## AN ACADEMIC TRIP TO GRADUAN ASPIRE 2011 AND CAREER FAIR 16-17 JULY 2011 PLENARY THEATRE, LEVEL 3, KL CONVENTION CENTRE

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15th July 2011. Our team was scheduled to fly to Kuala Lumpur from Kota Kinabalu at 3.45pm. Most of us had individually checked in but sadly the flight had been delayed till 5.30pm. We finally arrived at LCCT at about 8.05pm. We took bus from LCCT to KL central and our journey had begun. The drive from LCCT to KL central took us about one hour and thirty minutes. We took taxis to the hotel and our team separated into two groups. We finally checked at the hotel at about 10.30pm and went out to a nearby stall for dinner. We went back to our own room and have our rest for the night.



**16th July 2011.** Our day begun with a nice breakfast provided by the hotel. By 8.45am, we departed to Kuala Lumpur Convention Center (KLCC) by taxis. We arrived and registered ourselves for the morning conference session. The conference scheduled to start at 10.00am and before that there was an officiating ceremony by Senator Datuk Maznah Mazlan, the Deputy Minister of Human Resource. Pn Elia Talib, the Managing Director of Graduan Aspire had started the ceremony with her aspiring speech on the purpose of this event and what they planned to achieve. This year event was different in comparison with the previous one. Around 300 participates will involve in an exclusive conference with honored speakers and panelists who are inspiring icons in this country. Senator Datuk Maznah Mazlan stated during her officiating speech that about 300,000 jobs applicants are currently registered with jobsmalaysia.gov.my and this event is another ways to give opportunity for graduates to find their dream jobs. Furthermore, she stated that the government should reduce the retaining of foreign workers and puts effort in training the graduates to avoid them from being jobless. She urged everyone in the hall to take this opportunity and tried their best to show that they are capable and talented people. The first conference started at 11.00am after a brief coffee break and it ended at about 1.15pm. After that we have the chance to mingle around in the career fair booth and get useful information on the career opportunities. We went back to the hotel at about 5.30pm after having our lunch at KLCC.

**17th July 2011.** Another nice breakfast served by the hotel. We supposed to join another workshop at the career fair today but the workshops only started at 1.00pm. Sadly, we were scheduled to the airport at about 2.30pm to catch our flight back to Kota Kinabalu at 6.30pm. We missed the career clinic workshops for the day but however, we did gain a lot of information from the yesterday conference and career fair. We had our lunch at one of the nearby stall just outside the hotel after checking out at 1.00pm while waiting for the taxis to arrive. It had been a long journey to the airport from the hotel. We checked in and waited for flight by having some tea break at the café inside the airport. Luck is on our side today as the flight was not delayed and scheduled on time. We arrived at Kota Kinabalu Terminal 2 airport at about 9pm. Got our bags, said farewell to everyone and wished good luck for the next day examination. Our journey may be short but the bond of friends had been tied among us. We may see each other again or we may not but the relationship will remain. This informational journey had taught us that what important in life is to do what you like and have passion in it. Building relationship as you move forward in your life will help in achieving your dreams. Like Jason Lo said, "Behind a person success there is always a person who is the inspirer." I end my report with Harith Iskander's quote, "Do what you love, I love what I do and be as who you are."

Thank you to Dr Amran Harun for accompanying us to this wonderful and great event.