Far East Organisation! I also learnt about the different types of loans available to potential property owners as representatives from Standard Chartered Bank shed light on this. I began to feel even more excited and engaged from the activities organised for alumni. Besides the property talk, I had the opportunity to listen to a trading representative’s insights into the Stock Market Outlook back in 2008. Given the speaker’s 37 years of experience in the trading industry, I gained a better understanding of the market condition in Singapore which was then facing a possible recession.

The events organised were not limited to adults. Many activities also engaged both parents and children. The very first of such an enjoyable experience I remember was the DIY Meridian 101 Massage for Kids where mothers learnt the art of acupressure massage to help their children tune up their overall immunity. I reckon that the massage techniques were useful as it had helped improve the children’s concentration and calm them into restful sleep.

In 2009, I received an email from the Alumni Relations department inviting me to attend a Fengshui talk by a renowned master. Since the Chinese New Year was around the corner, I thought that it would be a good idea to enrich myself with some knowledge of geomancy. The talk was indeed useful as the anticipated recession caused by the subprime mortgage issues in USA came to be and the impact was felt tremendously, like a tsunami, all around Asia including Singapore. Thus, learning a tip or two from the Fengshui master was indeed useful as it helped me prepare for that oncoming recession.

I also seized the opportunity to attend a resume workshop conducted for UniSIM alumni. The facilitator gave tips on unlocking the secrets behind a winning resume. This, I thought would be helpful should I decide to seek a new job.

Apart from the informative and hands-on engagements that the Alumni Relations department and the alumni volunteers had put together in 2009, there was the inaugural HIPPO Bus trip that saw families come together to enjoy the scenic ride around the city. As I sat with anticipation onboard the bus, I saw a family of three generations hop onto the ride!

I must say that there were numerous enjoyable opportunities given the many activities planned for alumni members. In my opinion, the Alumni Relations department and the alumni volunteers form a dynamic group who is passionate in ensuring that alumni remain connected through the various activities that they have planned. Kudos to the whole team!

Article contributed by an alumnus from the Class of 2006 and has attended a series of alumni events.
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We are giving away 10 UniSIM luggage tags. Simply SMS the answers to the two questions below to 9113 6795 in the following format:

Example: Newsletter 5234567A Email address CQ number A Answers for Q1 and Q2

QUESTIONS
1 Name the first movie that was screened for alumni.
2 How many alumni events were held from June to August this year?

Closing Date: Oct 17, 2011

For advertising enquiries, call 6248 5782 or email alumni@unisim.edu.sg
Graduates’ Night 2011

Date: Oct 15, 2011
Venue: TITANIUM (Beside the Esplanade)
Time: 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm
Fee: $35 each
Registration: www.unisim.edu.sg/alumniportal
For more information on the event, please visit www.unisim.edu.sg/gradsnight2011

Halloween Horror Night at Universal Studios Singapore

Date: Oct 29, 2011
Venue: Universal Studios Singapore
Time: 7:15 pm - Registration
8:00 pm - Entry to Universal Studios Singapore
Free and Easy
12:00 am - End of event

Fee: $30.00 nett/Alumnum
$45.00 nett/Guest
(Published Public Rate: $60.00/Adult)

Each ticket is inclusive of entry to Universal Studio Singapore from 8pm to midnight. Apart from exploring the various horror attractions, ticket holders are also entitled to go on unlimited rides at the Accelerator, Battlestar Galactica and Revenge of the Mummy attractions. A Unisim alumni can invite up to 3 guests.

Registration: Register at www.unisim.edu.sg/alumniportal

Health Screening

Date: Dec 3, 2011
Venue: SIM HQ, Staff Lounge, Level 5
Time: 8:30 am to 11:30 am
Fee: $5 for alumnus and $10 for guest

Talk on Cervical Cancer

Date: Dec 3, 2011
Venue: LT4.04, Level 4
Time: 10:00 am to 11:00 am
Fee: Free for both alumni and guest (Lunch box will be provided)

Registration: www.unisim.edu.sg/alumniportal

HiPPO Tour: Christmas Light-up

Date: Nov 26, 2011
Venue: SIM HQ
Time: 6:00 pm - Registration
Christmas Cocktail Reception
7:00 pm - HiPPO pick up at SIM HQ
Start of Tour
9:00 pm - End of tour and drop off at SIM HQ

Fee: $13.00 nett / Adult
$13.00 nett / Child (5-12 years old)
Free for Toddler (below 3 years old)
(Published Public Rate: $23.00/Adult, $13.00/Child)
*Fee inclusive of cocktail reception
(A Unisim alumni can invite up to 3 guests, including 1 toddler)

Registration: Register at www.unisim.edu.sg/alumniportal

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