

**OFFICIATING SPEECH BY  
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VICE CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI PETRONAS (UTP)**

**STUDENTS EXCELLENCE APPRECIATION (SEA) AWARDS  
WEDNESDAY, 25 JULY 2018  
MAIN HALL, UTP**

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Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

Moviin Damodaran

Project Director

Students Excellence Appreciation Awards (SEA Awards) 2018

Associate Professor Dr Nor Hisham Hamid

Deputy Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs and Alumni

Associate Professor Dr Nurlidia Mansor

Director, Centre of Student Development

Ladies and Gentlemen

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh and a very good evening to all of you.

It gives me great pleasure to be here tonight for the Students Excellence Appreciation Awards or SEA Awards 2018. Thank you to the organising committee for the invitation. On behalf of the management of UTP, I appreciate the organising committee for all their efforts in organising an event of such prestige.

We are all here to celebrate an occasion where we formally recognise successes through the various awards. Tonight is the night we honour the students who have made significant contributions to the university in various aspects through various awards. Our university has always recognised students' achievements throughout the years of our establishment. We had the Sports and Co-Curriculum Appreciation Night starting from the year 2005. In the year 2015, the event was rebranded to the UTP Varsity Star Awards. This year, is the first time the Student Representative Council is organising this event naming it the Students Excellence Appreciation or SEA Awards. The awards to be given tonight are not just for acknowledging students who have performed exceptionally well in sports, performing arts and visual arts, but also the ones who were proactive in various social events. The aim is to motivate them to shine in their respective fields other than academics.

Let me take this opportunity to congratulate all of you for your achievements - be it individual or collective achievements. UTP is really proud of you. I am confident that tonight's awards will encourage the recipients to build on their successes and continue their excellence.

Dear Students, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Student experiences are always high on the agenda for any educational establishment and in UTP, the management is always working hard to meet your needs. We are committed to serving you in a manner that challenges you to learn and achieve the impossible while supporting and strengthening your ability and capacity to do great things. We hope that in doing all this, you will not forget values such as honesty, professionalism, integrity which have been embedded in you to be agents of positive social change. This strengthens our value-driven education approach where we emphasise the importance of giving back, the spirit of volunteerism, and for students to possess a high moral position so that when you graduate you become a Global Responsible Citizen.

The university will continue to provide our students with many opportunities to showcase their talents and achievements in academics, sports, arts or leadership. Regardless of whether you become award winners tonight, it is important for every one of you to stay motivated to achieve success. Remember, that it is the drive to succeed that pushes us towards the finish line. In the words of the late Nelson Mandela, an influential freedom fighter – ‘A winner is a dreamer who never gives up’ hence I encourage all of you to keep that dream alive, the dream of bringing great change and success to yourself, your community and the university.

Your success possesses the power of motivation, but also serves as an inspiration for others to steer towards excellence in many fields. Therefore, I

also hope that the other students will regard you as their role model. I hope that you will use whatever knowledge you have gained to guide your peers in their future undertakings.

Since the university embarked on its quality journey in the year 1999, which was more than 21 years ago, we have never looked back. I look forward to a prosperous future for our students, for their communities, and for the world as a whole. I look forward to your graduation one day soon and to you realising your goals. Let's enjoy the event tonight, let us congratulate the top performers, and let us give thanks to all who have made this event possible.

In closing, I wish to once again congratulate all the deserving men and women. To all of you who have brought honour to UTP, we value your determination and courage. I anticipate many more of your achievements and wish each and every one of you the best of luck.

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful, it now gives me great pleasure to officiate Students Excellence Appreciation (SEA) Awards 2018.

Thank you and Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh