



SEA Games Champions

UTM
Royal Gala Dinner 2017

Newton Grant for Big Data

Boost and UTM to create
“Cashless Campus”

AirAsia started
with only a dream
- Tony Fernandes

M's Business Corner

UTM awarded Diamond Recognition
for Carbon Emission Reduction



I AM UTM
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA

Your View

We would love to hear from you. If you have any particular news to share, you can make a valuable contribution to the URL below:

<http://corporateaffairs.utm.my/>

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On this last day of the year, I sit back and reflect on all that has happened within each of its 365 days. It has been an exceptional year for UTM, where together as a team moving forward as a single united entity, we have achieved momentous accolades.

Among the highlights this year, UTM surged from 288th place to 253rd in the QS World University Rankings 2016/2017, which qualifies UTM to be in the top 300 universities in the world, and 49th position in Asia, ranking UTM in the top 1% Universities in Asia. Additionally, in the QS World University Rankings 2016/2017 by Subject, six of our subjects have been listed in the top 100 places, and five of these subjects belong to the Engineering and Technology category. Furthermore, for the first time, UTM has been inducted into the Top 10 Young Universities in Asia, and obtained 5 Stars Overall Rating for the QS Star Rating. Similarly, in the Times Higher Education Supplement (THES) Inaugural Asia-Pacific University Ranking 2017, UTM placed second among public universities in Malaysia.

But it is not just the rankings that make a university. Our staff have also been recognised for outstanding contributions in their own fields. Our students have also achieved significant accomplishments, among them being selected for Overseas Leadership Training in Russia, being awarded the highly prestigious Yang Di-Pertuan Agong Scholarship 2017/2018, and in particular, a disabled student winning a research grant of half a million ringgit. Additionally, four of our students were selected to take part in the recent 2017 SEA Games held in Kuala Lumpur, and all four returned triumphant with three gold medals and one bronze medal. In fact, three of these athletes are featured in our cover story in this issue.

Enjoy the stories in this issue of I AM UTM: The Magazine, with highlights featuring AirAsia Group CEO, our Honorary Doctorate holder Tan Sri (Dr) Tony Fernandes, UTM's move to going cashless, and of course, our SEA Games athletes.

May this coming year bring you joy, happiness and success.

Happy New Year 2018!

Prof. Datuk Ir. Dr. Wahid bin Omar
Vice Chancellor



Professor Datuk Ir. Dr. Wahid bin Omar
UTM Vice-Chancellor



Majlis Santapan Diraja

UTM Royal Gala Dinner 2017

11 November 2017 | 10:00 PM | Seri, UTM Kuala Lumpur



Her Majesty Raja Zarith Sofiah officiating the Dinner, with Professor Datuk Ir Dr Wahid Omar, Vice Chancellor of UTM looking on.

UTM Royal Gala Dinner 2017

Being a student at university is a rewarding experience, where one will cherish their moments within the hallowed halls of learning. It is a place where memories are made, friendships are forged, and knowledge is acquired.

However, it becomes a monumental struggle when students come from underprivileged backgrounds, with very limited resources to utilise in their studies, wondering where their next meal would come from.

It is with these students in mind that UTM organised the UTM Royal Gala Dinner 2017 on 11 November 2017, with the Chancellor of UTM, Her Majesty Raja Zarith Sofiah binti Almarhum Sultan Idris Shah, Permaisuri of Johor, hosting the dinner.

The objective of the UTM Royal Gala Dinner was to raise funds to help these underprivileged students by achieving a financial contribution of RM2.5 million, including JohorPort's special contribution to UTM Endowment of RM1 million. UTM Vice-Chancellor, Professor Datuk Ir Dr Wahid Omar,

said the donation would be channeled to the UTM Cares Fund as a fund to be distributed to needy students, either through scholarships or financial assistance to cover the cost of study.



Guests at the Royal Gala Dinner 2017

This inaugural Royal Gala Dinner organised by UTM showed the University's care and corporate social responsibility to ease the burden of its students. Datuk Wahid went on to say that UTM also wanted to provide opportunities for individuals and external parties to contribute to improving the University's ability to help students, as well as to motivate the recipients to do well in their studies. Each and every student is unique and special in UTM, and likewise, UTM wants every single student to succeed in their academic journeys, and to transition successfully into their professional

working lives. The funds that are donated in events like these, and through donations every day to the UTM Cares fund. For more information on giving and helping to make a difference, log on to www.utmcares.utm.my.



Because UTM cares.

Boost partners with UTM to create the country's first "Cashless Campus"



Participants of Signing Ceremony UTM and Boost

Boost, an app-based innovative mobile wallet, recently announced a milestone partnership with Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) to create Malaysia's first "Cashless Campus". With Boost activated on smartphones, all 25,000 students and faculty members across UTM Kuala Lumpur and Skudai campuses will be able to use the mobile wallet as the single mode of payment for all on-campus purchases.

As the institution that is acclaimed for being at the forefront of engineering and technological knowledge, UTM is yet again breaking ground by going fully

cashless and by being a test bed towards a cashless Malaysia society of the future. At the same time, Boost, developed by Axiata Digital, is revolutionising the way consumers transact in today's increasingly digital and mobile world. Combining the lifestyle needs of consumers and cutting edge digital technology, Boost makes cashless transactions easier, more secure as well as provide an overall more rewarding experience for consumers. The partnership was commemorated in an official signing ceremony executed by Prof. Dr. Azlan Abd. Rahman, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development) of UTM, Christopher Tiffin, Chief Executive

Officer of Boost, as well as En. Dick Hilmi Bin Dato Hassan, Chief Executive Officer of Zen Trillion Sdn Bhd, the sole merchant acquisition partner of UTM and Boost.

Prof. Dr. Azlan Abd. Rahman, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development) of UTM, said, "We are honoured to be partnering with Boost to provide our students with a more enjoyable and seamless digital lifestyle allowing for easy purchases, money transfers, mobile top-ups and digital gifts. Beyond this, Boost's unique reward-based experience offers students a greater value in going cashless on campus".



Christopher Tiffin, CEO of Boost(far right) showing The Boost app.

“In line with UTM's vision's to be recognized as an influential world-class centre of academic and technological excellence, we aim to transform all our services to be easily accessed through digital means. This partnership marks the beginning of our initiative as we move towards being a fully digital campus. We are also proud that this initiative, led by Professor Dr. Sevia Mahdaliza Idrus, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, is also receiving recognition and support from the Ministry of Higher Education and the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission. This is a very exciting time for us as we cement our status as a “Cashless Campus” and pave the way towards a new digital lifestyle,” continued Prof. Dr. Azlan Abd Rahman.

“Backed by Axiata's vast expertise in digital technology across Asia, Boost is at the frontier of the digital economy and one of the fastest growing mobile wallets in the market. Our partnership with UTM signifies more than just a venture, it also represents a new and exciting way for Malaysians to move forward in the digital world. We believe this is only the beginning of an exciting journey as we look to form more strategic partnerships in the future to educate and instil trust in consumers on the reliability, safety of e-wallet applications,” said Christopher Tiffin, CEO of Boost.

Boost users can pay for purchases at selected merchants at both physical outlets as well as online merchants, without the hassle of cash or card payments. From the weekly

pasar malam to popular food trucks to well-loved food courts, users can enjoy a hassle free, cashless transaction just by using the app. Boost has been purposefully developed following a human centred approach that takes into account the user experience using the mobile application.

Android users can download Boost from the Play Store while iOS users can download from the App Store. For more information, check-out the website at <http://www.myboost.my> or follow Boost on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com.my/myboostapp> and Instagram <http://www.instagram.com/myboostapp>.



UTM Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development) Prof. Dr. Azlan Abd. Rahman at the signing ceremony.



