

School of Engineering Students Do UCSI Proud... Again



Tan (far left) and Low (far right) receiving a mock cheque from Y.B. Dato' S. Veerasingham (middle), Deputy Minister of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs and MyIPO officials

UCSI's [School of Engineering](#) students have done their alma mater proud once again.

For three times in a row, over the last few months, two teams from the School had won awards at two competitions, namely the [Engineering Inventions `N` Innovations Challenge](#) organised by University of Malaya and the prestigious [Philips Young Inventors' Challenge](#).

This time, the team comprising final year [Electrical and Electronics Engineering](#) students, Jacob Tan Yoke Lip, David Lee Mun Yew and team leader, Tom Low Tong Kong, emerged top five at the recently concluded National Intellectual Property Day Invention Competition at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC). Their project entitled Easy Access Lighting System (EALS) came in fifth under Category A of the competition.

UCSI was the only private institution of higher learning (IPTS) that participated in the competition and beat numerous seasoned contenders in the form of top public universities to make it into the top five – it was the first time a private institution showcased its inventions and won.

Concept wise, the EALS bears much resemblance to its sister invention, the EILIS, which bagged the “Best Marketable Award” and the “First Runner Up” at the Engineering Inventions `N` Innovations Challenge in the University of Malaya.

“However, unlike the EILIS, which uses Infrared (IR) transmission signals, the EALS utilises radio frequency instead,” explained Tan. “Both the EILIS and EALS are set to revolutionise domestic and industrial lighting systems. With these systems, we will not have to reach for the switches to turn our lights on and off anymore.”



Dr. Jimmy Mok

“The results were unexpected. We are elated that we have made it into the top five, despite the short notice for us to build the prototype. We feel rewarded for the effort and energy put into the project,” said Lee.

“The competition was really an eye-opener and an interesting learning experience for us,” said Low. “The expo also gave us the opportunity to see new ideas and innovations produced by our peers from other institutions of higher learning,” he added, referring to the five-day National Intellectual Property Day Expo organised by the Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO), also held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre from April 25-30.

According to Head of UCSI's Centre of Research and Development for Commercialisation, Dr. Jimmy Mok, our students' victory has truly helped UCSI make its mark as a university that is actively involved in research and development.

“As far as research and development is concerned, we may be a new kid on the block, but this new kid is here to stay. UCSI is one of less than 10 private institutions of higher learning in Malaysia amongst more than 550 in total that has an active centre for research. On top of that, we are among the first to have a centre dedicated to the commercialisation of research and development efforts,” he said.



(From left) Lee, Tan, and Low with Engineering lecturer, Rodney Tan, and Head of UCSI Centre of Research and Development for Commercialisation, Dr. Jimmy Mok with a prototype of the EALS