



Report on ‘FORUM IKON KERJAYA’ during ‘Program Kaunseling Kerjaya’

by Ir. Sharifah Azlina Raja Kamal Pasmah

Ir. Sharifah Azlina Raja Kamal Pasmah is currently a committee member in Women Engineers Section (WES).

The drive through the rolling terrain of oil palm plantations was shrouded in heavy mist at the break of dawn took slightly over an hour before we reached our destination, SMK Puncak Alam, Kuala Selangor.

At precisely 7:20 am school students dutifully stood at the assembly foyer, where the national anthem and school song were played followed by a short recital of du’a (prayer) and school oath. After a welcoming address made by the Pengetua Cemerlang, the ‘Program Kaunseling Kerjaya’ was officially opened by the late Hj. Mohd. Halim Samian, YDP PIBG of SMK Puncak Alam.

350 Form 5 students then proceeded to Dewan Gemilang, venue of the forum, to give an overwhelming presence and participation contributing to the success of the event. The forum was moderated by Cr. Roslan bin Dato Mohd. Hamidi, a counselor by profession.

The first speaker

The first speaker was Ir. Sharifah Azlina Raja Kamal Pasmah, Chief Operating Officer of HSS Engineering Sdn. Bhd (also representing IEM Women Engineers Section).



One of the objectives of IEM Women Engineers Section is to promote engineering. The following topics were discussed by Ir. Sharifah Azlina:

- Introduction to engineering and its various disciplines;
- Route to achieving academic qualification in engineering;
- Career as an engineer and its expectations;
- Regulating agencies in the engineering industry; and
- Industry's expectations.

To a question raised, she briefly explained in greater details the route to become a professional engineer.

The second speaker

The second speaker was En. Shahrul Amar Abdullah, Principal Petroleum Geoscientist, Petronas.

The audience was clearly captivated by the challenges as evidenced in En Sharul's career path involved in the exploration and recovery of oil and gas. Equally inspiring students was the skills and knowledge one needed to equip with on completion of degree and qualification. Students were also informed of the vast career opportunities within the traditional as well as the future oil industry.

The third speaker

The third speaker was Cik Zaiton bt. Sipun, Counselor, Jabatan Integriti & Pematuhan Standard, Ibu Pejabat Polis Kontinjen Selangor.

The forum culminated with a presentation delivered by Cik Zaiton bt. Sipun who focused on fostering students' personal growth and enhancing personal development. She deliberated amongst others on enrichment services, preventive programs, rehabilitation services and crisis counseling.

"Today, the focus of guidance and counseling services in schools has changed from the core area of academic, career and psychosocial to also include personality development, discipline, psychosocial, and mental health", added Cik Zaiton. "There is a need for activities and intervention services that can instill moral values and good discipline, as well as activities that can promote socialization, emotional management and positive thinking among students".



Keen interest amongst students was demonstrated during the Q&A session; such as the grave concern if they have made the right choice of career and how to juggle life in the ever-demanding profession.

It is hoped that similar talk/forum can be held in future in SMK Puncak Alam which has a student population of 2500 persons.