Bronze Medal Winner (Judo) Nik Norlydiawati Nik Azman



Gold Medal Winners (Netball) Pow Mei Foong & Nurfariha Abdul Razak

SEA Games Champions

Golden Dream

A gold medal competing with some of the best athletes in the region, and the world. Not many experiences can come close to the feeling of success for four Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) athletes, Pow Mei Foong (Netball), Nurfariha Abdul Razak (Netball), Faizul M. Nasir (Silat Olahraga); and Nik Norlydiawati Nik Azman (Judo) for winning bronze.

These four athletes, UTM's finest, were instrumental in helping Malaysia become the champion of the 29th SEA Games with a medal tally of 145 gold, 92 silver, and 86 bronze, making it the most successful SEA Games in the history of the country. "The feeling is unlike anything I have ever felt in my life. It is almost surreal" said Nurfariha Abdul Razak, "it makes the countless hours of sweat and blood during training, the previous disappointments, all worthwhile".

"During the 2015 Singapore SEA Games, we only achieved the bronze medal" said counterpart Pow Mei Foong, "the success of the gold medal in Kuala Lumpur 2017 is very meaningful to us, and has consolidated what we already

know, that with enough training and dedication, we have it in us to be champions. This December, we will return to Singapore to play in the Nations Cup netball championships". The national netball team needs to advance to the final round of the Nations Cup 2018 in order to qualify for the 2019 Netball World Cup that will take place in Liverpool, United Kingdom.

However, success is not a bed of roses, and these young women are well aware of the fact. One of the toughest challenges that they have had to face, and continue doing so, is in trying to balance their lives as national athletes and university students. "It is tough," says Nurfariha "we have to train for at least five hours a day for the upcoming competition. Sometimes the relentless tight scheduling and gruelling training is enough to make some of us consider giving it all up, but we remind ourselves that this is for the country". Moreover, in balancing their athletic and academic lives, the girls have to be away from the training centre for the national team in Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) to be on campus. Nevertheless, they are also quick to point out that UTM provides top-notch training facilities for netball in order for them to get the training that they need.

Brilliant Bronze



A medal at any championship is no mean feat, regardless of the metal. UTM's representative for Judo at the SEA Games, Nik Norlydiawati Nik Azman, can attest to this. The 22-year-old athlete who is pursuing a degree in Sports Science at the Faculty of Education said she was ecstatic with the Bronze. "This is the first time I've won a medal despite previous matches in the 2013 SEA Games in Myanmar and the SEA Games in Singapore in 2015, which both ended without medals.

Similar to her netball colleagues, Nik Norlydiawati also cited balancing her athletic and academic lives to be a challenge. She is grateful that UTM is able to help her and support her in doing this, but feels that there is still more to be done with respect to judo in UTM. "It is still a relatively less popular sport in UTM, and in Malaysia in general," she

said, "for now I am undergoing judo training at Sekolah Sukan Bandar Penawar, Kota Tinggi. In addition, training is also conducted at the Terengganu State Sports Council in Gong Badak, Terengganu. "If I am involved with any competition, I am forced to apply for a two-week leave from university and this is a disadvantage to me. It would be great if UTM could create training facilities in the Johor Bahru campus for judo".

UTM is a place that goes beyond teaching and learning, where students can pursue their interests and develop themselves into whatever they aspire to be.

We are very proud of our athletes, as they are among the best of what UTM can offer the country.

I am UTM.



Gold Medal Winner (Silat Olahraga) Faizul M. Nasir



Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) has been selected as the recipient of the Diamond Recognition award for its achievement in real carbon emission reduction.

UTM awarded Diamond Recognition for Carbon Emission Reduction

The award was presented by the Deputy Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KeTTHA), Datuk Seri S.K. Devamani at the LCCF Award Recognition Ceremony & LCCF Implementation Sharing Session at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre on 13 October 2017. The Dean of the Faculty of Civil Engineering (FKA), Professor Dr Khairul Annuar Kassim representing UTM received the award. The LCCF Award Recognition Ceremony is held to celebrate Local Authorities (Pusat Berkuasa Tempatan - PBTs) and universities that have taken steps towards urban development and low-carbon campuses.

