



METHODIST
COLLEGE

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Kuala Lumpur • Penang

THE *Flame*

by Methodist College Kuala Lumpur

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Raises RM7,000 for Children with Special Needs

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On the cover
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CEO FOREWORD



Dr Chua Ping Yong

Welcome to MCKL's illuminating 'Flame' newsletter, our third quarter edition of 2025.

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." – Matthew 5:16

This quarter, we proudly celebrated the achievements of 233 students during the recent graduation ceremony. They are the individuals who have **embraced knowledge, embodied perseverance, and stepped forward with purpose**. But graduation is not merely the end of a chapter; it is the beginning of a journey to influence the world for the better.

Beyond academic achievements, we celebrated a major milestone on 5 July 2025 with the successful charity run, Dash for Charity at Taman Tasik Titiwangsa. The event saw close to 500

participants comprising students, staff, alumni, partners, family and friends who came together for a fun-filled 5KM run, all in the spirit of giving back to the community.

Success is not measured by titles or accolades alone, but by **the impact we make in the lives of others**. At MCKL, we believe that true excellence is not self-serving but extends outward, touching hearts and uplifting communities. This is why, as we move forward, we remain guided by the principle: "**Seek to Serve**."

This is not a new direction but a **natural continuation** of the values we see in our students' dedication. It echoes the words of **Mark 10:45**: "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

In 2025, our focus will be on cultivating a spirit of service. Initiatives that:

- Foster empathy and compassion
- Promote civic engagement
- Encourage sustainable and impactful practices

We believe in equipping our students not just with **knowledge**, but with **a heart for service**, a deep sense of responsibility, and the courage to stand as **beacons of hope and positive change**. As we embark on this **transformative journey together**, let us remember the call in **Galatians 6:9**: "**Let us not grow weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.**"

May we move forward with **purpose, dedication, and unwavering faith**, knowing that **every small act of kindness can spark a flame that brightens the world**.

Discipline, Faith, and Perseverance

Ethan Yam's Path to Excellence



Methodist College Kuala Lumpur (MCKL) proudly celebrates the outstanding achievement of its alumnus, a Torchbearer, Ethan Yam, who has been selected to represent Malaysia in fencing at the upcoming **SEA Games**.

Ethan, a former Cambridge A-Level student, was not only known for his academic excellence but also for his leadership and commitment to holistic development. During his time at MCKL, he was awarded the Student Leadership and Achievement Award, a testament to his

dedication both in and beyond the classroom. Now, Ethan is set to carry the nation's colours on the international stage, showcasing the same discipline, perseverance, and passion that marked his years at MCKL.

Balancing Academics and Sports Through Discipline

Being an achiever in both academics and sports, Ethan shared that effective time management was key to his success. For him, it was never about sacrificing essentials like sleep, but about making conscious choices to cut out unproductive activities such as video games or endless streaming.

"I chose to invest my time in training and revision," he explained. "Since I gave up leisure time, I made sure every second counted. Whether I was studying or fencing, I gave 100% effort to make the sacrifice worth it." Ethan added that the secret lies in consistent practice. "Do not practice until you get it right, practice until you cannot get it wrong." This mindset, he believes, has been central to his journey as both a student and an athlete.

Reflecting on his journey, Ethan expressed deep gratitude to the lecturers and staff at MCKL who supported him through the challenges of balancing academics with his demanding training schedule. "I am extremely grateful for the cooperative lecturers and staff," he shared. "My teachers offered special help whenever I asked, especially for topics I missed due to training."

Ethan spoke with particular appreciation for his Chemistry lecturer, Dr Lee Lin Zhi, who consistently went the extra mile to guide him. "Dr Lee has been extremely supportive of my journey and dreams. Whenever I fell behind because of training, she was always willing to teach me. She was also very responsive to my requests for recommendation letters

and evaluation forms. Her encouragement motivated me to keep striving, even when I felt like giving up, because I knew there were people like her who truly wanted to see me succeed."

Being a Young Athlete

Ethan's passion for fencing began when he was just ten years old. "I was never good at ball sports, yet I loved the competitiveness and thrill that sports brought," he recalled. "When my dad came across fencing, he encouraged me to try it and I loved it instantly."

He trained with determination, even through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021, he earned his first bronze medal, which he described as the moment he tasted success and knew he wanted more. Two years later, he clinched his first gold medal at the 2023 National Junior Championships, a victory that carried special meaning.

