



August/2021

# Making Waves

Welcome Message by  
**Professor Dr Ian Pashby**  
Group President

Welcome to the second edition of Making Waves. In the last month, there have been quite a few exciting developments at the college, some of which I'm sure will be of particular interest to our students. Whilst we are still restricted in what we are able to do by MOHE and other government bodies we are trying to be innovative in what we can offer existing students and staff as well as preparing new developments. We have new programmes currently with the MQA awaiting approval and we are discussing adding new degree programmes with our UK partner, the University of Plymouth. This edition of the newsletter includes an article on the benefits of having an education from an International university. In addition, we are part way through the application process to allow us to recruit International students.



The Ship Campus



Student life



News



Services





## New Appointment for PKT Logistics Group CEO

The Ship Campus would like to extend its heartiest congratulations to Dato' (Dr.) Michael Tio J.P. on being conferred the Darjah Gemilang Pangkuan Negeri (DGPN) which carries the title 'Dato Seri' by Tuan Yang Terutama Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzi bin Abdul Razak, Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Pulau Pinang, on the occasion of His Excellency's 72nd birthday recently. Dato' Seri is the highest state title conferred by the Ruler on the most deserving recipients who have contributed greatly to the nation or state.



## New Academic Staff in July

Introducing a new staff for Peninsula College Northern on 19 July 2021.

Name : Mr. Muhamad Safuan Bin Shamshol Bahri  
Department : Academic (Logistics Department)  
Designation : Lecturer

Muhamad Safuan is from Padang Serai, Kedah. His area of specialisation is in Naval Architecture and Offshore Engineering (Marine Logistics). The college would like to take this opportunity to give him a very warm welcome and we look in anticipation to his contributions and collaboration with the staff and students moving forward. Wishing you all the best and welcome to the TSC family, Muhamad!

## Virtual Career Fair – Explore, Connect and Get Hired

**Great news future graduates!** Peninsula College, in partnership with Penang Youth Development Corporation (PYDC) and supported by the Penang state government is organising a Virtual Career Fair: Explore, Connect and Get Hired, from Thu-Sun, 26-29 Aug 2021. This fair will also involve organisations like PERKESO, Big Domain, local SMEs, large enterprises and other higher education institutions in Penang, meaning that there will be a ton of opportunities for you to explore!

Concurrently, we're also working with PERKESO in conducting student profiling under the MYFutureJobs initiative to assist students with employment matching with the right companies. Whether you're in your first or final year of your studies, you are strongly encouraged to join this event as it will give you a very good and thorough overview of what the current job market landscape is like and what to expect once you graduate. Don't delay, register now via the link below:

<https://qrgo.page.link/bCdKf> or scan here for more:

See you soon at the career fair !





# A Matter of Perspective

## *Is the Cup Half Full or Half Empty? Well, that Depends on Perspective*

Sharing a Glass of Positivity During Trying Times with Peninsula Higher Education's Group President, Prof. Dr. Ian Pashby

It is an all too well-known fact that the pandemic hasn't been easy for anyone anywhere in Malaysia. Many have lost their sources of income and are struggling to make ends meet, then there's the ever-extending lockdown and the virulent threat always present, so the question on everyone's mind now is **"When is it going to end?"**. Unfortunately, no one has a clear answer for that.