Apart from UTM, the Subang Jaya Municipal Council (MPSJ), Hang Tuah Jaya Municipal Council (MPHTJ) and University of Malaya were also the recipients of the category. Another acknowledgment, the LCCF Provisional Certificate, was given to local authorities who had successfully completed the Baseline Assessment. In the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate

Change (UNFCCC) Convention: COP21 / CMP11 in December 2015 in Paris, the Malaysian government announced its commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45 percent against Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 2030.

The reduction of 35 percent is voluntary and 10 percent is conditional and subject to acceptance of financial assistance, technology transfer and capacity building from developed countries. The concept of Low Carbon Cities is a new urban concept in Malaysia, but in other countries like Australia, Canada and the United States it is something that has long been practiced. In Australia and Canada for example, Low Carbon Cities are known as Sustainable Cities where not only the carbon reduction aspect is emphasized but also its livability. In Asia, there are several countries that today emphasize Low Carbon Cities such as the Masdar Zero Carbon City in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the Low Carbon Model Town in Tianjin Financial District, China and Yokohama in Japan.



The Dean of the Faculty of Civil Engineering Professor Dr Khairul Annuar Kassim holding the award.

During the announcement of the 2010 budget, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak expressed his desire to see the development of the the Green Technology Cities in Putrajaya and Cyberjaya as a pioneers and models to other cities in Malaysia. Meanwhile, KeTTHA, established in 2009 has been mandated to implement various developments and expansion of green technology applications in our country.

Among them, the expansion of Low Carbon Cities through the adoption of the Low Carbon City Framework (LCCF) system which serves as a guideline. The LCCF is a systematic low carbon development framework developed by KeTTHA with the Malaysian Green Technology Corporation (MGTC) to be adopted by Local Authorities and project developers in Malaysia. The LCCF was presented at the Green Technology and Climate Change

Council launched by Datuk Seri Najib during the "International Green Tech and Eco Products Exhibition and Conference (IGEM)" 2011.

The LCCF is divided into two parts, namely the framework and the evaluation system. It is a "performance-based system" that assesses the carbon footprint of development from four major elements, namely Urban Environment, Urban Infrastructure, Urban Transportation and Building. It has a carbon tracking mechanism through the 'LCCF Track' which can be accessed by the Local Authorities through the Internet to enable their organizations to track their carbon footprint systematically and regularly. Until 2017, a total of 23 Local Authorities and two unversities have implemented the LCCF. By 2020 KeTTHA and MGTC have targeted a total of 52 municipalities implementing low-carbon urban development using LCCF.



Tony Fernandes during his Premier Lecture at the Dewan Sultan Iskandar, UTM

AirAsia started with only a dream – Tony Fernandes

The world's leading low-cost airline, AirAsia Berhad started with just the dream of its owner who wanted to own his own airline. In the year's most anticipated Premier Lecture to an audience more than 2500 strong at the Dewan Sultan Iskandar UTM, AirAsia Group Chief Executive Officer Tan Sri (Dr) Tony Fernandes shared the story of his successes and lessons learnt, throughout his career from music executive to airline mogul.

Fernandes shared that before becoming a successful entrepreneur, he had long set up a dream to own his own airline, even when he was a

schoolboy in the UK. This kind of vision may seem almost impossible to behold for a normal schoolboy, but not for Fernandes. "It was actually much later in my life that I realised that I had always had these grand dreams, and funnily enough this realisation came in the form of a tuck box. On the box there were three stickers - one of a football team, one of an F1 team, and one of an airline. And here I am, owner of a football team, an F1 team, and an airline" It all indeed started with a dream. However, Fernandes was quick to point out that the journey to owning his own airline was not as easy as one might expect, especially for someone

who had absolutely no background in aviation, and whose prior work experience was in the music industry. "After leaving my career in Warner Music, Datuk Kamaruddin Meranun and I set up AirAsia in September 2001", said Fernandes.