“Put your faith in God and pray. He will answer in His timing. From my experience, His timing is always the best.”

"Not only was it my first gold medal, but it was also a redemption for me," Ethan explained. Previously sidelined by back pain, he returned stronger to defeat two formidable teammates, Aiman Shah, former National Cadet Champion, and Jesaiah Lyshant, former Asia Cadet Champion, both of whom he had never beaten before. "That win sparked my Olympic dream, and I have been working endlessly towards it ever since."

Now, as he prepares to represent Malaysia at the SEA Games, Ethan reflects on the honour and responsibility of wearing the national colours. "It is undeniably exciting. At the same time,



“Do not practice until you get it right, practice until you cannot get it wrong.” This mindset, he believes, has been central to his journey as both a student and an athlete.

it is terrifying I feel the weight of 35 million citizens on my back, shouldered alongside my teammates. But at the end of the day, I thank God for this opportunity to be where I am today. I know this is Him answering my prayers.”

Looking ahead

Ethan’s aspirations extend far beyond the classroom and the fencing piste. “I aspire to study Applied Mathematics at an Ivy League university, namely Princeton in the United States,” he shared. “At the same time, it has always been a goal to be an Olympian and I plan to continue fencing throughout university. I believe the university that I have chosen has a strong a fencing programme and it can bring me closer to both of my long-term goals.”

With his unwavering discipline, academic drive, and passion for sport, Ethan is determined to pursue both excellence in his studies and his Olympic dream. His journey stands as a powerful example of resilience, ambition, and the pursuit of holistic success.

To his juniors, Ethan offered words of encouragement drawn from his own journey, “Put your faith in God and pray. He will answer in His timing. From my experience, His timing is always the best. Alongside faith, give your 100% in everything you do; never approach tasks carelessly just to get them done. God is fair. He sees effort and rewards those who work hard. And finally, manage your time wisely, diversify your pursuits and do not put all your eggs in one basket.”

Ethan’s story is a testament to perseverance, discipline, and faith. From excelling in academics at MCKL to carrying Malaysia’s colours on the international sporting stage, he embodies the values of resilience and holistic growth. As he sets his sights on the Ivy League and his Olympic dream, Ethan continues to inspire his peers and juniors to pursue excellence with purpose. His journey reflects MCKL’s mission of nurturing well-rounded individuals who not only achieve personal success but also make a lasting impact in their communities.

Shining in Tokyo

MCKL Student Earns Bronze Honour at AIMO Finals 2025

MCKL College (Penang, Pykett Campus) is proud to celebrate the achievement of Heah Aun Ray, an outstanding A-Level student who represented Malaysia at the 2025 Asia International Mathematical Olympiad (AIMO) Finals in Tokyo, Japan, from 2–6 August. Competing against some of the brightest young mathematicians from across the region, Aun Ray showcased his talent and perseverance, earning the Bronze Honour in the Senior Secondary category.

The Asia International Mathematical Olympiad (AIMO) is a prestigious annual competition that brings together top mathematics students from across Asia and beyond. Designed to challenge participants with complex problem-solving questions, AIMO encourages critical thinking, logical reasoning and creativity in mathematics. The competition provides a global platform for students to benchmark their skills against international peers, making Aun Ray's Bronze Honour in the Senior Secondary category a remarkable testament to his ability and dedication.

This achievement would not have been possible without the dedication and guidance of his lecturers at MCKL, who have continually supported and nurtured his passion for mathematics. Their mentorship, combined with Aun Ray's hard work and perseverance, has enabled him to shine on the international stage. His success not only brings pride to MCKL but also serves as an inspiration for fellow students



Medal & Certificate that Aun Ray received

to pursue excellence with determination and resilience.

National AI Competition 2025

MCKL College (Penang, Pykett Campus) Team Wins 2nd Runner-Up

MCKL College (Penang, Pykett Campus) proudly celebrates the outstanding achievement of its Diploma in Computer Science (DCS) students, who secured 2nd Runner-Up in the National AI Competition 2025, held on 19 July 2025 at Sunway University.

The winning team, Piecat Piecat, comprising Jesslyn Lim Kai Yen, Jeanni Khoo Li Jing, Julius Tan Wei Sheng and Tan Yao Bang, impressed the judges with their project titled "Smart Fracture Boot". The project is a healthcare innovation using IoT technology and Python programming to monitor and support patient recovery from bone fractures. The team was mentored by Dr. Ooi Woi Seng.

