Amity is back in action. After a 6-month hiatus, our e-newsletter is back. We hope you missed us.

We are now in the month of October and as revellers go about into Halloween and Oktoberfest, others are busy preparing for Deepavali. It is also a really stressful month for our children who are taking major examinations this year. We wish them all the very best and hope the parents keep calm to face this particular storm. To engage our alumni, we have decided to work on Amity 6 to share some news with all our friends and well-wishers.

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The Persatuan i-Alumni UKM also prays for the family of our alumni who had passed on, Mrs. Annam Sittan (grad of 1988) and Vallatharasu’s beloved wife, Mrs. Ananthi Manickam, both in the month of September. Life is impermanent and fragile but Death is permanent and the only consolation we can offer is to cherish the fond memories of those we loved and love.

In the final section of Amity, some pictures of our alumni Annual Dinner held in March 2018 are shared. Please save the date March 9th (Saturday) 2019 for our next Annual Dinner. We hope you enjoy our selection of news in this issue.

Happy Deepavali and Merry Christmas

Editor

We would appreciate your feedback/suggestions on Amity. Please do get in touch with us at (ialumniukm@gmail.com) if you wish to be featured in our next issues.
Warm greetings to my friends and all alumni members. First and foremost, I would like to express my gratitude to all alumni present at the Biennial Meeting on April 22nd and for giving us the vote of confidence to take on our duties and responsibilities.

I would like to thank the Past President, Mr. Ganesh Angappen who has set a good example of leading the Association between 2016 and 2018. He has shown great passion in wanting to ensure the Association gained recognition and it was during his Presidency that the Persatuan i-Alumni started and continues to be recognised as the Indian representative of the Majlis Alumni UKM Parent body. We do hope Ganesh will remain our strong supporter of the activities of the Association.

It has been 5 months since we, the new committee, were elected to helm the Persatuan i-Alumni UKM for a 2-year term (2018 – 2020).

The committee line-up is as follows:
President : Thilagavathi Shanmuganathan
Vice-President : Thiagarajah Seladurai
Secretary : Jamuna Jose
Assistant Secretary : Mugilarasi Mutturamalingam
Treasurer : Janagi Guruswamy
Committee Members : (1)Sunthararajan
                   : (2)Sugunamalar

Our main aim in the 2 years is to increase membership numbers and to actively involve members in fun activities. Our Report Card of activities are as follows:

- Sedic-UKM Basic Tailoring Project that started in January – October 2018, provided basic skills training for 100 women-in-need in the B40 category within the Klang and Port Klang areas.
- Member recruitment and membership benefits.
- Collaboration with several business enterprises which have consented on giving special discounts and offers for i-Alumni members as benefits.
We are open to suggestions on how to bring our alumni and family together, make new friendships and create a network that is sustainable. As alumni, we are the brains of the society and we have amongst us, bankers, doctors, educators, entrepreneurs, homemakers, lawyers, trainers and yoga instructors and specialists in various disciplines. Through the i-Alumni UKM, you get easy access to address various needs. Should you have health issues or need to know how to run a marathon, starting a new exercise, examination queries, migration, studying abroad and the list goes on, we have alumni who can be consulted and are ever so-willing to share and help. We are self-sustaining and we can create a community that is knowledgeable and independent.

Before ending, we the committee of the Persatuan i-Alumni would like to wish all our members Happy Deepavali and Merry Christmas. We do hope you would have great family reunions. Do reach out to any of us for enquiries, we are also planning to have Coffee sessions with any alumni who wish to know more about our planned activities or have suggestions to share. Our Membership Recruitment Committee Member, Sunthararajan is always happy to arrange for a meet-up session. Until then, here’s wishing everyone blessed celebrations and good luck to our children sitting the examinations.

Warm wishes
Dr. Thilagavathi Shanmuganathan
President
Persatuan i-Alumni UKM
Email: ialumniukm@gmail.com
Our Activities : August – October 2018

True friends never part, maybe in distance but never in heart

Amity, i-Alumni UKM
Our Activities: August – October 2018

A friend is someone who gives you total freedom to be yourself.

We are always the same age INSIDE.
The Persatuan i-Alumni UKM was among the thousands of applications vying for a grant from the SEDIC funds, which was an agency formed under the Prime Minister’s Department. In 2017, our proposal application was short-listed and we were called for an interview. Our humble beginnings of 15, then 10 and 12 women from 2015 - 2016 who received free basic tailoring seemed insignificant next to the more established NGOs, but our track record and sincerity won a slice of the budget allocation.