"Through the former Secretary General of the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs, Datuk Pahamin Rejab, I had the opportunity to meet with the then Prime Minister, Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad in October 2001 to discuss the issue of license application.

*Tan Sri (Dr) Anthony Francis "Tony" Fernandes is the AirAsia Group Chief Executive Officer, and holder of an Honorary Doctorate in Business Innovation from UTM.

**“AirAsia democratised air travel”
proclaims Fernandes. And indeed it has.
As per the company's tagline,
now everybody can fly.**



The Chancellor of UTM, Her Majesty Raja Zarith Sofiah Binti Almarhum Sultan Idris Shah, and the Vice-Chancellor of UTM, Prof. Datuk. Ir. Dr. Wahid Omar entertained by Tony Fernandes

“Tun Dr. Mahathir advised me to buy an existing airline instead of setting up a new one” he said. This led to his acquisition of the then struggling airline AirAsia that only had two aging Boeing aircraft and was RM40 million in debt; unrecognisable compared to the superbrand it is today.

Amazingly, with Fernandes' clarity of vision and business acumen, AirAsia soared from being RM40 million in the red to being a profitable business in the black, all within the space of a single year, and has only grown from strength to strength ever since. This was done through the consolidation of a strong brand, right from its bold red image and distinct lettered logo, to the implementation of disruptive innovation in the aviation industry that completely revolutionised air travel in the region and the world.

“AirAsia democratised air travel” proclaims Fernandes.

And indeed it has. As per the company's tagline, now everybody can fly. Fernandes ended his lecture by saying “Dreams can be achieved by everyone, as long as you have the courage. It does not matter if you fail, at least you tried; and if you keep trying, one day you will succeed”



Tony Fernandes speaking to a packed hall

Newton Grant for Big Data – UTM and Leicester University Partnerships



Newton Grant First Interim visit April 2017

The current trends in recent years pertaining to technology applications have seen the rise in Big Data awareness. Ever since it has become a trendy jargon, big data has been defined in numerous different ways, ergo the extensive confusion surrounding the term.

Big data actually refers to a collection of data from traditional and digital sources inside and outside of your institution that represents a source for ongoing discovery and analysis. Basically it refers to all data related to Cloud computing, analytics, the internet of things, database to business intelligence. Early this year, Dr. Effie Law, a renowned expert in Human and Computer Interaction from University of Leicester (ULEIC), United Kingdom, has collaboratively worked with Assoc. Prof. Dr. Marlia Puteh, a local expert in Technology Enhanced learning (TEL) from Language Academy, UTMKL campus. Their research investigates the multifaceted competence needed in handling such massive data. This is how the concept of Cross Cultural Communication via Astronomy Online Lab (C3AOL) came about. C3AOL is an interdisciplinary project which involves expertise in Cross-

cultural Communication, Astronomy and Technology Enhanced Learning. It involves different stakeholders in Malaysia and the UK, including astronomy experts, technology-enhanced learning experts, university students, science centre staff, STEM teachers, and pupils in secondary and primary schools.

This research is funded by the Newton-Ungku Omar Fund, for the project entitled “Cross-Cultural Computer-supported collaborative learning through Astronomy Online Labs”. The research kick-started with the selection of colourful team members and interim visits of the UK team partners. Activities during the first interim visit were the coordination meeting in UTMKL, an Astronomy talk in UKM, a visit to Planetarium Negara to discuss potential collaboration with the Malaysian Space Agency and its learning centre. C3AOL project supports the capacity building of young adults in Malaysia for their Big Data analysis skills and 21st century key competencies (communication, collaboration, creativity, critical thinking). C3AOL also provides a valuable opportunity for the communication experts to advance

their work. This is simply because where educational research innovations are concerned, the communication aspect is always undermined probably due to the misunderstanding of the straightforwardness of its methodology comparative to the superior scientific methods applied in the scientific study of Astronomy.