The National AI Competition 2025, co-organised by Sunway University and Hyperbyte AI, is Malaysia's largest AI competition for youth. It attracted over 2,500 students aged 14 to 19 from across the country, resulting in more than 600 project submissions. The Grand Finale featured top entries in areas such -



Team Piecat Piecat with Dr. Ooi Woi Seng(mentor), Dr Gerard Boey (Principal cum Academic Dean MCKL College (Penang, Pykett Campus) and Dr Vivien Ting (Head of Academic MCKL College (Penang, Pykett Campus)



Minister of Digital, YB Tuan Gobind Singh Deo, visits the MCKL College Penang, Pykett Campus team's booth at the National AI Competition 2025.

as healthcare, education, sustainability and public services.

The event was officiated by Malaysia's Minister of Digital, YB Tuan Gobind Singh Deo, who commended the competition

for empowering youth and building a strong digital talent pipeline.

The achievement of Team Piecat Piecat not only highlights the growing potential of DCS students but also underscores the importance of nurturing innovation and problem-solving skills among youth in the age of AI. Their success stands as a testament to the quality of education, mentorship and industry engagement driving excellence in the field of computer science. Congratulations to the team and their mentor for this outstanding accomplishment!

MCKL A-Level Students Triumph at World Economics Cup 2025 with Multiple Wins

Methodist College Kuala Lumpur (MCKL) proudly celebrates the outstanding achievements of its A-Level students at the World Economics Cup (WEC) 2025, a prestigious international platform that brings together some of the brightest young minds from around the world. Their hard work and dedication paid off as they secured an impressive 6 Silver Medals, 6 Bronze Medals and 3 placements among the Regional Top 10 Scorers. These remarkable results not

only highlight the academic excellence of MCKL students but also reflect the college's commitment to nurturing globally competitive graduates.

The World Economics Cup (WEC) 2025 is a prestigious team-based international competition that brings together pre-university students from around the globe. Each team, formed by six students under the guidance of a school adviser, competes in a variety of



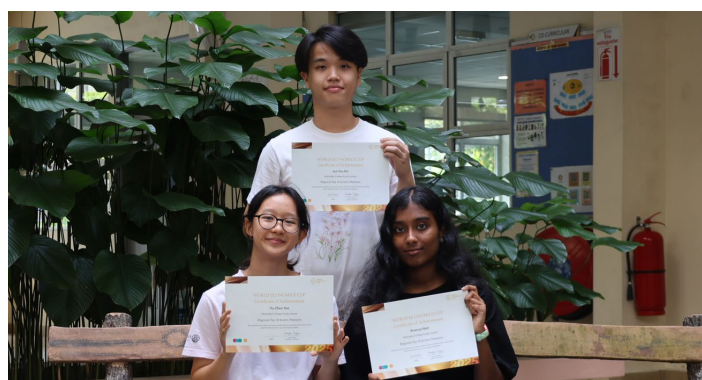
The high achieving students with
Ms Tan Peck Choo, their advisor

challenging modules designed to test both individual knowledge and collaborative skills. In exam-based modules such as the Integrated Objective Test and Fundamentals & Deep Comprehension, students' complete papers individually, with scores averaged to represent the team's overall performance. In presentation-based modules like Thinking & Innovation, teammates present together, showcasing their ability to problem-solve, innovate, and communicate effectively as a unit. Through this unique structure, the WEC not only evaluates academic excellence but also cultivates teamwork, critical thinking and creativity in tackling global economic issues.

Securing 6 Silver Medals, 6 Bronze Medals, and 3 Regional Top-3 placements at the World Economics Cup 2025 is truly an impressive achievement for MCKL. The competition draws top pre-university students from around the globe, making the success of MCKL's A-Level students a reflection of their world-class abilities.

Behind this remarkable success is the unwavering guidance of Ms. Tan Peck Choo, the dedicated adviser who mentored and supported the team throughout the competition. Her commitment, alongside the hard work and perseverance of the students, played a vital role in helping them shine on the global stage.

Together, they have not only brought pride to MCKL but have also set an inspiring example of what can be achieved through passion, teamwork and resilience.



