The Birth of IEM G&S's Student Representative Council (IEM G&S SRC)

By: Sdri. Hareiny Hilmy

Selesa Hillhomes, Bukit Tinggi, 22 – 24 April 2005 – There have been sightings of a group of students and facilitators performing rather intriguing rituals beside a swimming pool. These rituals were said to involve chickens suffering from 1st degree burns, charcoaled sausages and people running frantically back and forth between the pit and the table. But wait! Did I mention that the pit is actually a bbq pit? And that these people were amateur barbeque-ists? Which probably explains the smell of burnt flesh...

The BBQ marked the commencement of IEM's Students' Brainstorming Sessions, which involved 7 universities and consisted of 18 participants and 8 facilitators. The main goal was to brainstorm on the formation of the Student Representative Council (lovingly dubbed the SRC by the students).

On the day after arrival, four breakout sessions were scheduled and the students had to put on their thinking caps to come up with ideas of making themselves significant in IEM. The four topics for the sessions were:

- The Future role of the IEM Student Council to IEM and IEM G&S, the formation of the student council's guidelines and the revamp of IEM Student Section.
- The Effectiveness of IEM Student Membership Drive and Interaction with Students.
- Products and Services to meet student membership/society needs.
- The Future of Engineering Games .

There were lots of brilliant ideas, although some were rather hilarious e.g. someone suggested organising a programme akin to Malaysian Idol to attract more students to join IEM. Nevertheless, all the ideas were taking in a positive light.

On the final day, we obtained very positive feedback from the students, and it made all the hard work seem worthwhile. Handshakes and hugs were exhanged as we bade adieu at McDonalds, Genting Sempah (our 'official' restaurant for Student Brainstorming Sessions 2005). Considering the rather short period of time we had, it is quite amazing how much we were able to achieve and gain from this conference. Let's hope that this marks a new beginning of greater things to come. ■

Group photo of all participants

Students during the first day BBQ session

During the brainstorming session