

RIENDSHIPS can transform Malaysia into a better country.

PopTeeVee's The Fairly Current Show host Fahmi Fadzil says Malaysia suffers from a tremendous amount of trust deficit, especially with regard to institutions, politicians and news sources.

"Friends, however, are still a source of great trust. People should continue to network with one another to share ideas and make a positive change," he says, citing his weekly web talk show, which he created with friends, as an example.

Fahmi was one of the speakers at UCSI University's TEDxUCSI Talk recently.

TED is a small non-profit organisation devoted to "ideas worth sharing". It began in 1984 as a conference bringing together people from three worlds: technology, entertainment and design.

TEDxUCSI Talk aims to promote new ideas and ways of thinking

The TEDxUCSI Talk was organised to expose attendees to new ideas and new ways of thinking. UCSI University had aimed to promote the interests of the nation to benefit its people through the event.

Based on the international TED talks, it showcased three speakers and two TED talk videos.

With the subtheme of media and entertainment, the speakers shared their thoughts on "ideas to transform Malaysia".

KL Comedy Club founder Rizal Kamal was also one of the speakers.

Although stand-up comedy is not as established in Malaysia as it is in the United States, Australia and the United Kingdom, Rizal feels that it is the next big thing in Asia.

Since laughter is universal and transcends language barriers, more needs to be done to support local comics.

"To raise the standards of comedy in Asia, we have to breed our own good comedians.

"Live life to the fullest and learn to laugh because laughter makes the world go

round," he says.

The talks resonated with
UCSI University first-year
student Leanne Tan, who says
she was particularly moved by
Fahmi's address.

"The idea that you can do anything with friends is a cool concept," she adds.