Regional Top 10 Scorers

Winners

Regional Top 10 Scorers

Yee Yu-Zhen

Ho Jun You

Ananya Nair

Silver Team Award

Yee Yu-Zhen

Ho Jun You

Vedansh Rawat

Ang Ee-Son

Fariz Abidi

Yannick Param Goebel

Bronze Team Award

Ananya Nair

Chong Kyson

Lee Zi Xuan

Abrielle Yam Yi Ven

Ilana Lau Ruo Min

Lim Xue Zheng



Silver Team Award Winners



Bronze Team Award Winners

MCKL Students Achieved Outstanding Results in Kangaroo Math Competition 2025

Methodist College Kuala Lumpur (MCKL) is proud to share the latest achievements of our students in the **Kangaroo Math Competition (KMC) 2025**. A total of 18 students from various programmes represented the college in this prestigious international competition, demonstrating their passion and talent in mathematics.

The Kangaroo Math Competition is one of the largest international mathematics contests in the world, originating in France and now held annually in over 90 countries. The competition challenges students with thought-provoking multiple-choice questions designed to encourage logical reasoning, problem-solving and mathematical creativity in a fun and engaging way.

The results, which were released today, saw 17 of our students receiving recognition for their performance:

- **2 Gold Awards**
- **2 Silver Awards**
- **4 Bronze Awards**
- **9 Honourable Mentions**

This accomplishment reflects the dedication, hard work and perseverance of our students in honing their analytical skills. It also highlights the invaluable support and guidance from their lecturers. In particular, we extend our appreciation to Mr. Michael Wong Jian Yong, Mathematics Lecturer at MCKL, who coached and guided the students towards this outstanding success.

MCKL congratulates all participants and award winners for their remarkable achievements in the Kangaroo Math Competition 2025.

STUDENT NAME	PROGRAMME	AWARD
Siu Wan Xin	Cambridge A-Level	Gold Award
Tan Xuan Yu	Cambridge A-Level	Gold Award
Loo Khor Yik	Cambridge A-Level	Silver Award
Teo Jia Quan	Cambridge A-Level	Silver Award
Ada Lee Kai Qi	Cambridge A-Level	Bronze Award
Ham Yi Swen	Cambridge A-Level	Bronze Award
Khor Kai Foong	Cambridge A-Level	Bronze Award
Ngee Zireen	Cambridge A-Level	Honourable Mention
Aarav Roan Singh	Cambridge A-Level	Honourable Mention
Ilias Chow Ke Yu	Cambridge A-Level	Honourable Mention
Mahdhi Imam Prithibi	Cambridge A-Level	Honourable Mention
Sean Lau Li Xiang	Cambridge A-Level	Honourable Mention
Sulaiman Khong Hongxi	Cambridge A-Level	Honourable Mention
Tan Qi Jun	Cambridge A-Level	Honourable Mention
Teh Jun Jie	Cambridge A-Level	Honourable Mention
Yeoh Zi Qian	AUSMAT	Honourable Mention
Zhang Yibo	American Degree Transfer Programme	Honourable Mention
Chloe Fong Tze Xuan	Cambridge A-Level	Certificate Of Appreciation
Khor Wei Hern	AUSMAT	Certificate Of Appreciation





MCKL's Charity Run

**Raises RM7,000 for Children
with Special Needs**

Methodist College Kuala Lumpur (MCKL) celebrated a major milestone on 5 July 2025 with the successful charity run, Dash for Charity at Taman Tasik Titiwangsa. The event saw close to 500 participants comprised of students, staff, alumni, partners, family and friends who came together for a fun-filled 5KM Run, all in the spirit of giving back to the community.





MCKL CEO presenting cheques to Persatuan Kebajikan Sri Eden Selangor dan Kuala Lumpur and Yayasan Sin Chew

At the break of dawn, families and friends gathered to enjoy live musical performances, food trucks, and children's activities, creating a festive and heartwarming atmosphere in one of the city's most luscious parks.

A total of RM7,000 was raised for two charity organisations, a testament to the generosity and collective effort of everyone involved. *Persatuan Kebajikan Sri Eden Selangor dan Kuala Lumpur*, a non-profit centre that provides specialised education, therapy, and life skills training for children

with special needs received RM4,000. While the remaining RM3,000 was channelled to Yayasan Sin Chew, a charitable foundation committed to supporting vulnerable communities across Malaysia through initiatives like disaster relief, medical assistance and student sponsorships. These contributions will go a long way in supporting the work of both organisations and creating a meaningful impact in the lives of those they serve.