In this project, students taking the Astronomy course in Leicester University are partnered with UTM and UKM students to solve the given tasks via the Astronomy Online Labs (AOL). Students are exposed to Big Data analysis in several Astronomy topics such as stellar luminosity, magnitudes, Blackbody radiation, Photometry and are expected to work collaboratively with their local and international peers.

This project aims to stimulate the growth of astronomy degree programmes in Malaysia through our research visits in different academic institutions in Malaysia and the Ministry of Higher Education, sharing the related practical experiences in running astronomy and other STEM degree programmes in the UK.

Hi everyone!
My name is Simplicio Michael Luis (a.k.a. "M").
I am your new "resident designer".
I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself and welcome you to my new business corner.

I have over 20 years in the fashion business. However, since it is a business, my experience is not limited to sewing and sketching. As a matter of fact, I have spent less time doing that, and more focused on sales, marketing and particularly branding. I have lived in over 15 countries (China, Germany, Peru, and India to name a few), and have worked for international brands such as Red Bull, T-Mobile, and Puma. I have created merchandising for such brands, in addition to catalogues and soft goods. Processing these projects via my design house (www.hausofm.com) I have had to personally manage, design, pitch, produce every product. This has taught me many skills over the years. Skills I would love to share with not only UTM students, but to lecturers and staff as well.

I will write about topics such as current events in the technology industry. New innovations to help any business promote in this noisy global environment. Also topics such as how to brand yourself better, and how to organize yourself for a more efficient work environment. Tips and tricks for a more manageable and impactful career.

Which brings me to my role as your resident designer. I will be available to you, during my year of residency at UTM, as your extra set of eyes for any creative projects you are working on. In addition, I would like to open this platform of dialogue via this column. I am calling it "M's Business Corner" because I want it to be a place where anyone can ask questions about business and arts. Anything from reviewing a logo, to questions on strategy for launching a product, or even layouts for a catalogue. You can download and fill out the questionnaire below, and I will get back to you in the following issue.

Please email any inquiries at: michaelluis@utm.my

This will also be a place where we will announce any upcoming workshops for events. So remember to always check in, with every issue! Also check out our instagram page at: www.instagram.com/utmofficial

Sincerely,
M
UTM Resident Designer



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Because We Care Chancellor's Fund

The Because We Care Chancellor's Fund provides financial assistance to UTM students who are eligible for the duration of their studies at university, and comprises funds for food, sundries, and personal effects. The fund also provides financial assistance for medication.

Merdeka Endowment

The Merdeka Endowment Fund was founded in 2009 with the main objective of providing scholarships to outstanding students and also students from lower socio-economic status backgrounds (B40). Based on the 'wakaf' concept, the funds that have been collected have been used for Endowment Scholarships. To date, more than 600 students have received this scholarship.

Alumni Endowment

The Alumni Endowment Fund was created to provide a means for alumni to give back to the university by donating to foster the expansion and consolidation of knowledge and skills in UTM. Similar to the 'wakaf' concept, this fund is used to provide the Alumni Scholarship to students from lower socio-economic status backgrounds (B40), and for living expenses in UTM. To date, more than 100 students facing financial difficulty have received donations from the Alumni Endowment Fund.

UTM Education Wakaf Fund

The UTM Education Wakaf Fund is a fund-generation programme based on the concept of General Wakaf in the form of cash or assets, where the donor donates to UTM as the trustee, with the intent (niat) for Allah S.W.T, and also for the development of progress and universal knowledge.