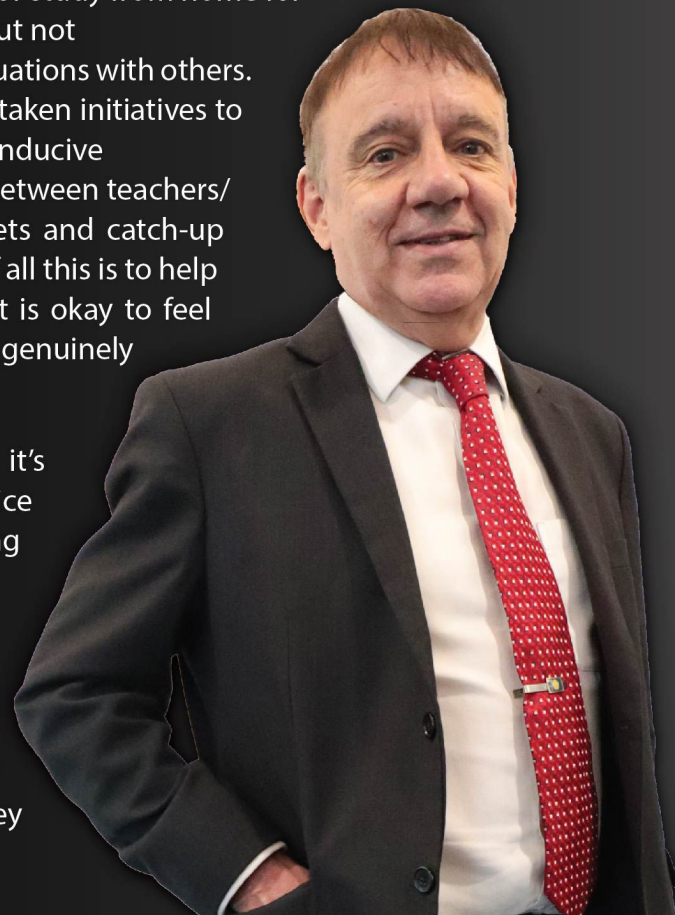
That being said, history has proven time and time again that as a species, mankind has always managed to adapt to and overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles. In the last 200 years alone, we've survived 8 global pandemics, from the Bubonic plague and Spanish flu to now Covid-19, and we're still very much in the fight to win. People and economies have always rebounded stronger after every pandemic, and with our modern advancements in medical technology, we're now in a better position than ever to develop and distribute effective vaccines to combat the virus.

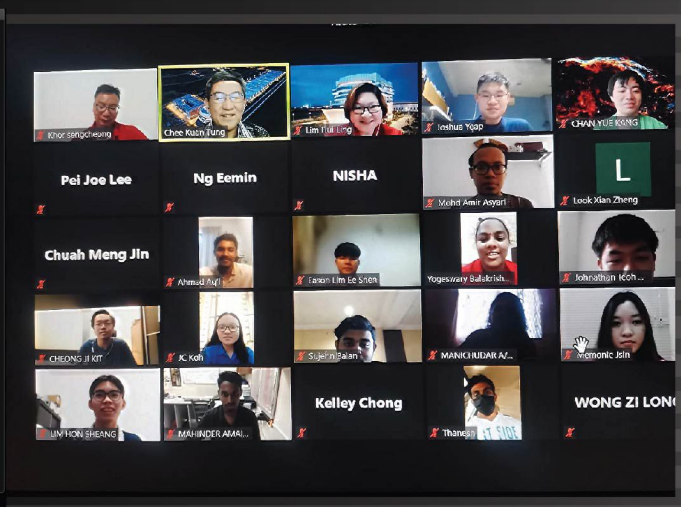
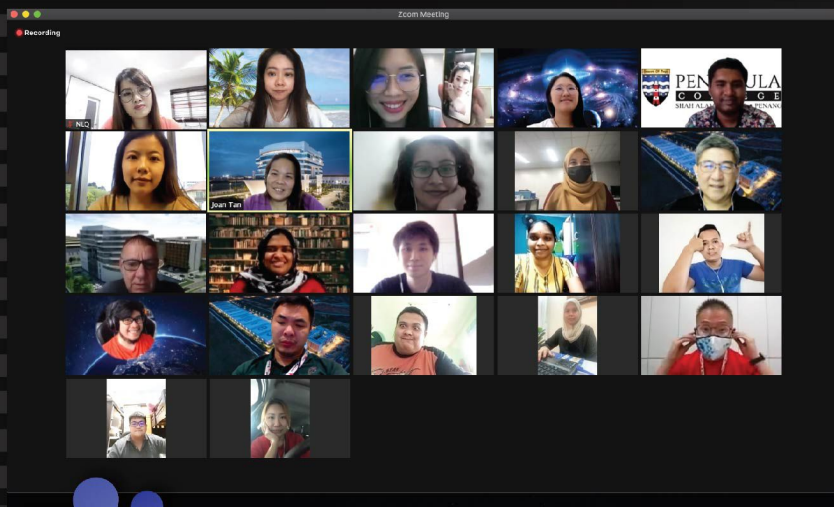
As a world-class institute of higher learning, Peninsula College places great importance on the welfare of its people above its profits. This is coined in our CSR philosophy "It's not about how responsibly you spend your profits, it's about how responsibly you make your profits". Throughout the pandemic, not a single staff has been laid off, and students who may be struggling financially at home were given certain concessions and grants according to individual circumstances.