"This run reflects MCKL's core value of Celebrate Volunteerism, embodying our commitment to seek to

“It's about going the extra mile to make a difference in the lives of others, and we are proud to see our community unite for such a meaningful cause

serve, to actively look for and seize opportunities to help and make a positive impact on others," said Dr. Chua Ping Yong, CEO of MCKL. "It's about going the extra mile to make a



difference in the lives of others, and we are proud to see our community unite for such a meaningful cause."

Though not a timed or competitive race, MCKL

presented prizes to top three winners in two categories – individual and family. Top finishers were acknowledged with medals and hampers, rewarding them for their enthusiasm and effort.

MCKL extends its heartfelt gratitude to our sponsors - German Educare, Monash University Malaysia, University of Nottingham Malaysia and UOB Malaysia as well as all participants and crew-



The team behind the success of Dash for Charity

members who made this event possible.

“Without the amazing support from our sponsors, enthusiastic participants, and the dedicated event crew, Dash for Charity would not have been the success it was,” said the Chairman of the Organising Committee, Ng Jiehan. “Every contribution whether it was a corporate sponsorship, a runner showing up bright and early or a volunteer working

tirelessly behind the scenes played a crucial role in making this event meaningful. It truly was a collective effort and we are deeply grateful to everyone who came together to support our mission and make a real difference in the lives of those in need. Though the race is over, the spirit of giving continues in MCKL and we look forward to more future initiatives that inspire change and strengthen community bonds,” Ng added.

The run’s success extended beyond fundraising; it significantly elevated awareness for vital causes. The overwhelming support from participants, sponsors, and volunteers deeply motivates MCKL to champion further impactful initiatives. We believe in fostering an environment where education intersects with empathy, demonstrating how collective small steps can achieve profound differences.







MCKL Celebrates Remarkable Achievements of over 200 Graduates

Methodist College Kuala Lumpur (MCKL) proudly celebrated the achievements of 233 students during the recent graduation ceremony. The graduating class comprised students from Cambridge A-Level,

Western Australian Certificate of Education (AUSMAT), Diploma in Early Childhood Education, Diploma in Digital Business, Diploma in Digital Marketing, Diploma in Computer Science, Diploma in - Financial Technology and

ACCA-FIA. The event was held at Damansara Utama Methodist Church (DUMC) on Saturday, 23 August 2025.

Speaking to the graduating class, MCKL Chief Executive Officer Dr Chua Ping Yong emphasised the core values that have guided students throughout their academic journey, "Excellence is not about perfection, but about giving our very best in all that we do. When we strive for excellence, we are honouring the unique gifts and talents that God has entrusted to us. At the heart of MCKL, our core value is to Honour God and it is this belief that inspires us to nurture every student to reach their fullest potential."

The graduation ceremony not only symbolises a noteworthy achievement in the student's academic lives, signifying the culmination of years of hard work, commitment and dedication but also serves as a testament to MCKL's mission of nurturing individuals who excel academically while being grounded in values that serve as their life compass. It is anticipated that this values-based educational approach will continue to shape future leaders, innovators, and change-makers across various fields.

Pre-University Excellence

MCKL is one of the earliest tertiary institutions in Malaysia to offer the Cambridge A-Level





“The ceremony not only celebrated the academic accomplishments of MCKL’s graduating class, but also marked the beginning of a new chapter”

programme as an education pathway for school leavers to further their studies globally. Today, MCKL’s A-Level programme is known as one of the most affordable and internationally recognised pre-university qualifications.

Our graduating class attained an impressive 100% percent passing rate, with more than 50% of the class scoring a commendable 3As and above. In addition, 16 students were awarded the prestigious Excellence Award for achieving a remarkable CGPA of 3.70 or higher, with 20

students attaining 4As.

Among the standout achievers was Aditya Sentil who secured the prestigious Top in Malaysia scores for AS Level Physics. His remarkable academic journey also culminated in the receipt of the Overall Academic Excellence Award for Pure Science 2025 award.

Another remarkable student from the Cambridge A-Level programme, Justin Ong Jin Keat was equally celebrated for his -



accomplishments. He received the distinguished Bishop Denis C. Dutton Scholar 2025 Award, recognising his all-round excellence, along with the Overall Academic Excellence Award for the Combination of Science and Arts 2025.

