

ALUMNI bulletin

Unbreakable Spirit





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Cover rationale: *Unbreakable Spirit* describes a quality that allows someone to persevere, be determined, and maintain their inner strength, even in the face of hardships without losing hope. A graduation ceremony serves to celebrate the spirit and determination, together with the refusal to be defeated by obstacles or difficulties among the graduands.

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From the Vice-Chancellor

Assalamualaikum WBT and Salam Sejahtera.

Without us realizing it, we are already at the end of 2023. With high ambitions and expectations, we are able to achieve all the plans we have laid out, in order for the University to contribute further towards nation-building and making an impact in the world.

For the University, this is an important move as we need to be able to manage our performance. Management guru Peter Drucker had famously said, "If you can't measure it, you can't manage it". It is also encouraging to know USM continues to be robust in providing excellent education and strengthening its reputation, both nationally, and internationally especially with regard to the sustainability agenda.

Academic excellence in teaching and learning, rigorously supported by focused research and scholarship in order to enhance our students' experience are crucial and this mission remains as our goal. Instinctively, we recognise the hard times and difficult decisions however; for a University like ours, we need to ensure that every programme and collaboration would improve our sustainable goals, which is in line with the APEX agenda.

For the alumni, we always welcome you to your Alma Mater. USM needs your generous contribution and support towards helping the current and future generation of students. Giving back to the University could be done in various forms, one that you are comfortable with, either monetary or non-monetary. There are many ways to give back, from career and academic mentoring to volunteering your time in on- and off-campus events, or to attend any of the academic and social events organised by USM.

In conclusion, my special appreciation goes to all our staff for their continuous support, monumental contributions, and passion for ensuring USM's continued excellence. I sincerely hope that this unprecedented display of support and cooperation will continue in the future, and we will keep working together as a team towards our goals and aspirations to serve the nation and impact the world with the "Unbreakable Spirit".

Warm Regards & Happy New Year.

Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed, FASc.
*Vice-Chancellor
Universiti Sains Malaysia*

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From DVC to Alumni

Assalamualaikum and Greetings.

Praises be to ALLAH SWT for all the blessings bestowed upon us.

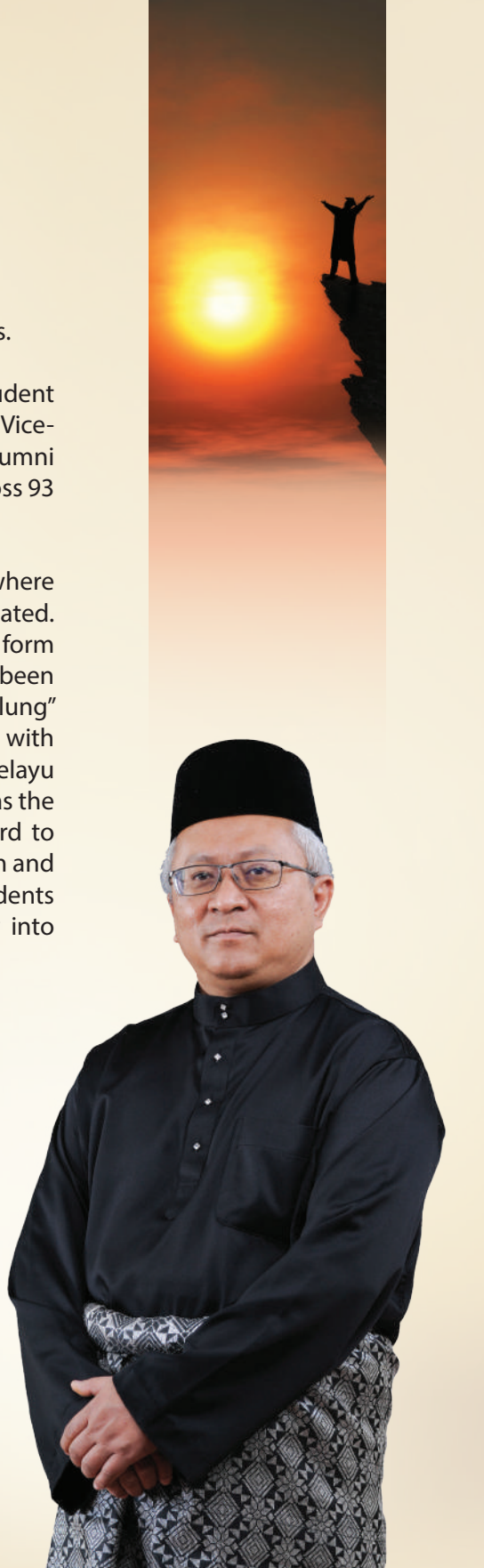
I'd like to share with you how excited I am to be joining the Student Development Affairs & Alumni Division (BHEPA) as the Deputy Vice-Chancellor. I am also proud to be a part of the huge USM alumni family, numbering almost 195,000 alumni members spread across 93 countries.

The University is a unique institution in its own right, where characters were built, talents nurtured and knowledge accumulated. It is a home to where knowledge is received and returned in the form of virtue and service. Among the programmes that had been successfully implemented under BHEPA were "Program Sulung" initiative, 'Perkampungan Budaya Bahtera Madani', 'Solidarity with Palestine', 'Jom Mengopi 3.0', Pidato Antarabangsa Bahasa Melayu (PABM) 2023 and our students Debate Club has been crowned as the Champion in the Statistical Debate competition. I look forward to continuing and further enhancing success from the BHEPA team and the previous DVCs. I also look forward to empowering the students so that their ability to hone and realise ideas and creativity into important concepts can be realized.

Being an alumnus is a privilege and an honour bestowed when you graduated from the University. The experiences gained and memories created will undoubtedly help enrich your present life and build your career. As an alumni, you are our best ambassadors through your professional career paths and your willingness to serve. You have established yourself as successful individuals in respective fields and have done the University proud. The theme 'Unbreakable Spirit' describes the resilience and courage in all of you.

I wish everyone a Happy New Year 2024.

Professor Dr. Shaharum Shamsuddin *D.Phil. (Oxon), P.M.K.,
Deputy Vice-Chancellor,
Student Development Affairs & Alumni*



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USM AND ADRC Join Forces For ESG Project

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and the Advance Dispute Resolution Centre (ADRC) signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) to collaborate on a joint Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) project.

Under this strategic alliance, both parties will launch an ESG Pioneer Award project to be jointly organised and assessed by them and endorsed by Yayasan Amal Tuan Yang Terutama Pulau Pinang.

USM Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed signed the MoA on behalf of the university while Tan Sri (Dr.) Hj Mohd Yussof Latiff, Senior Honorary Advisor of ADRC, signed for the NGO.

The MoA signing ceremony was witnessed by ADRC Honorary Advisor Dato' Seri R. Arunasalam V. Ramasamy and the Director of USM's Centre for Global Sustainability Studies (CGSS), Associate Professor Dr. Mohd Wira Shafiei.

In his remarks, Abdul Rahman hoped that the MoA would encourage industries to support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) agenda and domestic policies through their involvement and adherence to ESG standards.

"I believe this partnership will further strengthen networking between USM and industries through education, research, IP/innovation, publications, consultation and training besides producing an ESG working framework for various industrial sectors.

"Hopefully all our noble efforts will support and facilitate the expansion of economic activities and contribute to the socioeconomic growth of the country, as well as towards the regional and global sustainability agenda," he added.