We're also very much aware of the reality that having to work or study from home for an extended period can have an adverse effect on a person, but not everyone might be comfortable discussing their feelings or situations with others. This is why the management team at Peninsula College have taken initiatives to ensure that all staff and students are operating in calm and conducive conditions. These include regular online interactive sessions between teachers/counsellors and students, inter-departmental meet-and-greets and catch-up sessions between management and their staff. The purpose of all this is to help reduce the sense of isolation and make everyone feel that it is okay to feel down and uncertain sometimes and that there are others who genuinely care about them.

Uncertainty is often stressful and frustrating, which is why it's important that staff and students be given the avenue to voice out their thoughts and feelings without the fear of being judged, as we're all in this together.

Whether you're an adult or a teenager, everyone has different coping mechanisms, and it is only by open sharing that we can release our inhibitions and find the courage to hold on to hope...hope that there eventually will be light at the end of the tunnel. Things may not go back to "normal" per se, but they will be better so long we all believe in it.

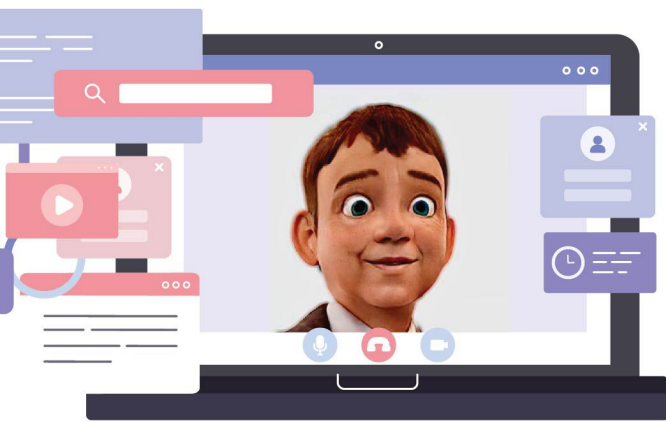




## ***e-Meet Session between College Staff and Prof. Dr. Ian Pashby***

When people hear the word “health”, they usually relate it to physical fitness and wellbeing, but mental and emotional health are just as important, especially in today’s pandemic-laden world. Being physically isolated, with little to no outside social interaction and dealing with potential stresses at home can take its toll on even the strongest hearts and minds. In light of this, Prof. Ian took the initiative to organise an online meet-and-greet among Peninsula College Northern’s academic and non-academic staff on 21 July via Zoom.

It’s always interesting to get to know your colleagues from other departments as you may not have previously realised that you may share a lot of common interests and ideas. It is also good to check in on others every once in a while just to reinforce the notion that everyone in our community is a valued member and to not be afraid to reach out in times of need.



## ***e-Meet Session between Diploma and Degree Students with Prof. Dr. Ian Pashby***

To support the initiative discussed above, further sharing sessions were held between Prof. Ian and our College’s undergraduate students. These students were given the opportunity to share and discuss both their positive and negative experiences with studying from home for an extended period, as well as an open platform to ask questions and offer suggestions. We also had Dr. Lim and Mr. Khor from Academic Services to join and help facilitate these sessions.

## ***Webinar with Polytechnic Students***

On Tue, 13 July 2021, Peninsula College’s student recruitment team conducted a webinar for Politeknik METRo Tasek Gelugor. In the webinar, 17 students and their lecturer were given a virtual tour of The Ship Campus as well as an introduction to the many different programmes available in the college. Such initiatives are typical and in line with the college’s CSR philosophy by working with other educational partners to help bridge the gap between graduate skills and industry needs.





# Microsoft 365 *Training*



This month, training sessions were conducted for all TSC employees to learn about the new features and functions of Microsoft 365 (M365). M365 is an upgraded version of Office 365 as it also includes cloud-based software-as-a-service product for business environments. The training was aimed at giving employees a better understanding of the added cloud-based programs so that they can utilise their time more efficiently for both individual tasks and collaborative projects.

## Mid-Autumn (aka Mooncake) Festival

It is that time of the year again! No not Christmas...yet...we're referring to the annual Mid-Autumn festival, called 中秋节 in Chinese. So to all you mooncake lovers, please raise your hands in the air (and party like you just don't care :P), as this year we've got four new delicious and healthy herbal flavours that you're absolutely going to love. Stay tuned for an upcoming announcement on these yummy mooncakes.