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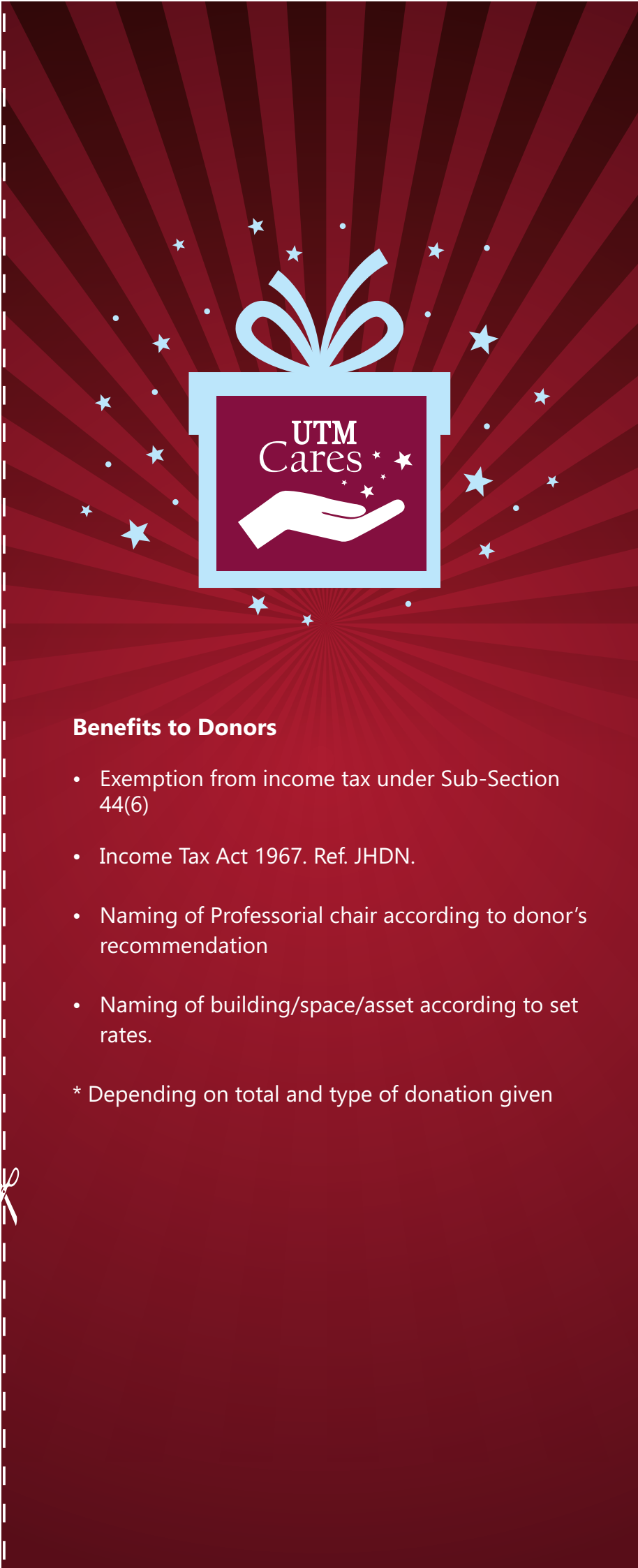
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UTM ECOTOURISM CAMPUS

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Located in 1145 hectare of green splendor, UTM prides itself on the offering of an ecotourism campus. Its traditionally designed Malay architecture academic buildings are situated in the midst of lush greenery, surrounded by stretches of creeks, streams and lakes. As part of its keen commitment to sustainable environment, UTM ecotourism campus offers a myriad of opportunities for outdoor recreation and enjoyment to active, adventurous visitors as well as to those who simply wish to enjoy the solitude of nature.



Places to visit in UTM

- UTM Visit My Campus (Edutourism Package)
 - UTM Observatory
 - UTM Recreational Forest
 - UTM Orchard & Farm
 - UTM Trails
 - UTM Deer Park
 - UTM Remote Control Circuit
 - UTM Tropical Park
 - UTM Tasik Ilmu & Desa Bakti
- and many more.....

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