The event also witnessed the presentation of certificates to advisors and subject matter experts related to the project.

Meanwhile, Mohd Yussof said the ESG Pioneer Award can serve as a catalyst for promoting sustainable business practices and recognising corporate leadership in this area.

"The award is to recognise organisations that had made significant contributions to the advancement of sustainable business practices through incorporating ESG factors in their operations and decision-making processes.

"By highlighting best practices of organisations as well as their ESG readiness, the award can also encourage more organisations to prioritise sustainability and create a positive impact on society and the environment," he said.

Mohd Yussof, who is also President of the Penang State Goodwill Consultative Council (Muhibbah) in which ADRC is also affiliated, hoped the collaboration would focus on managing the social pillar of ESG and encourage organisations to contribute towards the social-related project on a long-term basis.

Also present were the USM Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Industry, Community Network and Institutional Sustainability, Profesor Dr. Azlan Amran; Principal Officers of USM and ADRC; and ADRC strategic partners.

Text: Tan Ewe Hoe

USM INKS MoU WITH INTEL MICROELECTRONICS To Strengthen University - Industry Cooperation

Taking another significant step forward in its pursuit to strengthen its ties with the industry players, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Intel Microelectronics (M) Sdn. Bhd. at USM main campus.

The collaboration will involve joint programmes in research and development (R&D), academic, training, workshops and seminars; exchange of publications, exchange of students and/or staff, as well as other forms of commitments that will be mutually identified and agreed by both parties.

Signing on behalf of USM was the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed while Intel Microelectronics (M) Sdn. Bhd. was represented by the Vice-President Intel Corporation and GM Intel Malaysia Design Center, Suresh Kumar Dass; in the presence of the USM Director of Industry Network, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Shaizatulaqma Kamalul Ariffin; and Intel Malaysia Public Affairs Director, Amran Mohamad Dom.

According to Abdul Rahman, the MoU was another significant milestone in USM's efforts in strengthening cooperation with its industry partners, and he was well pleased for USM to partner up with Intel, the world's largest semiconductor chip maker.

"USM is enthusiastic in collaborating further with Intel. The university hopes to extend its expertise and talents to establish further connection in producing quality, future-ready graduates that would meet the IR4.0 industry needs, and relevant academic programmes," he said.

"We have observed the positive development of additional new FDIs and local investments in Malaysia. As a result, we believe that closer collaboration between industry players and universities is key to building talent in the right quantity and of the right calibre for the country."

- Suresh Kumar

Both teams discussed on the Intel research grant, namely the Intel Pelican Grant and on research collaborations in the fields of chemical, material, mechanical, physics, electrical & electronic, artificial intelligence and data science.

“USM believes that the Intel Pelican Grant will provide an opportunity to the researchers to further boost the university-industry cooperation in research and technological innovation that would benefit both sides,” added the Vice-Chancellor.

Suresh Kumar said, “Intel has been a pioneer investor in the E&E sector in Malaysia for more than 50 years. As part of our long-term growth plans in areas of Advanced Packaging, Assembly Test Manufacturing, Design & Development and Shared Services, Intel requires more graduates from Engineering and multiple other disciplines.”

“USM is enthusiastic in collaborating further with Intel. The university hopes to extend its expertise and talents to establish further connection in producing quality, future-ready graduates that would meet the IR4.0 industry needs, and relevant academic programmes.”

- Abdul Rahman



“We have observed the positive development of additional new FDIs and local investments in Malaysia. As a result, we believe that closer collaboration between industry players and universities is key to building talent in the right quantity and of the right calibre for the country.

“Hence, the MoU signed today between Intel and USM is expected to further strengthen collaboration between us, to achieve these objectives for the collective good of the country;” he said.

Also present at the ceremony were Intel senior management, and the deans of several schools and directors of research centres that are collaborating with Intel.

*Text: Siti Fatimah Abu Mansor & Tan Ewe Hoe
Photo: Mohd Fairus Md Isa*



USM INKS MoU WITH BLUE PLANET To Push Sustainability Agenda Further

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) has recently taken steps to strengthen its ties with Blue Planet Environmental Solutions Pte. Ltd. with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The collaboration with Blue Planet is an opportunity to explore more initiatives towards realising the university's sustainability agenda, especially in the field of waste management.

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) has recently taken steps to strengthen its ties with Blue Planet Environmental Solutions Pte. Ltd. with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The collaboration with Blue Planet is an opportunity to explore more initiatives towards realising the university's sustainability agenda, especially in the field of waste management.

Among the activities that have been agreed upon through this collaboration are:

- Research collaboration which includes joint research, student supervision, research publication and others;
- Academic cooperation such as short courses, seminars and conferences;
- Staff and student mobility programmes that include visits, exchange, and attachment programmes;
- Other activities that can be explored further and that would benefit both parties.

Signing on behalf of USM was the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed while Blue Planet Environmental Solutions Pte. Ltd. was represented by its Chief Executive Officer, Harsh Mehrotra.



“The collaboration with Blue Planet is an opportunity to explore more initiatives towards realising the university's sustainability agenda, especially in the field of waste management.”

Abdul Rahman expressed that collaborations like this will certainly promote USM to be relevant and dominant in its pursuit to drive the sustainability agenda both at the national, regional, and international fronts.

“I would also like to congratulate the USM Centre for Global Sustainability Studies (CGSS) for its efforts and commitment in ensuring that USM's sustainability agenda is strengthened through collaboration with strategic stakeholders,” he said.

USM is a university that places great emphasis on sustainability with the aim of ‘Transforming Higher Education’ to impact stakeholders and communities, and contribute towards achieving the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Meanwhile, Harsh said that this MoU provides the opportunity to explore more opportunities in other countries. Blue Planet Environmental Solutions Pte. Ltd. is currently embarking on:

- Demographic and population forecast, which are linked to urbanisation and its effects on waste quantity generation and characterisation;
- Income levels and regulations effects on waste management and treatment solutions;
- Policy framework of local governance in South East Asia for waste management;
- Waste recycling procedures and facilities, and actual disposal of waste in various recycled products;
- Study of total waste generation, its environmental effects and the opportunity cost spent by the Government on present disposal methods;
- Study of market availability through different industries and applications for by-products like RDF, Biogas, Compost and recyclable materials that are produced after the segregation and processing of waste from different technologies.

The signing of this MoU today symbolises a partnership that will further boost the university-industry cooperation on both sides.

Also present from USM were CGSS Director, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Wira Mohd Shafie and Kampus Sejahtera Coordinator, Ahmad Wafi Sahedan.

*Text: Siti Fatimah Abu Mansor
Photo: Mohd Fairus Md Isa*

USM-MTU SIGNS MoU To Establish Academic and Research Collaboration

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) via the Academic and International Division has recently partnered with Middle Technical University (MTU) from Iraq to embark on a journey of academic collaboration through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The MoU was meant to promote the exchange in the scientific and academic fields to conduct researches between universities and research centres; to activate the work of academics in the engineering and medical fields and the expansion of academic relations in the following areas:

- cooperation and participation in scientific projects carried out by academic members, experts, instructors and students from both parties;
- exchange of visits of academic members to share experiences and access to existing curricula and scientific laboratories;
- cooperation in joint supervision of graduate students for both parties;
- provide postgraduate study opportunities for the employees of each of the two parties in engineering, medical and administrative disciplines;
- provide the necessary facilities for postgraduate students to complete parts of their research work that require qualitative laboratories in the University of the other party;
- organise training courses for the employees of each of the two parties in engineering, medical and administrative disciplines (to be determined as needed during the duration of the memorandum);
- provide opportunities for academics and faculty members to participate in conferences, seminars, workshops, and international meetings for both universities.