With a grant of RM111,110 the Persatuan i-Alumni was tasked to conduct the Basic Tailoring Programme for 100 women-in-need. The participants are from the Indian Below 40 (B40) economic category. They consist of Muslim, Hindu and Christian Indian women from the Klang and Port Klang areas who were shortlisted from 189 applications. The Persatuan i-Alumni has standard procedures that include vetting and shortlisting candidates who are called for interviews. Each participant is interviewed and one of the criteria for selection is the B40 criteria. The huge number of 100 women were divided into two intakes, Intake 1 made up 54 women and Intake 2 made up 46 women. Each intake had 2 instructors and 2 teaching assistants. The project is made up of 36 weeks, with 34 weeks of basic tailoring and 2 weeks allocated for basic business plan.

The women have shown remarkable progress and two women actually landed jobs as permanent tailors with a shop that was convinced that the skills were basic enough for them to sew. The women also practised at home and the i-Alumni is constantly in touch with the women through Whatsapp and the weekly visits to class. Thus far, Sedic has visited us and conducted surveys, interviews, video-recorded the sessions and had surprise visits during class time, which is every Saturdays between 12 – 6pm. Sumptuous lunch and tea is served by Madras Café for all participants.

The creativity of the women has no boundaries as they delve into designing their own dresses or attire for kids using anything they could get their hands on. Old sarees, curtains, dhotis, sarongs and unused materials have been transformed into beautiful handwork. We share here some pictures of the class sessions and the women’s creativity below.
The i-Alumni has been instrumental in ensuring that the women are highly motivated and are accountable and committed. We have strict attendance requirements (75%), ensuring homework is uploaded on the Whatsapp as proof, opening up the classes earlier to allow women who have no machines at home to complete their tasks and there are motivation sessions in which speakers from Women’s Aid Organisation and our own alumni offer sharing and counselling sessions. In the final part of the lessons, there is basic business plan conducted by our Alumni, Mr. Sundaram and Ms. Sheyma on the fundamentals of planning and managing their accounts, doing SWOT analysis and doing presentations in class.

We are proud to have empowered all 100 women through our Basic Tailoring programme, not only a life-long skill but have also given them the strength to speak and text in English confidently. We have also created a social network of friendship and camaraderie amongst the participants and most importantly to be independent and motivated to start their own small business. Persatuan i-Alumni is proud of their achievements and a Certificate Presentation ceremony was held to celebrate the successful completion of the programme as follows:

**Date**  : October 20th (Saturday)
**Time**  : 9.30 – 11.30am
**Venue**  : MPK E-Library, Jalan Tengku Klana, Klang.

We wish all the participants the very best in life and thank SEDIC for giving us the opportunity to bring change to a portion of society. We are happy for the trust rendered on carrying out this huge task and hope that others would emulate our success model.
The Annual Dinner this year was held on March 3rd at the Bukit Kiara Equestrian and Country Resort. There was a full turnout of 120 alumni. The night was filled with activities and the organising Chairman, Mr. Thiagarajah Seladurai did a great job. In his speech, he thanked his organising committee of Sunthar, Thilagavathi, Janagi, Mugilarasi, Parthiban, Puspa Latha, Agnes, Jamuna and Sugunamalar for all their hard work in making the dinner a success as well as those who assisted during the event.

The Past President of Persatuan i-Alumni UKM, Mr. Ganesh Angappen explained the activities and thanked the alumni for their continued support. The show started with a fabulous dance number by KL Mazhai. Music, good food and friendship filled the night. Every year memories are created during Annual Dinners and we would like to share these moments through the montage below.

Our next Annual Dinner is March 9th, 2019. Please save the date!!! We are giving 5 months head-start to the most looked-forward event of the year. Do make the effort to create beautiful memories. Life is never complete without friends and friends come by choice. So cherish the moments and count your blessings that you are loved by those who choose to be your friends.
There is nothing on this Earth more to be prized than true friendship!
Personal Details

Full Name: ____________________________

Mailing Address: ________________________________________________________________

Email Address: ____________________________ IC NO: ____________________________

Mobile Contact: ____________________________ Gender: M [ ] F [ ]

Office Contact: ________________________________________________________________

Occupation: ___________________________________________________________________

Employer: _____________________________________________________________________

Academic Particulars

Faculty: ____________________________ Matric No: ____________________________

Department: ____________________________

Konsis: ______________________________________________________________________

Year of Graduation: ____________________________

Membership Fees

One-time Joining Fee - RM10.00
Annual Membership Fee - RM10.00

OR

Lifetime Membership Fee - RM100.00

Payment can be made via ATM, online transfer or cheque.
For cheques, please address the payment to “Persatuan i-Alumni UKM”
For ATM and online transfer, please bank-in to Maybank Account No: 514253525654

Date: ____________________________ Signature: ____________________________

For Office Use

Received By: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

Payment Mode: Cash/ATM/Online Transfer/Cheque No: ____________________________

Approved By: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

Membership No: ____________________________

Kindly email the completed form and your payment advice to ialumniukm@gmail.com

Amity, i-Alumni UKM

Issue 6