

IEEE CASS Outreach Initiative 2017 - #801

Fun Engineering Session 2018

On 28th March 2018, the IEEE CAS Society Malaysia Chapter (IEEE CASS M) together with the Faculty of Engineering (FOE) from Multimedia University (MMU) has successfully organized an event entitled Fun Engineering Session which is intended to increase students' awareness on exciting careers in engineering. Since there has been a growing concern of downward trends on youth choosing the science or engineering stream, an awareness is needed at early stage before students decide to choose art or science stream at upper high school level.

A total of 40 Form 4 students and 2 teachers from a local school, Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan USJ8 were brought in to FOE MMU to participate in the event. The event started with a briefing on Engineering Career Path and this was held to engage and inspire young students to take up Engineering Career. They were informed on the importance of selecting a career path upon graduating from high school. This was followed by a brief introduction to IEEE CASS Malaysia Chapter Professional Development.

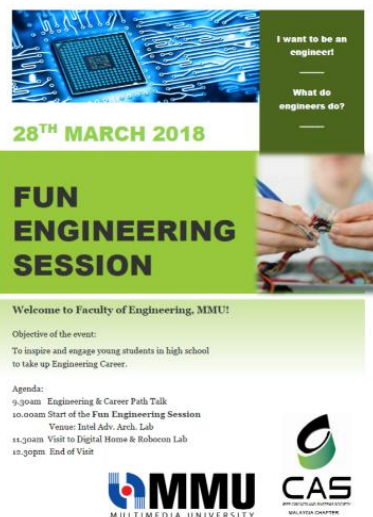


Figure 1. Flyer for the event.



Figure 2. Students being briefed on Engineering Career Path.

After the briefing, students were moved to a laboratory where they get to try their hands on a fun engineering design project. During the lab session, students were paired into groups and given task sheets for the project. They were given an opportunity to learn, explore and use the Chumbaka kit. Then, they are requested to use their own creativity and the skills which they have just learnt and built a tech art project. Materials such as paper plates, paper cups, sticks and marker pens were provided for this activity. The activity was also supervised by 5 IEEE volunteers coming from different universities. It was interesting to see how the students work together to build some rotary project making use of the materials and a servo motor provided. The teachers selected top 3 winning teams to receive prizes. After the activity, students were brought to the Digital Home Lab for a short visit to showcase the latest digital home technology and lifestyle which utilized Internet of Things (IoT).



Figure 3. Lab session on using Chumbaka kit.



Figure 4. Student working on their creativity for the project.



Figure 5. Students trying their hands on the Chumbaka kit with help from IEEE volunteers.

The school teachers praised the organizers for such an enriching session for the students and the students were delighted that they can actually code with real application. To IEEE CASS, the school would like to participate in such program again in the future.