Disclaimer: Your average mooncake contains between 700-1000 calories, yikes! If you want to find out how much exercise you'll need to work off just 1 mooncake, please get in touch with Team Powerhouse at Surfer's Paradise gym on level 8 and they will get you in ship-shape in no time.

ORDER NOW!



Taiwanese Ginger Tea

Five Flower Tea

Ginseng with Xinjiang Dates

Honey Luo Han Guo



**FAMOUS EXPLORER'S FAVOURITE MOONCAKES**

Herbal Healthy • 100% Vegetarian Mooncakes

RM68 /PER BOX



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## Facilities & Services:

### VIRTUAL EXERCISE



### SURFERS PARADISE

### *Surfers Paradise Powered by Team Powerhouse Fitness*

MCO 3.0 got your belly bulging again due to excessive take-outs? We're quite sure that all of you now must be missing your sweaty gym sessions pretty badly. But the good news is...you can now join virtual exercise classes or you can opt for personal online training sessions if you think you need that extra motivation. Online class fees start generously low at RM6.80/day, so get in touch with Team Powerhouse Fitness today +6019-957 6150 or +6012-257 6150 and revive your fitness mojo!



## Francis Light Library

Named after the famed English explorer and the founder of the British colony of Penang and its capital city of George Town in 1786, Francis Light Library is a modern learning hub for the Peninsula College community. It simultaneously serves as an information resource centre, study area and group work collaboration zone. Apart from hi-speed Wi-Fi and a selection of different study environments (private study area, discussion rooms, fun study area and serious study area), the library will also soon offer a wide range of books on every subject from Arbitrage to Zero interest-rate policy to aid you in your studies.

Opening Hours: Mon-Fri (8.30am-5.30pm)

E-book service is currently available in PDF format for Diploma in Business Studies and Diploma in Logistics Management and can be accessed 24/7.

**Scan now:**



# Peninsula Student Residences



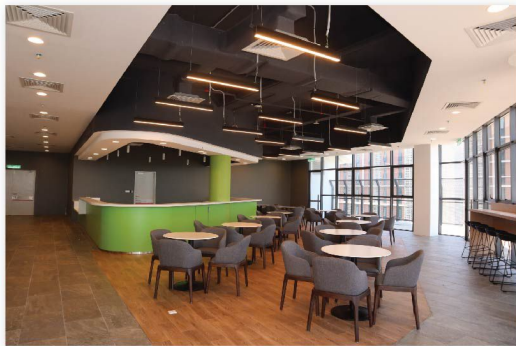
**PENINSULA**  
STUDENT RESIDENCES

Located a literal stone's throw away from The Ship Campus, Peninsula Student Residences (PSR) is your home away from home as it comes fully furnished with A/C option and each level is uniquely designed with different geographic and historical themes that will take you on a mesmerising journey as soon as you step into the building. Besides the accommodation, there are other amenities available such as a wet kitchen, dry kitchen, dining spaces, comfortable lounges with wide screen TVs and hi-speed Wi-Fi.

With modest prices set at RM60/day and RM600/mth, PSR is able to accommodate both students and working professionals who may need a temporary but safe and relaxing place to stay.

## Windjammer Café

## Food & Beverages



You must be missing all that cheap and yummy food at Windjammer Café. But guess what? You can now place orders for takeaway to be delivered right to your very doorstep! All this through the FoodPanda mobile app; check out their delicious range of local delicacies, western foods, pastas, desserts plus loads more.

They are open from Mon-Fri (8.00am-8.00pm), so if you're feeling peckish, you can order breakfast, lunch and dinner via the app. Happy eating!





## **Advantages of an International Degree**

Studying abroad may have been an attractive option previously, but it is now not so practical due to unfavourable exchange rates and travel restrictions brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic. Among the hundreds of higher education institutions in Malaysia, including private and public universities, colleges and polytechnics, only less than 10% are able to offer foreign degree programmes. Of those that are able to do so, they usually work in partnership with overseas universities from the US, UK or Australia, whereas others would have satellite branches established locally. But is an international degree all that it's made out to be? Let us look at the facts:

### **Teaching Style**

As opposed to an authority style, where the teacher frequently gives long lectures or one-way presentations that focuses on set rules, expectations and memory retention, international degree teachers tend to utilise rather different teaching methods to encourage and promote active student learning. There's the facilitator style, where they promote self-learning by emphasising the teacher-student relationship to develop critical thinking skills by teaching them how to ask questions and find solutions through exploration. There's also the delegator style, where the teacher in an observer role assigns lab activities and give students in-class projects and only guides when necessary to help them stay engaged.

