

**Toyohashi University of Technology,
Institute for Global Network Innovation in
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■ Reports

Lectures in Penang

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The program, which started in last April, is in the final stage now. We are staying at Toyohashi University of Technology (TUT) - Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) Technology Collaboration Centre in Penang Island in Malaysia. Penang Island has been prospering as a trading port connecting Europe and Asia from 16 century. That is why Penang has the unique multiethnic, multicultural, and Europe-influenced society which mainly consists of Malaysian, Chinese, and Indian. Since the interesting history and culture, George Town in Penang Island has been selected as a world heritage. On the other hand, Penang state was designated as an Export Processing Zone (EPZ) in 1972, and many semiconductor companies moved in Penang, Such as Intel, Hewlett Packard, Motorola, and Hitachi. Therefore, Penang becomes one of the largest centers of Asia's electric and electronic industries form 1980. Given this situation, there are many good engineering educational institutions in Penang.

Our purpose is that giving lectures at local educational institutions, for instance Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Politeknik Seberang Perai (PSP), Penang Skills Development Centre (PSDC), and DISTED College, and using the knowledge and skills what we learned from this program in practical situation. I prepared two types of two hours lecture. Typically we have up to 150 participants including undergraduate, graduate, faculty, and business person. I conducted the first lectures of this program at USM Engineering campus at January 14. The lecture room, which has large screen and good wall decoration, was great. After weighting the participants five minutes, I started my lecture. I was walking up to the center of the room, and then looking around the participants. I have to confess, I forgot Malaysian greetings what I had prepared. Although it was hard to catch Malaysian English, I think I gave the things what I had prepared except the greetings. I had about 25 people, about half graduate students and the other including faculty, business person, and two undergraduate. Participants have more expertise than I had expected.

Today is January 30; I am writing this article after doing four lectures in USM and PSDC. I have got a confidence and assignments form all lectures. The first thing I strong felt was that I have to get students in a lecture. Almost of all techniques what I have learned this year is how to get students in a lecture. I will make courses with students either in English or Japanese.

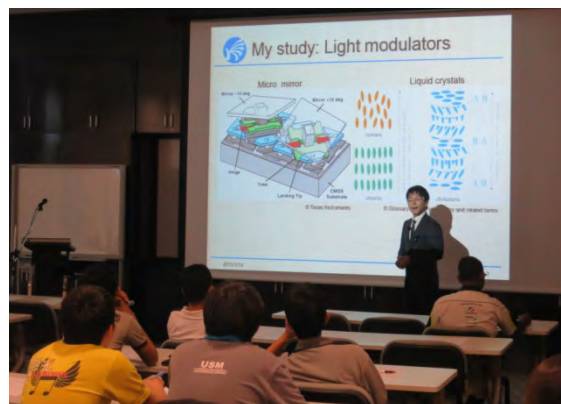


Fig1. The lecture at USM

Sightseeing in Penang

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Penang has a world heritage which is called George Town. If you went to George Town, you could feel atmosphere of 17 century England. I recommend you should go to George Town at night because they are lighted up. Perhaps you have heard Penang is a kind of resort; however, George Town does not look like a resort.

I think resort has pools and villas. Fortunately, Toyohashi University of Technology Penang Campus has a reservoir. When I was student, I was a captain of TUT Swimming Club; therefore, I have to swim on the reservoir. By the way, do you agree an opinion that Penang is a resort? If your answer is “No.”, I strong agree with you.

If Penang is a resort on south island, we need beaches; however, you do not be afraid. Penang has beaches on the north part. There is a national park in Penang. It has two beaches. If you want to go there, you can choose way by work or took a boat. If you go there by your foot, you will work about two hours with looking native trees and animals. If you take a boat, your boat fly to sky. These beaches have hammocks, seat swings on a tree and beautiful sand. I strongly recommend you should go there.



Fig.1 Reservoir in Penang Campus



Fig.3 Monkey beach



Fig.2 Hop-On Hop-Off Bus

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