For AUSMAT, it had over 25% of students achieving Outstanding Scholars with scores of ATAR 90 and above. Kaylene Lim Shian Ying emerged as a standout student by achieving a near-perfect ATAR of 99.05, the highest score recorded at MCKL in over ten years.

For Kaylene, the AUSMAT journey was a continuous stream of challenges. "I constantly felt there was not enough time to balance academics and extracurriculars," she shared. "But I overcame the stress and pressure by doing my best and depending on God for the results. God was so good!" She was also the recipient

of the Datuk F R Bhupalan Award and Subject Prize Winner for Psychology, Mathematics Application, Human Biology, and English as Additional Language for ATAR Examination November 2024.

Outstanding Achievements Across Diploma Programmes

In Diploma in Early Childhood Education (DECE) programme, seven students from the graduating class graduated with Distinctions. DECE graduate Visthnu Jayaram was honoured with the Outstanding Achievement Award and Datuk Dr. Chiam Heng Keng Award 2025 in recognition for his outstanding 3.79 CGPA.

For the Business and Computing Programmes, it witnessed the first graduating class from Diploma in Financial Technology. This pioneering cohort has set a strong foundation



for future students, showcasing not only academic excellence but also the adaptability and innovative mindset needed to thrive in today's rapidly evolving digital economy.

The standout student from this cohort was the Valedictorian, Toh Yong Ze who graduated with Distinction from the Diploma in Digital Business, achieving an impressive CGPA of 3.54. In his valedictory address, he reflected on his journey at MCKL, saying, "At the beginning, we were unsure but along the way we gained new skills and grew stronger. We developed resilience and our lecturers constantly challenged us to ensure we became better versions of ourselves." Yong Ze now continues his academic journey at the University of Northampton, UK, where he is pursuing a Degree in Business Data and Information Systems.

The graduation ceremony also commemorated the achievements of graduates in the ACCA Foundation in Accountancy (FIA) programmes, who are poised to make significant contributions in their respective industries.

The ceremony not only celebrated the academic accomplishments of MCKL's graduating class, but also marked the beginning of a new chapter filled with opportunities, challenges and growth. The graduates' remarkable performance in their respective programmes is a testament to the institution's reputation for over 40 years of excellence in education.

Congratulations
to all the awards recipients and graduates!

Strengthening Global Pathways: DSU Signing Ceremony Marks a New Chapter for MCKL

On 4 September 2025, MCKL had the honour of hosting a distinguished delegation from Dongseo University (DSU), Busan, South Korea for a formal signing ceremony that marked the beginning of a meaningful academic partnership. The DSU representatives included Dr. Hekyung Kim, Dean of the International College; Professor YoungSil Lee, Head of the Department of Computer Science; Professor Jihyun Joo, Head of the Department of Korean Language and Business; Professor Sunghoon Cho, Head of the Department of Film and Visual Effects; Professor Dr. Seo Kyu Won and Ms. Lee Ai Mun, Head of Programme.

Representing MCKL is the CEO, Dr. Chua Ping Yong signed the agreement, formalising an articulation arrangement that enables graduates

of MCKL's Diplomas in Computer Science, Information Technology, Digital Business, Digital Marketing and Financial Technology to gain direct entry into the third year of DSU's four-year bachelor's degree programmes. These bachelor programmes are delivered entirely in English through DSU's International College in the vibrant city of Busan. Importantly, the programme is designed to be highly affordable with costs comparable to studying locally in Malaysia, making international education a realistic and exciting option for our students.

Beyond the signing, the visit offered a moment of reflection and inspiration. During the exchange, Professor Dr. Seo shared South Korea's journey from poverty to prosperity and how the country came to view education as a vital pathway to a better future. His words



Representative from MCKL and DSU



resonated deeply with MCKL, echoing the very vision we uphold: that education is a transformative force, not only for individual advancement but also for societal progress.

Through this partnership, we are proud to offer our students a 2+2 pathway with Dongseo University, allowing them to complete their final two years of study in South Korea while

immersing themselves in a rich cultural and academic environment. This collaboration reflects our shared commitment to expanding global opportunities and nurturing future-ready graduates. We look forward to seeing our students thrive in DSU's dynamic learning community and to building a lasting relationship between our institutions.



Sunrise view at DSU campus

THE GREATEST
GIFT
WE CAN GIVE TO
OTHERS IS THE
COURAGE
TO GROW IN
TRUTH

—Frederick Douglass