### **Diversity**

We've all heard phrases like "Two heads are better than one" or "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts". In this context, diverse cultural perspectives can inspire creativity and drive innovation because when people from different backgrounds knock heads and challenge each other's ideas and stances; that is when originality and new inventions are born. Research has shown that a diverse group of individuals generally yields better results in both study and in the workplace compared with a purely native one.

### **Personal Growth**

Being in a new environment takes anyone outside of their comfort zone since things are no longer "normal". But that is precisely what would make you more confident, independent and determined as you learn new things, meet new friends and pick up new skills. Every successful person on the planet has, at some point in their life, dared to do something different and challenge the status quo. Your varsity years are the final important stage of your formative period where you establish and hone your thinking, communicating, social, financial and time management skills that will shape your adult values and personality.

### **Global Perspective**

Overseas degrees place more emphasis on curricula that help to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills, as well as case studies that are sourced from both developed and developing nations. These combined factors give students a more holistic understanding of the subject matter and allows them to independently discover multiple out-of-the-box solutions for a single problem. A more universal view of things also enables students to consider ideas and aspects that they formerly may not have considered, e.g., how their area of study is linked to developments in technology, socioeconomic and sustainability around the world.

### **Language & Communication**

The common perception is that an international school tends to churn out students who have a better command of English as well as interpersonal and communication skills. This is because an overseas based program fosters a solid linguistic foundation so that students are more confident and capable of debating, negotiating and bringing their point across. Mastering English and even a second or third language would put anyone in a highly advantageous position as employers would look favourably upon the extra skills that many do not possess.

### **Career Opportunities**

Given the choice two equally qualified candidates, a prospective employer would usually lean more towards the one who has an overseas education because the assumption is that, that individual would possess all of the finer qualities already discussed above. Whilst there is no guarantee that overseas graduates are definitely better performers, the exposure that they were given in their foreign education means they are more likely to have developed a unique sense of adaptability, leadership and other soft skills that are transferable.

Therefore, is an international degree the better choice? That ultimately is a decision that you must make for yourself.



★ **Scholarships\*/ Rewards** ★

Are you an academic star? Then why pay full price for your studies if you're eligible for a discount! Students that have recently received good SPM or STPM results are encouraged to speak to any of our course counsellors to find out more on the latest student rewards schemes or the eligibility of getting a waiver on their tuition fees under our scholarship program.

**Short Courses**

**Certificate in Business Studies (CIBS)**

Did you or do you know someone who didn't do too well in their SPM exam? You might be considering taking a gap year to get some respite, however you'd be 12 months behind all your other peers who've progressed further on their study and career paths. But fret not, as Peninsula College has created the CIBS course specifically to allow those who didn't do well academically to have a second chance at furthering their education. CIBS will provide you with the basic but fundamental understanding of the world of business. The course will act as the solid foundation for your career progression as the modules are based on actual real-world concepts and scenarios.

**PENINSULA COLLEGE**  
**Certificate in Business Studies**  
Intake in Progress

Penang : +604 - 545 6000  
Klang Valley : +603 - 3344 7961  
www.peninsulacollege.edu.my

**Foundation in Arts**

Did I hear the word FREE?!? Yes, we are currently offering **100% FREE** Foundation in Arts programme with no strings attached! This is open to any student who'd like to come onboard The Ship Campus, it doesn't matter if you're still not sure what discipline you want to pursue for your studies, our foundation programme is specially designed to help you make that decision. How awesome is that! For more information, please contact one of our course counsellors.

**PENINSULA COLLEGE**  
**No Strings Attached**  
Foundation in Arts for **FREE!**

- Limited to 30 slots only
- First come first served basis
- No registration fee needed

+6010 466 0296  
www.peninsulacollege.edu.my



**Quote of the Month**

Happiness is letting go of what you think your life is supposed to look like and celebrating it for everything that it is  
- Mandy Hale