“MTU is proud to embark on this collaborative venture with USM and it is hoped that both parties can mutually benefit from one another.”

- Abdulmohsin

Signing on behalf of USM was the USM Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed, while on behalf of MTU was the President, Professor Dr. Abdulmohsin Naji Mohaisen Al-Agele.

Also present to witness the ceremony were USM Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International), Professor Dato' Gs. Dr. Narimah Samat and Cultural Counselor, Embassy of the Republic of Iraq Cultural Attaché, Kuala Lumpur, Associate Professor Dr. Ahlam Neamah Lafta.

Abdul Rahman in his welcoming speech gave an overview about USM and recent achievement regarding USM in championing to be among the best sustainability-led universities after being placed at No. 4 in the world, No. 1 in Asia and No. 1 in Malaysia in the recent Times Higher Education (THE-IR) 2023 global sustainability rankings, which measure the contributions made by an institution and its community in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations by 2030.

"I truly believe that this collaboration will aspire to proceed smoothly, fruitfully and will bring beneficial outcomes for both sides. I look forward to the successful implementation of our MoU," said Abdul Rahman.

"The MoU was meant to promote the exchange in the scientific and academic fields to conduct researches between universities and research centres."

Meanwhile, Abdulmohsin stated in his speech that it is anticipated that this MoU will pave the way for numerous opportunities for both parties.

"MTU is proud to embark on this collaborative venture with USM and it is hoped that both parties can mutually benefit from one another," he said.

In her speech, Ahlam Neamah said that these agreements reflect positively on the university through communication with researchers and academics, and also work on conducting joint studies and research which will contribute to the development of business.

Also present were the Dean of Electrical Engineering Technical College MTU, Professor Adel Ahmed Obed Alkhalaf and MTU Secretary of the University Council, Assistant Professor Hassan Abdurssoul Abdulhadi.

Text: Nur Farrah Ezlin Mohd Suhaimi





USM COLLABORATES WITH REGIONAL PARTNER INSTITUTIONS To Foster Multidisciplinary Research

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) recently held the International Conference on Multidisciplinary Research (iCMR) 2023 through hybrid mode at the Murad Mohd. Noor Auditorium, Sains@USM in Bukit Jambul.

iCMR was organised by the USM School of Distance Education (SDE), in collaboration with five other ASEAN institutions, namely Universitas Islam Sumatera Utara (UISU); Universitas Syiah Kuala (USK); Universitas Hasanuddin (UNHAS); Tan Trao University (TTrU); and Cambodia University of Technology and Science (CamTech).

The opening ceremony was officiated by the Deputy Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), Datuk Arthur Joseph Kurup, who gave his inauguration remarks via a video recording.

USM Deputy Vice-Chancellor Industry, Community Network and Institutional Sustainability, Professor Dr. Azlan Amran in representing the USM Vice-Chancellor, in his welcoming address, said that USM believes that multidisciplinary research is essential in addressing the world's most pressing issues and achieving the sustainable development goals (SDG) by 2030.

"This year's theme, "Fostering Multidisciplinary Research: An Agenda for 2030 Sustainable Development" is particularly timely and relevant. It reflects the pressing need for a sustainable future that balances economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental stewardship," he said.



"iCMR is an annual event to advance multidisciplinary science theories and practices in three main areas – Social Sciences, Science & Engineering, and Health & Life Sciences."



■ USM COLLABORATES WITH REGIONAL PARTNER INSTITUTIONS TO FOSTER MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

Azlan added, “Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) is committed to advancing knowledge and promoting research that contributes to the betterment of society, which is very much in line with USM’s Accelerated Programme for Excellence (APEX) agenda.”

iCMR is an annual event to advance multidisciplinary science theories and practices in three main areas – Social Sciences, Science & Engineering, and Health & Life Sciences.

The primary goal is to promote the exchange of ideas and facilitate interdisciplinary collaborations among researchers, scholars, industry players, and practitioners worldwide.

This three-day conference which begins today includes keynote sessions by renowned academics from various fields, including Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, and Vietnam, as well as paper presentations, workshops, and exhibitions.

Former USM Vice-Chancellor, who is now the Ibnu Sina Professorial Chair in Medicine, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), Kuantan Campus, Professor Emerita Datuk Dr. Asma Ismail delivered her keynote address on the topic ‘Championing responsible research for global sustainability.’

Also present were USM SDE Dean, Associate Professor Dr. Zulnaidi Yaacob; and iCMR 2023 Chairperson and SDE Deputy Dean of Research, Innovation & Industry-Community Engagement, Ts. Chm. Dr. Sumiyah Sabar.

*Text: Siti Fatimah Abu Mansor & Tan Ewe Hoe
Photo: Mohd Fairus Md Isa*

“This year’s theme, “Fostering Multidisciplinary Research: An Agenda for 2030 Sustainable Development” is particularly timely and relevant. It reflects the pressing need for a sustainable future that balances economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental stewardship.”

- Azlan Amran



USM INKS MOU WITH ISTANBUL GELISIM UNIVERSITY To Expand Turkiye Offshore Programme In Line With MOHE Internationalisation Agenda

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) today made a move towards global engagement that signifies a momentous milestone, through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) in Türkiye.

The MoU represents an expansion of USM Offshore Turkiye, which was originally established in December 2021.

To date, USM Offshore Turkiye has received nearly 550 applications, with 64 active students currently enrolled in various Postgraduate programmes.

USM anticipates a significant growth in the offshore Turkiye intake, with projections indicating that by 2024, the enrolment will reach 300 students.

This expansion will be made possible through the recent addition of offshore Bachelor of Management and Bachelor of Arts programmes.

This strategic development aligns with the recommendations put forth by the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) of Malaysia to enhance the global recognition of Malaysian Higher Education Institutions which aims to establish Malaysia as a prominent global hub for talent and knowledge.

Signing on behalf of USM was its Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed while representing IGU was its Rector, Professor Dr. Bahri Şahin.

Present at the signing ceremony was the delegation from MOHE, led by YB Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin, Minister of Higher Education Malaysia, who witnessed the signing of the MoU.



According to Abdul Rahman, this unique partnership is a zero-cost investment for USM to have a full campus in Turkiye to cover the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

The MoU was meant to promote, develop and establish cooperation in conducting research, education and training programmes, as USM continues its efforts to attract the attention of the international community to pursue undergraduate and postgraduate studies by developing Offshore Programmes in Turkiye, particularly through the collaboration in utilising teaching and learning facilities for respective study fields at USM.

Through the collaboration with IGU, more innovative academic and research endeavours are expected to materialise, which will be in line with the internationalisation agenda of MOHE in ensuring a global presence of the nation's academic programmes and expertise.

Among those who also attended the ceremony were the Consul General, Consulate General of Malaysia in Istanbul, Tengku Mohd Dzaraif bin Raja Abdul Kadir; Deputy Director General of Higher Education (Research and International), Department of Higher Education, MOHE, Ahmad Rizal Adnan; and IGU Chairman, Board of Trustees, Abdulkadir Gayretli.

