Eye-opening workshop for UniRazak’s aspiring case writers

A TRAINING of Trainers Workshop was conducted on Jan 7 and 8, 2011 at the Golden Sands Resort Shangri-La, Penang for the second batch of aspiring UniRazak Case Writers Club members.

“We had to read up a few articles about case writing, the Harvard method, in the bus on the way to Penang. We were given huge white files and began reading in earnest. Suddenly there was peace and quiet in the bus. Everyone was engrossed in reading up. All of us aimed to be the best,” said UniRazak case member Khairul Najmi Idris.

The session began with Online Educational Solutions president (director) Ahmad D. Habir, who is also known as Pak Derry.

He is the representative officer in Jakarta, Indonesia. The main office is located in Florida, United States.

“Pak Derry interacted with all of us in an informal manner. He started the morning session with a brief introduction about himself and his involvement in the Case Writer’s Club,” said Khairul.

Pak Derry’s dream was to write detective stories, but he never got down to writing as he always started thinking about the detective.

“He told us that he should have concentrated on the crime first. He then told us to do the same with case writing.

“That got us all thinking seriously about what we were going to write. It also made us all think about how we should present our cases,” said Khairul.

Pak Derry then took them into the world of using cases effectively in the classroom in order to enhance teaching and learning.

This was an eye opener for all of them as it highlighted the positive aspects of using a case study in a classroom where the students also participated energetically by contributing ideas, opinions, and solutions for the case at hand.

Pak Derry began with a brief introduction to what the Harvard method of writing cases was really all about.

As his explanations combined with his slides and the power point took off, the students slowly became totally immersed in the Harvard Method of writing cases.

Pak Derry had previously conducted two case writing training sessions for UniRazak’s first and second batches.

The Harvard Method workshop lasted for two and a-half-day. On the last day, participants discussed the possible publication of workshop deliverables as part of making it a potential manual for the UniRazak’s Case Writers Club.

A special thanks and deepest appreciation to Case Writer’s Club president Associate Prof Datin Dr Raja Hanaliza Raja Ahmad Tajudin, whose untiring efforts has propelled the club to great heights.

“We are honoured and privileged to be among the few who were given the opportunity to develop our case writing skills following the Harvard Method,” added Khairul.

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