

Up close with illustrious alumni

UKM Chinese Community Council past presidents and current members celebrate 35th anniversary



(Front row, from fourth left) UKM Chinese Former Graduates Club president Ng Chin Long, Wong, Liew, UKM CCC president Ng Cheng Wei and Heng cutting a celebratory cake with other senior alumni. — Photos: GLENN GUAN/The Star

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WYUNG Chinese students are encouraged to consider getting into government service. Transport Minister Datuk Seri Liew Tiong Lai, in saying this, emphasised that it was important to contribute to the country's development. He was speaking at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) graduates' reunion dinner.

More than 600 alumni as well as current students mingled and enjoyed a hearty Chinese dinner in Serdang, Selangor. Chinese undergraduates from the university had a rare opportunity to meet and learn from the alumni at the gathering.

The event was also held to celebrate the 35th anniversary of UKM's Chinese Community Council (CCC).

Many of the council's past presidents were in attendance, one of whom was Liew.

"I strongly feel that if we do not do enough in the government service and if we continue to be divided, this country will go the wrong way.

"Let us work together and help Malaysia grow.

"This is our country and our homeland. We have nowhere else to go and call our home," he said.

Deputy Education Minister Datuk Chong

Sin Woon, also a past CCC president, said it was vital that the students communicate and integrate well with other races in the country.

"I hope that UKM graduates will be a driving force towards unity and integration in this country," he said, encouraging the students to come forward and get to know their seniors.

UKM CCC founding president Clement Heng acknowledged that the event was made possible by the dedication and perseverance of CCC members who also worked hard to keep the council going.

He added that he looked forward to celebrating the CCC's 70th anniversary in 35 years when he would be 93 years old, drawing laughter and cheers from the crowd in the packed banquet hall.

Other alumni at the dinner were former CCC vice chairman Datuk Boey Chin Guan and founding CCC deputy secretary general Datuk Seri Wong Chun Wai, who is Star Media Group managing director and chief executive officer.

Towards the end of the night, Liew and the other senior alumni cut a celebratory cake before going to each table to speak to students and take photos with them.

The lively celebration ended on a high note with a boisterous group of alumni taking the stage for a short karaoke session.



(From left) Chong, Wong and fellow alumnus Patrick Leong, who is head of Bukit Bintang MCA Public Service Bureau, sharing a light moment at the dinner.



Chung Soo Sheong snapping a selfie with fellow alumni (from left) Pung Wai Hung, Leong Kim Soon, Liew, Heng, Lim Joo Kiat, who was third president of CCC, and Loka Ng.



Joining in to toss the yee sang are (from third left) Heng, UKM Chinese Former Graduates Club president Ng Chin Long, Chong and UKM CCC president Ng Cheng Wei.



Liew (centre), Boey (third from left) and Boey's wife Datin Michelle Chew Yen Tyug taking a picture with other UKM alumni at the Graduates Reunion Dinner and Chinese Community Council's 35th Anniversary celebration.