Photo: Courtesy of KPT

MAJLIS PENYERAHAN WATIKAH PELANTIKAN

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA SEBAGAI KETUA KONSORTIUM
ELEKTRIK DAN ELEKTRONIK (E&E) UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA

BAGI PELAKSANAAN

PROGRAM KUBATOR NYELIDIKAN SERAP INDUSTRI (MRI3)
KEMENTERIAN PENDIDIKAN TINGGI



USM LEADS E&E CONSORTIUM For The Implementation Of MRI3 Programme

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) was selected and appointed as the chief coordinator for the newly established Electrical and Electronic Consortium (E&E) for the implementation of the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) Research and Industry-Infused Incubator Programme (MRI3).

The Minister of Higher Education, Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin said, the appointment of USM as the leader of the consortium was made based on USM's expertise, scope of work and experience which is considered to be in line with the establishment of the consortium.

He added that the consortium established among 20 public universities was specially created to produce graduates who will meet the needs of the E&E industry that offers premium salaries.

“The E&E sector is in dire need of highly qualified and skilled workers who have the desired knowledge and skills that meet the needs of the industry. At this point, graduates are given the training required by the industry after graduation. However, the time it takes to train these talents is long and not cost-effective.

“Therefore, USM has introduced the MRI3 programme to develop talents that have the knowledge, sharp-skills and smart-skills that coincide with the E&E industry needs,” he said.

Earlier, the Minister officiated the Graduate Job Market Conference organised by MoHE and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), which aims to identify and discuss information related to the future job markets for graduates.

The USM Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed was present to receive the letter of appointment as the head of the consortium in the event.

The appointment of USM as the chief coordinator of the E&E consortium aims, among other things, to coordinate the terms and references identified, including acting as a focal point between the UA consortium and the E&E industry players.

“USM was selected and appointed as the chief coordinator for the newly established Electrical and Electronic Consortium (E&E) for the implementation of the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) Research and Industry-Infused Incubator Programme (MRI3).”

“The appointment of USM as the chief coordinator of the E&E consortium aims, among other things, to coordinate the terms and references identified, including acting as a focal point between the UA consortium and the E&E industry players.”

The MRI3 programme aims to ensure a job guarantee in Graduate Employability (GE) with a premium starting salary of RM4,000 per month.

This programme also reduces the industry-academia gap by involving industry-based and fully sponsored Final Year Project (FYP) students as well as providing a monthly allowance of RM1,500 to RM2,000 to students during the ongoing FYP period.

In addition, students are exposed to the equipment and software used by the industry itself.

Lecturers who act as project supervisors, will be able to share knowledge and skills with the industry.

This programme has so far received a very encouraging response from the industry. Among them are Intel Technology Sdn. Bhd., Oppstar Technology Berhad, Infineon, Efinix and others especially those located in the Bayan Lepas Free Industrial Zone (FIZ) in Penang.

Text: Tan Ewe Hoe

BHEPA @ A Glance

NAIB CANSOLOR USM SAMPAIKAN TAWARAN SISWA SULUNG KEPADA KEMBAR SEIRAS

Universiti Sains Malaysia melalui Kementerian Pengajian Tinggi, Jabatan Pendidikan Tinggi (JPT), menyambut baik hasrat kerajaan dalam membantu pelajar dari golongan B40 menerusi Program Pembangunan Siswa Sulung (SULUNG) Sidang Akademik 2023/2024. Prof. Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed, Naib Canselor Universiti Sains Malaysia hadir menyantuni dan menyerahkan surat tawaran melanjutkan pengajian kepada salah seorang penerima SISWA SULUNG peringkat USM, Saudari Hilma Yasarah Hussain yang akan melanjutkan pelajaran ke peringkat Ijazah Sarjana Muda Kejuruteraan Mekatronik di Kampus Kejuruteraan, Nibong Tebal. Lebih menarik lagi apabila adik Hilma Yasarah iaitu Hilma Yasarah turut ditawarkan untuk melanjutkan pengajian di jurusan yang sama.



HDC ANJURKAN PROGRAM TAKLIMAT KEMBOLEHPASARAN GRADUAN (GE) PERINGKAT USM

Pusat Pembangunan HEBAT (HDC), BHEPA telah menganjurkan sesi khas Taklimat Kebolehpasaran Graduan (GE) peringkat USM di Dewan Pembangunan Siswa 1, KOMCA yang dihadiri oleh ahli akademik dan Penolong Pendaftar Pusat Pengajian masing-masing. Sesi awal perkongsian National Structured Internship Programme (MySIP) & MYNext telah disampaikan oleh Ts. Dr. Madhavan Nair, Ketua Operasi MYNext, Talent Corporation Berhad dan diikuti oleh Taklimat Kebolehpasaran Graduan (GE) yang disampaikan oleh Encik Hazlan Abdul Hamid, Pengarah Pusat Pembangunan HEBAT, BHEPA. Bagi mengatasi cabaran banjir graduan yang akan memasuki alam pekerjaan dan

laluan kerjaya yang akan ditempuhi dalam menyokong keperluan bakat dan kemahiran yang melibatkan graduan, beberapa data dan keperluan kebolehpasaran graduan telah dikongsikan agar graduan Universiti Sains Malaysia kompeten dalam memenuhi keperluan industri semasa.

SUSTAINABLE STUDENT PROGRAM GUIDANCE (PPSL), EFFECTIVE MODULE AND ACCEPTED BY STUDENTS

Sustainable Student Guidance Camp (PPSL) continues again for the 2023/2024 Academic Session this time with the participation of almost 250 students involving the main campus, engineering and health. The first day's initial briefing was delivered by the Director of Talent Development Center, Mr. Zulkifli Che Hussin in front of all PPSLs located at the Main Hall of Desasiswa Nurani. Stealing the spotlight most for PPSL this time was the involvement of 2 international students from Bangladesh and Zimbabwe namely Shivnath Das Pranto from Health Campus and Chris Junior Tapererwa from Engineering Campus.



NAIB CANSOLOR USM PASTIKAN KELESTARIAN PENDIDIKAN & KEBAJIKAN BERKONSEPKAN MESRA PELAJAR, TERUS KEKALKAN NARATIF PENGAMBILAN BOTTOM BILLION

Seramai 4,696 calon dari lepasan STPM/Matrikulasi/Asasi/ Diploma/Setaraf telah menerima tawaran bagi mengikuti program Ijazah Sarjana Muda (penuh masa) dan Diploma di Universiti Sains Malaysia bagi kesemua saluran kemasukan pada Sidang Akademik 2023/2024. Naib Canselor USM, Prof. Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed menyatakan USM juga turut mengambil perhatian terhadap agenda University Social Responsibility (USR) di mana terus mengekalkan naratif pengambilan bottom billion untuk memberi ruang dan peluang kepada calon pelajar dari golongan tercicir dan kurang berkemampuan untuk terus melanjutkan pengajian di USM. Jumlah keseluruhan bagi kategori B40 adalah seramai 1,830 orang calon dan daripada itu seramai 561 calon yang telah ditawarkan di bawah Program Pembangunan SISWA SULUNG generasi pertama bagi kategori B40. USM turut memberi peluang kepada 13 calon PKU, 21 calon atlet yang mewakili negeri dan negara daripada pelbagai jenis bidang sukan, 2 calon warga emas dan 497 calon antarabangsa dari 23 buah negara untuk menyambung pengajian di USM.



