

**Toyohashi University of Technology,
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Reports

Review of life in Malaysia

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Introduction

After we 4th GFD members arrived in Malaysia, more than 1 month has passed. Now I literally feel "time flies". About one week later, I have to pack my baggage for the departure to go back to Japan. In this script, let me describe short stories about the life in Penang.

Convenient life in Penang

Our accommodation is RECSAM which is located in Gelugor. In the range of short-walking-distance, there is a shopping mall (Tesco Gelugor) which has a food court, a super market and a money changer. It is convenient area.

The next day of the arrival, the preparation for the lectures started in TUT Penang. As started, I realized my external HDD's power cable cannot connect to 240 V outlet. Thanks to the Mr. Fong's guidance, I found a transformer in an electric appliance shop and in Georgetown. The shop is quite classic and typical electric shop which can be seen in streets in Akihabara. I was so happy and looked around in the shop.

As shown in Photo 4, the lineup of the products are specialized for the professional buyers. Many people might think Penang is resort Island. Contrary to the assumption, we can find some technically specialized shops in Georgetown. Penang Island is not only a

resort, but also an industrial city. This is good place for learning and teaching engineering as well.

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Photo 2 : Tesco Gelugor



Photo 3 : Henly trading SDN., BHD



Photo 4: The showcase of the shop.



Photo 1 : RECSAM

Experience of a lecture in English

Kenji Kashine, National Institute of Technology, Kagoshima College

The third stage of our Global Faculty Development (GFD) program began from January 15th in Penang, Malaysia. In this stage, our GFD member had to have lectures which are related to own study field for Malaysian students in English. It was the most important event for me because it would be tested for my English and teaching skill. It was my first time experience, so I had been getting nervous before my first lecture began.

The first lecture was held at Politeknik Tuanku Sultanah Bahiyah (PTSB) from January 28th to February 1st. PTSB is one of the polytechnic in Malaysia and it has students which are age of 18 to 20. In this polytechnic, the students can learn about engineering skills which are related to their future career. There are three semesters in a year, so the students have to study many things in a short period of time. I had a lecture for 3rd semester students in Electrical Engineering. The title of my lecture was 'The Fundamentals of Energy Conversion Engineering'. The duration of one lecture was two hours, and I had two lectures for same students. Therefore, I had to prepare the large amount of lecture contents for dealing with all of my lecture. In the lecture, I gave some quizzes to student. These quizzes were contained the basic physics theories such as energy, power, efficiency and so on. And also, these quizzes were related to the generation of electricity such as hydropower, wind power and solar power, so they made the students try to solve the problems by themselves. In this lecture, some students asked me questions, and I answered them. Therefore, I could enjoy the conversation with them. After my lecture, many students came to me and gave the thanks to me. I had never had such kinds of appreciation from my



Fig.1 Scene of my lecture

Japanese students. I was so surprised, and I will never forget this great experience.

The second lecture was held at Politeknik Seberang Perai (PSP) from February 5th to 9th. PSP is also one of the polytechnic in Malaysia as PTSB. PSP has 'Promising Sustainable Progression' as their slogan. This slogan was related to my lecture contents of 'clean energy', so the students had interest in my lecture. I had a lecture for 4th semester students in Mechanical Engineering. The contents of my lecture were changed to previous one, because my lecture contents were made for electrical engineering students. Therefore, the basic theory of the thermodynamics and fluid dynamics were added in my lecture. And also, I added the topics about the latest energy technologies which the suburban power plants and factories in Penang have. In the actual lecture, the students were listening carefully with their interest. I think, I could give the motivation for studying to the students by my lecture.

The third lecture was held at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) Engineering Campus from February 19th to March 2nd. USM is one of the major

university in Malaysia and it has degree, master and doctor course. I had a lecture for third year of degree students which belong to electrical department. My lecture was set into a part of the power electronics subject, so my lecture contents were changed slightly as containing the basic information of the inverter. The duration of one lecture was two hours, and I had two lectures in this subject. In the first lecture, I talked about the energy conversion engineering which was related to power electronics. In the second lecture, I provided a practical experiment of the energy harvesting to students. In this lecture, students made a simple circuit for getting the electric energy by using a

piezoelectric element. Students took on this practical experiment actively, and they gave me a lot of questions. I was glad them and I could enjoy the conversation with the students.

Through these lecture experiences, I could know that many Malaysian students admire the Japanese latest technology such as maglev train, fuel cell car and so on. If I had spoken English well, I could explain the details of these technology. I thought that I need to improve my English skill more, and continue to study about the Japanese technology which I have never known.

Lectures in Malaysia

Tamio Iida, National Institute of Technology, Gifu College

1. Introduction

Almost a month has passed since I came to Penang, our on-the-job training has only less than half left. In this faculty development program, I was worried whether I could conduct two-hour lectures or not before I went to New York. However, it had been possible without my realizing it. I am grateful to this program now.

In this report, I am going to describe on-the-job training at the two colleges in which I have conducted the lectures so far.

2. Lectures in PTSB(Politeknik Tuanku Sultanah Bahiyah)

My first lecture was conducted at PTSB. As soon as I arrived at Penang, I had a meeting with PTSB professors about the contents of my lecture. Then there were already lectures a week later. Although it was a very tight schedule for me, I was somehow able to be on time with my lectures because they allowed me to conduct lectures about the contents which I had already prepared to a certain extent before leaving Japan.



Lecture scenery at PTSB

My lectures, which were 2 hours per lecture, took place twice for the same students. I started teaching from the fundamentals contents of electronic circuits. The reason was that students from different semester were mixed. As a result, the content was a little easy for the upper semester students, who had already learned it. However, I felt it was appropriate for the lower semester students.

About 70 students participated in my lectures which were held in a lecture hall. In the first lecture, most



Lecture scenery at PSP

students who were shy did not answer even if I asked questions. However, as some exercises were introduced in my lectures, we were able to shorten the distance between our hearts. Thus, I was able to conduct the second lecture in a friendly atmosphere.

3. Lectures in PSP(Politeknik Seberang Perai).

Next, I conducted two-hour lectures twice in the same way as at PSP. In a meeting with PSP professors, I was planning to discuss the same contents in both lectures because I heard that different students would participate. However, I decided to give the lectures by changing the difficulty level of the exercises due to different semester students.

About 30 people participated in my lectures at PSP. I could easily communicate with the students because there were a small number of them. When they were

doing exercises, I was easily able to understand where they did not understand and then could properly explain it to them. According to the questionnaire result, the students' comprehension of the content was given a high evaluation. Moreover, a strategy to give Origami to student who could solve the exercises worked out perfectly. I think that I was able to give my lectures in a good atmosphere.

4. Conclusion

Despite a lot of snow in Gifu when I left Japan, I am in a land of everlasting summer now. It is a strange feeling to jump over to another season. Malaysian people do not talk so much about temperature and season, because Malaysia does not have seasons. In Japan, the beginning of the conversation after a greeting is typically the temperature and weather. As Malaysians like eating, their words after a greeting are, "Have you had a meal?" It is said that Malaysians have a meal five times a day. Even if I have already eaten, I will receive having foods as a hospitality after all.

I really appreciate the kindness and hospitality of the Malaysian people. I would like to spend the remaining of the program with careful attention to over eating.

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