PERKAMPUNGAN BUDAYA BAHTERA MADANI JADI SIMBOLIK PERKUKUH AGENDA MADANI NEGARA

Hampir 3000 penonton menghadiri Malam Bahtera Madani yang merupakan kemuncak Perkampungan Budaya: Bahtera Madani 2023 di Dewan Tuanku Syed Putra (DTSP) Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) yang menampilkan pelbagai persembahan antaranya teater muzikal hasil gabungan seluruh peserta daripada pelbagai institusi yang terlibat. Persembahan pada malam ini diadaptasikan daripada Puisi Bahtera Madani hasil nukilan A. Aziz Deraman menjadi idea utama dalam penghasilan persembahan kemuncak pada malam tersebut. Hadir adalah Ketua Pengarah Pendidikan

Tinggi, Jabatan Pendidikan Tinggi, Prof. Dr. Azlinda Azman; Naib Canselor USM, Prof. Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed; Pengarah Bahagian Hal Ehwal Pelajar, Jabatan Pendidikan Tinggi, Encik Hirman Awang; Yang menjalankan fungsi Timbalan Naib Canselor BHEPA USM, Prof. Dr. Azlan Amran; Pengerusi Majlis Kebudayaan Universiti-Universiti Malaysia, Prof. Dr. Arifin Abdu dan pegawai-pegawai utama KPT, IPTA, IPTS.

OVER 3,500 USM CITIZENS GATHER IN SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINE

Citizens of the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) gathered to express sympathy and solidarity for relatives who are going through a difficult time as a result of the continuous Zionist attacks in Palestine which until now claimed more than thousands of innocent lives. According to the Director of the Center for Talent Development, Mr. Zulkifli Che Hussin is also the Advisor of the Program, USM strongly rejects any form of provocation, aggression and atrocities against any sovereign country. The programme that is taking place at the Hockey Stadium, Main Campus, USM Penang involves more than 50 USM student organizations who participated in solidarity where the participation involves all the major races in Malaysia and was also attended by international students. These student organizations also support the 16th Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which are Peace, Justice and Strong Organizations through organizing this programme.



UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA CHAMPION OF STATISTICAL DEBATE BETWEEN INSTITUTES OF HIGHER EDUCATION 2ND SERIES OF 2023

Universiti Sains Malaysia Debate Club has been crowned as the Champion of the Statistical Debate competition between Higher Education Institutions Series 2 of 2023 by defeating University of Technology MARA (UiTM) in a fierce competition the other day. Statistical Debate Competition Among Higher Education Institutions (IPT) Series 2 this year was successful in cooperation with the Debate Council of Universiti Malaysia (MADUM) in conjunction with the National Statistics Day Celebration (MyStats Day) which is held on October 20 every year. The competition aims to promote critical and analytical thinking among students on labor market-related issues through rational presentation of arguments, data analysis and facts while improving statistical literacy and use of official statistics issued by DOSM.



KPT LUASKAN KAEDAH PEMERKASAAN KEBAJIKAN PELAJAR MELALUI RETORT FOOD

Kementerian Pendidikan Tinggi prihatin tentang isu kebajikan pelajar, KPT telah mengagihkan bekalan makanan dalam bentuk Pek Makanan Retort yang dikenali sebagai RETORT FOOD KPT. Dalam memastikan fokus pada pembelajaran yang lebih kondusif dan pelajaran yang tidak terjejas, KPT telah meluaskan kaedah pemeraksanaan kebajikan pelajar melalui adaptasi teknologi tinggi pembungkusan makanan retort dimana kualiti makanan akan kekal segar sehingga dua tahun tanpa menjejaskan struktur, rasa dan kualiti makanan. Majlis disempurnakan oleh YBrs. Encik Ahmad Rizal Adnan, Timbalan Ketua Pengarah

Pendidikan Tinggi (Pengurusan Governan dan Pembangunan), Jabatan Pendidikan Tinggi, Kementerian Pendidikan Tinggi, yang diadakan di Dewan Serbaguna Kolej Seroja, UiTM Shah Alam.

MALAM VARIASISWA 2023 MERIAH, SERLAH BAKAT SISWA, MEDAN ERAT HUBUNGAN KAMPUS UTAMA USM

Menjangkui hampir 2 dekad lebih, Malam Variasiswa 2023 Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) terus menjadi acara utama untuk menutup Minggu Siswa Lestari khusus untuk meraikan pelajar baharu tahun pertama. Berlangsung di Dewan Tuanku Syed Putra (DTSP), hampir 2,500 hadir ke program berprestij ini. Tahun ini menyaksikan Desasiswa Murni Nurani menjadi Johan Variasiswa 2023 manakala Desasiswa Tekun tempat kedua dan Indah Kembara tempat ketiga. Manakala Pertandingan Sorakan dimenangi oleh Desasiswa Tekun, Desasiswa CGH dan Desasiswa Jaya Lembaran Utama. Variasiswa merupakan program berbentuk pertandingan melibatkan persembahan nyanyian, lakonan, muzik dan sajak dalam kalangan pelajar Tahun Satu, mewakili setiap lapan desasiswa penginapan USM dari tiga kampus iaitu Kampus Induk, Kampus Kejuruteraan dan Kampus Kesihatan.



TAHNIAH: Unit Tari: Kumpulan Kesenian ADIKARMA USM

NAIB JUARA & ANUGERAH BUSANA EMAS kategori IPT sempena Festival Tari UKM 2023 (FESTA) yang dipimpin oleh Encik Ahmad Assahirin Hamlet, Sektor Kebudayaan & Kesukarelawan, Pusat Pembangunan Bakat (TDC), BHEPA. Program berlangsung pada 28 Oktober 2023 di Dewan Canselor Tun Abdul Razak, UKM.



JOM MENOPI 3.0 SELARASKAN DASAR KEUSAHAWANAN NASIONAL 2030; MEMBUDAYAKAN BIDANG KEUSAHAWANAN DI KALANGAN PELAJAR DAN STAF USM

Program Jom MENOPI 3.0 merupakan kesinambungan Jom MENOPI 1.0 yang telah diadakan pada 27 Julai 2022 dan Jom MENOPI 2.0 pada 24 September 2022 yang lepas tatkala negara mula bangkit dalam era pasca COVID-19. Prof. Dr. Azlan Amran, TNC Jaringan Industri & Masyarakat, Yang Menjalankan Fungsi TNC HEPA USM yang mewakili Naib Canselor USM dalam ucapannya mengatakan bahawa, Jom MENOPI 3.0 yang bertemakan **KEBANGKITAN: BERGELUT DALAM KEMELUT** pada kali ini merupakan salah satu usaha untuk mengeratkan hubungan USM dan pihak industri melalui sesi perkongsian ilmu keusahawan yang

telah diadakan bersama tujuh ikon dengan latar belakang F&B tersohor serta Alumni USM yang bergelar technopreneur. Hadir merasmikan Jom MENOPI 3.0 ialah T.Y.T Tun Dato' Seri Utama Ahmad Fuzy Hj. Abdul Razak, Yang di-Pertua Negeri P. Pinang. Jom MENOPI 3.0 merupakan program anjuran bersama USM BHEPA & rakan strategik oleh Yayasan Amal TYT P. Pinang dan Pertubuhan Usahawan Muslim P. Pinang serta rakan gerak kerja oleh Sekretariat 3KPP USM.

USM BERJAYA ANJUR PABM 2023, JULANG BAHASA MELAYU SEBAGAI BAHASA UNGGUL

Menteri Pendidikan Tinggi, YB Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin hari ini merasmikan Pertandingan Akhir Pidato Antarabangsa Bahasa Melayu (PABM) 2023 kali ke-15 yang diadakan di Dewan Tuanku Syed Putra, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Pulau Pinang yang dihadiri lebih 3,000 penonton. Menurut Menteri Pendidikan Tinggi, Bahasa Malaysia perlu diangkat menjadi bahasa yang ulung termasuklah dijadikan sebagai pengantara dalam membicarakan perkara besar hingga ke peringkat antarabangsa dan menjadi sebagai bahasa yang ulung, Bahasa ilmu iaitu Bahasa yang menjadi perantara dalam membicarakan hal-hal antarabangsa. Juara kategori antarabangsa ialah Gulzoda Utkurova daripada Uzbekistan, Juara kategori alam melayu ialah Muhammad Mukhlisul Mubin Julasapiyah daripada UKM dan Juara kategori PAM ialah Carla Goncalves De Oliveira Sarmento daripada Timor-Leste (pelajar UMS). PABM kali ini mempertandingkan tiga kategori iaitu kategori Alam Melayu, kategori Antarabangsa dan kategori Pelajar Antarabangsa di Malaysia (PAM).



SESI TEMU MESRA TNC HEPA BERSAMA WARGA BHEPA USM

Prof. Dr. Shahrur Shamsuddin, TNC HEPA meluangkan masa dalam satu sesi temu mesra bersama warga BHEPA bertempat di Dewan Pembangunan Siswa 1 (DPS 1). Dalam sesi perjumpaan hari pertama sebagai TNC HEPA yang baharu, beliau mengharapkan semua staf dapat melakukan yang terbaik dan bekerja dengan seikhlas hati dalam menjalankan tugas dan tanggungjawab masing-masing. Beliau juga menyatakan bahawa kegembiraan dalam melaksanakan

tugas adalah menjadi satu keutamaan dan meminta warga BHEPA melihat keberadaan sesama kita agar segala kesulitan dalam bekerja dapat ditangani.

"Mewarisi dan meneruskan kecemerlangan TNC HEPA yang terdahulu serta perjuangan dalam pemerksaan mahasiswa USM merangkumi 'menghakupayakan' mahasiswa agar kebolehan mereka dalam mengasah idea dan kreativiti menjadi konsep penting serta dapat direalisasikan oleh mahasiswa agar berada pada tahap yang terbaik," ujarnya lagi. Shahrur turut bertemu mesra pada sesi pengenalan bersama ketua-ketua sektor/unit BHEPA bagi ketiga-tiga kampus USM pada pagi tadi bertempat di Bangunan Pentadbiran BHEPA H20.

Teks/Foto: NirMaryadi Rashid & Muhammad Fikri Omar

LAWATAN PENANDA ARAS

**Pusat Perhubungan
Alumni UniMAP
ke Universiti
Sains Malaysia**

Pusat Pembangunan Alumni (ADC) Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) menerima lawatan penanda aras dari delegasi Pusat Perhubungan Alumni (PPA) Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP) bagi berkongsi perihal struktur dan fungsi Pusat Alumni, kewangan dan pengurusan data.

Penyelaras Pusat Pembangunan Alumni (ADC), Puan Sharifah Darweena menyambut delegasi dengan sesi pembentangan pelan tindakan serta aktiviti ADC sepanjang tahun 2023 serta pencapaian terdahulu.

Pengarah Pusat Perhubungan Alumni UniMAP, Dr. Khairul Anwar Abdul Halim turut berkongsi perihal pengurusan data alumni serta sistem yang digunakan oleh ADC. Khairul Anwar berkata tujuan utama mereka mengadakan lawatan ini adalah untuk berkongsi mengenai fungsi pusat alumni serta perihal kewangan ADC. Beliau turut melawat sekitar bangunan The Bricks serta meninjau ke Anjung Budi, Pejabat Persatuan Alumni (PAUSM) serta ke ADC. Turut hadir ke perjumpaan ini pegawai dan staf ADC serta dua staf PPA, UniMAP.

*Teks: Syahnaz Riza Sukor
Foto: Mohd Fairus Md Isa*



BMSC2023:

"Exploring The Intersection of Technology, Society, and Business: Advancing The Future of Digital Innovation and Sustainable Development"



The 1st Conference on Business, Management, and Social Sciences (BMSS 2023) was held successfully on November 24th, 2023 at New Era University College, Kajang. The conference theme is "Exploring the Intersection of Technology, Society, and Business: Advancing the Future of Digital Innovation and Sustainable Development". Organized by the Faculty of Accountancy, Management and Economics (FAME), it was aimed to provide a platform for researchers, professionals, scholars, and academicians to exchange and share their knowledge, information, new ideas, and experience with their peers from around the world.

Sharifah Darweena Syed Ahmad Amir Feisal the author of *Unleashing the Potential of Online Platforms: Enhancing Alumni Engagement and Visibility* at USM Alumni Development Centre together with the co-author Azmien Ielia Mohd Khairunizan, attended the conference. The topic discussed on the online method used by Alumni Development Centre (ADC), Universiti Sains Malaysia and how it is strategized to boost engagement with the alumni. At the end of the conference, it was awarded as the Best Paper under Education category.





A total of 29 papers were presented in 7 parallel tracks, with international presenters participating via Zoom, blending seamlessly with the onsite participants. The conference assembled over 40 participants and authors from 4 countries/cities: Macau, France, China and Malaysia.

Associate Professor Dr. Shamuni Kunjiapu, BMSC Chairperson; from the Department of Business Studies and Professor Lee Kam Hing, Research Professor and also the Director of the Institute for Sustainable Development Studies (ISDS), New Era University College, officiated the Opening Ceremony. Distinguished Professor Dato Dr. Rajah Rasiah, the Executive Director of the Asia-Europe Institute at the University of Malaya delivered the keynote speech, while panel sessions consisted of Adjunct Professor Cheah Kok Hoong (President of ESG Association Malaysia & Steerquest Sdn. Bhd. Executive Chairman), Professor Dr. Ramlee Mustapha (Faculty of Technical and Vocational, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris), Mr. Ding Hong Sing (National President SME Malaysia & Founder and Managing Director at AT P.A. Food Sdn. Bhd.), Ms. Steffi Yen (Manager, Climate Change and Sustainability Services, Ernst & Young Consulting Sdn. Bhd.), and IR. Dr. Ng Kok Chiang (Vice President, Chairman of Trading Group, The Electrical and Electronics Association of Malaysia & Independent Non-Executive Director Samaiden Group Berhad, ACO Group Berhad).

“The topic discussed on the online method used by Alumni Development Centre (ADC), Universiti Sains Malaysia and how it is strategized to boost engagement with the alumni. At the end of the conference, it was awarded as the Best Paper under Education category.”

*Text: Sharifah Darweena Syed Ahmad Amir Feisal & BMSC2023
Photo: BMSC2023 Committee*



DATO' SRI
Idris Jala

**Kongsi Sudut Pandang Pemimpin,
Imbas Kenangan Di USM**

Pengerusi dan Presiden Unit Pengurusan Prestasi dan Pelaksanaan (PEMANDU), Dato' Sri Idris Jala petang ini telah berkongsi pengalaman beliau dalam sesi rakaman Alumni Insight di Purple@USM. Idris juga turut meluangkan masa di sesi *Hi-Tea* bersama pihak Pusat Pembangunan Alumni (ADC) dan warga kerja BHEPA di The Bricks, USM.



Majlis yang dianjurkan oleh ADC itu adalah bagi mengalu-alukan kedatangan Idris ke USM selain mendapatkan perkembangan semasa beliau. Idris merupakan alumni USM yang aktif menyumbangkan ilmu serta bakat beliau. Selain itu, beliau turut melawat Pusat Pengajian Sains Kemasyarakatan (PPSK) USM iaitu pusat pengajian alma mater beliau, yang mana beliau disambut oleh barisan pengurusan tertinggi USM yang diketuai oleh Dekan PPSK, Profesor Madya Dr. Mohamad Shaharudin Samsurijan; serta warga kerja PPSK. Idris merupakan Alumni Pusat Pengajian Sains Kemasyarakatan USM tahun 1982.

Beliau dibawa melawat dewan-dewan kuliah di sekitar PPSK yang pernah menjadi tempat belajarnya dahulu. Ketika lawatannya, Dekan PPSK memberi taklimat tentang perkembangan terkini pusat pengajian.

Idris kemudiannya dibawa melawat ke tempat-tempat nostalgia seperti VC Rock, Bangunan H20 dan H21 (yang dahulunya merupakan Desasiswa Cahaya), seterusnya ke Purple untuk sesi rakaman dan akhirnya ke The Bricks.

“Menurut Idris, USM akan sentiasa menjadi kenangan terindah kerana di sinilah beliau berjumpa dengan isteri beliau, Datin Sri Pang Ngan Yue yang juga merupakan alumni USM, graduan Pusat Pengajian Ilmu Kemanusiaan tahun 1984.”



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Hadir sama pada majlis adalah Timbalan Naib Canselor Jaringan Industri, Komuniti dan Kelestarian Institusi, yang juga menjalankan fungsi TNC Bahagian Hal Ehwal Pembangunan Pelajar dan Alumni (BHEPA) Profesor Dr. Azlan Amran; mantan Pengarah Alumni, Profesor Madya Mohamed Talhah Idrus, pegawai-pegawai USM daripada BHEPA, Pusat Media dan Perhubungan Awam serta PPSK.

Teks: Sharifah Darweena Syed Ahmad Amir Feisal

Foto: Encik Muhammad Fikri Omar & Encik Shahnizam Ab Rahim

USM 61ST CONVOCATION

SIDANG PERTAMA KONVOKESYEN KE-61 USM: DUA PROFESOR EMERITUS DAN SEORANG PENERIMA PINGAT EMAS CANSOLOR DIRAIKAN

Sidang Pertama menyaksikan penganugerahan gelaran Profesor Emeritus kepada Profesor Emeritus Dato' Seri Dr. Md. Salleh Yaapar dan Profesor Emeritus Dr. Mohd Sakri@Shukri Salleh. Salleh Yaapar merupakan seorang tokoh akademik yang telah banyak menyumbang dalam bidang Kesusasteraan Bandingan dan Teori dan Kaedah Sastera.

Sementara itu, Mohd Sakri@Shukri Salleh adalah seorang tokoh akademik yang telah banyak berkongsi kepakaran dalam bidang pembangunan luar bandar dan lebih utama lagi, bidang pengurusan dan pembangunan berteraskan Islam. Turut diraikan pada Sidang Pertama adalah Penerima Pingat Emas Canselor, Muhamad Hafizi Mohd Hanafi, graduan Sarjana Muda Sastera dengan Pendidikan dari Pusat Pengajian Ilmu Pendidikan.



TUJUH GRADUAN USM TAMAT PENGAJIAN GENGAM DUA IJAZAH SERENTAK

Upacara Konvokesyen ke-61 Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) telah meraikan tujuh orang graduan yang telah menamatkan pengajian mereka dengan mengikuti program dwi-ijazah yang ditawarkan oleh Pusat Pengajian Pendidikan Jarak Jauh (PPPJJ) USM. Tujuan program ini adalah untuk membolehkan pelajar yang cemerlang dan berkemampuan untuk mengambil dua program ijazah sarjana muda yang berbeza dalam satu tempoh pengajian melalui mod sepenuh masa dan pada masa yang sama mengambil kursus secara mod jarak jauh.



Mereka yang diraikan dengan menerima dua ijazah secara serentak dan menerima dua skrol berbeza bidang adalah;

- Amirul Aiman Zulkifli - Sarjana Muda Ekonomi dan Sarjana Muda Pengurusan
- Goh Yew Seang - Sarjana Muda Ekonomi dan Sarjana Muda Pengurusan
- Muhammad A'qil Che Ibrahim - Sarjana Muda Ekonomi dan Sarjana Muda Pengurusan
- Muhammad Afnan Arif Mohd Amran - Sarjana Muda Sains Gunaan dan Sarjana Muda Sains Kemasyarakatan
- Jaggatharani A/P S. Shanmugam - Sarjana Muda Sains (Kimia) dan Sarjana Muda Sains (Biologi)
- Lee Zhi Wei - Sarjana Muda Ekonomi dan Sarjana Muda Sains
- Muhammad Nooryasin Kamaruddin - Sarjana Muda Sains Kemasyarakatan dan Sarjana Muda Sastera



GRADUAN OKU PENGLIHATAN TEKAD MENGEJAR IMPIAN

Dilahirkan cacat penglihatan, graduan Ijazah Sarjana Muda Sastera (Bahasa Inggeris untuk Profesional), Rishan Ponraj Sivaraj, 24, berstatus Orang Kelainan Upaya (OKU) tidak sesekali mengalah sepanjang pengajiannya di Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). Rishan yang mempunyai masalah cacat penglihatan akibat glaukoma dan katarak sejak lahir merupakan pelajar cemerlang dalam bidang pengajiannya dan pernah memenangi tempat pertama dalam Pertandingan Bacaan Braille Kategori Bahasa Inggeris peringkat Zon Utara pada bulan September yang lalu. Menurut Rishan ketika ditemui pada Sidang Kedua belas Upacara Konvokesyen ke-61 USM baru-baru ini, sebagai seorang yang suka dan ingin merantau, dia berasa sangat teruja ketika mendapat tawaran untuk menyambung pengajiannya di USM.

SUAMI ISTERI GENGGAM PHD BERSAMA

Sepasang suami isteri yang berasal dari Aceh Indonesia, Tata Alfatah, 40 dan Eka Marya Mistar, 40 hari ini bergelar siswazah Doktor Falsafah pada Sidang Kedua Upacara Konvokesyen ke-61 Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) apabila bergraduasi dalam sidang dan bidang yang sama. Keduanya memulakan pengajian di Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) pada September 2019 mengikuti jurusan Teknologi Biosumber yang menumpukan kepada bidang penyelidikan Green Materials di Pusat Pengajian Teknologi Industri (PPTI). Kedua-dua mereka berada di bawah pengawasan penyelidikan Dekan PPTI, Profesor Datuk Ts. Dr. Abdul Khalil H.P. Shawkataly.



ALUMNI SELEBRITI USM WARNAI SIDANG TERAKHIR UPACARA KONVOKESYEN

Sidang Ketiga belas Upacara Konvokesyen ke-61 Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) baru-baru ini telah menyaksikan kilauan istimewa dengan kehadiran dua selebriti tanah air yang juga merupakan alumni USM. Mereka yang hadir mewarnai suasana pada sidang terakhir upacara itu adalah Ahmad Fedtri Yahya, yang merupakan seorang pengacara dan personaliti televisyen terkenal Malaysia bersama Nur Nabila Mohd Razali atau lebih dikenali sebagai Nabila Razali yang merupakan salah seorang penyanyi terkenal Malaysia.

Ahmad Fedtri yang merupakan graduan lulusan Sarjana Muda Komunikasi (Filem dan Penyiaran) USM pada tahun 2003 berkata, jiwanya tertarik kepada bidang seni sejak zaman persekolahan meskipun latar belakang pendidikannya adalah dalam bidang sains tulen. Dalam sesi perkongsian, Ahmad Fedtri menyatakan kebanggaannya menjadi alumni USM dan betapa berertinya USM buatnya ketika bergelar sebagai pelajar USM, Ahmad Fedtri pada tahun akhir pengajiannya amat aktif dalam bidang kokurikulum dengan memegang lima jawatan utama dalam bidang tersebut. Sementara itu, Nabila Razali graduan jurusan Sarjana Muda Senibina yang bergraduasi pada tahun 2015 berkongsi kenangan manisnya ketika bergelar pelajar USM. Beliau memberanikan dirinya pada tahun kedua pengajiannya untuk menyanyi di khalayak ramai bersama kumpulan buskingnya, yang menjadi titik permulaan karier nyanyiannya.





MAJLIS
SAMBUTAN

50

Tahun

JUBLI
EMAS HBP

Majlis sambutan 50 tahun Jubli Emas Pusat Pengajian Perumahan dan Bangunan telah diadakan pada 28 Oktober 2023 (Sabtu) di Dewan Budaya, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Kampus Induk. Majlis ini dihadiri oleh beberapa tetamu kehormat dan yang juga Alumni USM iaitu; YBhg. Datuk Prof. Ar TPr N. Sundra Rajoo A/L Nadarajah (Pengarah Pusat Timbang Tara Antarabangsa (AIAC), YBrs. Ar Idr TPr Michael Ong Chin Keong (Naib Presiden BYG Group) dan juga YBhg. Datuk Sr Hj. Amran bin Hj. Mohd Majid (Timbalan Ketua Pengarah Sektor Pakar Jabatan Kerja Raya Malaysia).

Turut serta dalam majlis ini semua kakitangan dan pelajar Pusat Pengajian Perumahan, Bangunan & Perancangan (HBP) daripada pelbagai program. Antara impak daripada acara Ceramah Industri yang diadakan adalah sesi perkongsian pengalaman di HBP dan juga matlamat untuk menerapkan sinergi antara Universiti, Sektor Industri dengan Sektor Awam sebagai peranan penting dalam usaha menjadikan dunia lebih harmoni dan berdaya tahan.

Pada malam hari, majlis sambutan Jubli Emas ini diraikan dengan majlis makan malam, sesi perkongsian dan suai kenal dalam kalangan pelbagai Alumni daripada setiap kohort. Impak pada malam tersebut ialah sesi perkongsian dan suai kenal dalam kalangan Alumni dari pelbagai Sektor Industri dan juga Sektor Awam. Lanjutan majlis ini, telah membuka ruang dan memungkinkan wujud lebih banyak lagi jemputan daripada Alumni pelbagai bidang untuk memberikan sumbangan yang lebih mendalam dari segi ilmu praktikal ke bidang akademik pada masa hadapan.

Dr. Hazril Sherney Basher

Wakil Alumni Ambassador
Pusat Pengajian Perumahan Bangunan Dan Perancangan





SPICES

USM'S UNIQUE MEDICAL SCIENCE INTERACTIVE GALLERY Launched by VC at Health Campus

SPICES, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM)'s Medical Science Interactive Gallery, is one of the most ambitious and largest ArtScience projects in Malaysia.

Driven by doctors, designed by artists, SPICES was thoughtfully curated and developed at a cost of RM2.4 million to house over 200 human specimens that will be used as teaching and learning aids for medical students as well as students in other related fields.

Situated at the USM's School of Medical Sciences (PPSP), Health Campus, SPICES was officially launched recently by the USM Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed.

In his address at the launching ceremony, Abdul Rahman said, the interactive gallery, being the first of its kind in Malaysia that fuses the ideas of science and art, is equipped with three-dimensional (3D), virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) teaching and learning methods.

"Aside from that, it is also equipped with QR code scanners for visitors to access displays, interactive panels, audio systems, VR and AR as well as 3D-mapping of human organs, of which all these will surely provide an immersive and out of this world experience to the users."

Elaborating on the real human specimens on display, he said, "natural organs and specimens were taken through the process of tissue biopsy or by taking patients' tissues from body parts, then preserved and exhibited, including cancer cells and tumours."

"These organs and specimens were taken from patients who received treatment at the Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia (HUSM) Kubang Kerian, since it began operating for almost 40 years in 1984," said Abdul Rahman.

He added, "SPICES is expected to serve as an interesting teaching and learning space that has become iconic for PPSP, and it offers a difference not only to USM but also to other medical science study centres in Malaysia."

"The gallery is not restricted to USM's medical degree programme students only, but is also a suitable teaching and learning space for the Master's degree students at the USM Health Campus, as well as the public, to attract them to have a deeper interest in science and health, especially medicine.

"SPICES was developed based on the original idea to establish a pathology museum, besides it being proof of USM's commitment to innovation and excellence in education and research," said Abdul Rahman, beaming with pride.

He further explained, "it is indeed a very important achievement for the university – the convergence of technology, medical knowledge and the art of learning – and it symbolizes USM's commitment in providing a more creative and dynamic learning experience for students."

"The interactive gallery, being the first of its kind in Malaysia that fuses the ideas of science and art, is equipped with three-dimensional (3D), virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) teaching and learning methods."

- Abdul Rahman





“Last but not least, I wish to thank the collaborative efforts of the team of designers, led by the former Director of USM Tuanku Fauziah Museum and Gallery (MGTF), Associate Professor Dr. Hasnul Jamal Saidon and the team from PPSP headed by Professor Emerita Dr. Nor Hayati Othman and Associate Professor Dr. Sharifah Emilia Tuan Sharif,” said Abdul Rahman.

The name 'SPICES' was coined from PPSP's philosophy which included: S (Student-centred) P (Problem-based), I (Integrated), C (Community-based), E (Electives) and S (Systematic and Spiral). SPICES also stands for 'SPAcE for interaCtivE medical studies'.

The inauguration ceremony was also attended by the USM Health Campus Director, Professor Dr. Shahrarum Shamsuddin; PPSP Dean, Professor Dr. Abdul Razak Sulaiman; Hospital USM Director, Dato' Professor Dr. Nik Hisamuddin Nik Ab Rahman; INFORMM Director, Associate Professor Dr. Aziah Ismail; Deputy Deans; Deputy Directors of Hospital USM; and Chairperson of the SPICES Inauguration Ceremony Organising Committee, Associate Professor Dr. Sharifah Emilia Tuan Sharif.

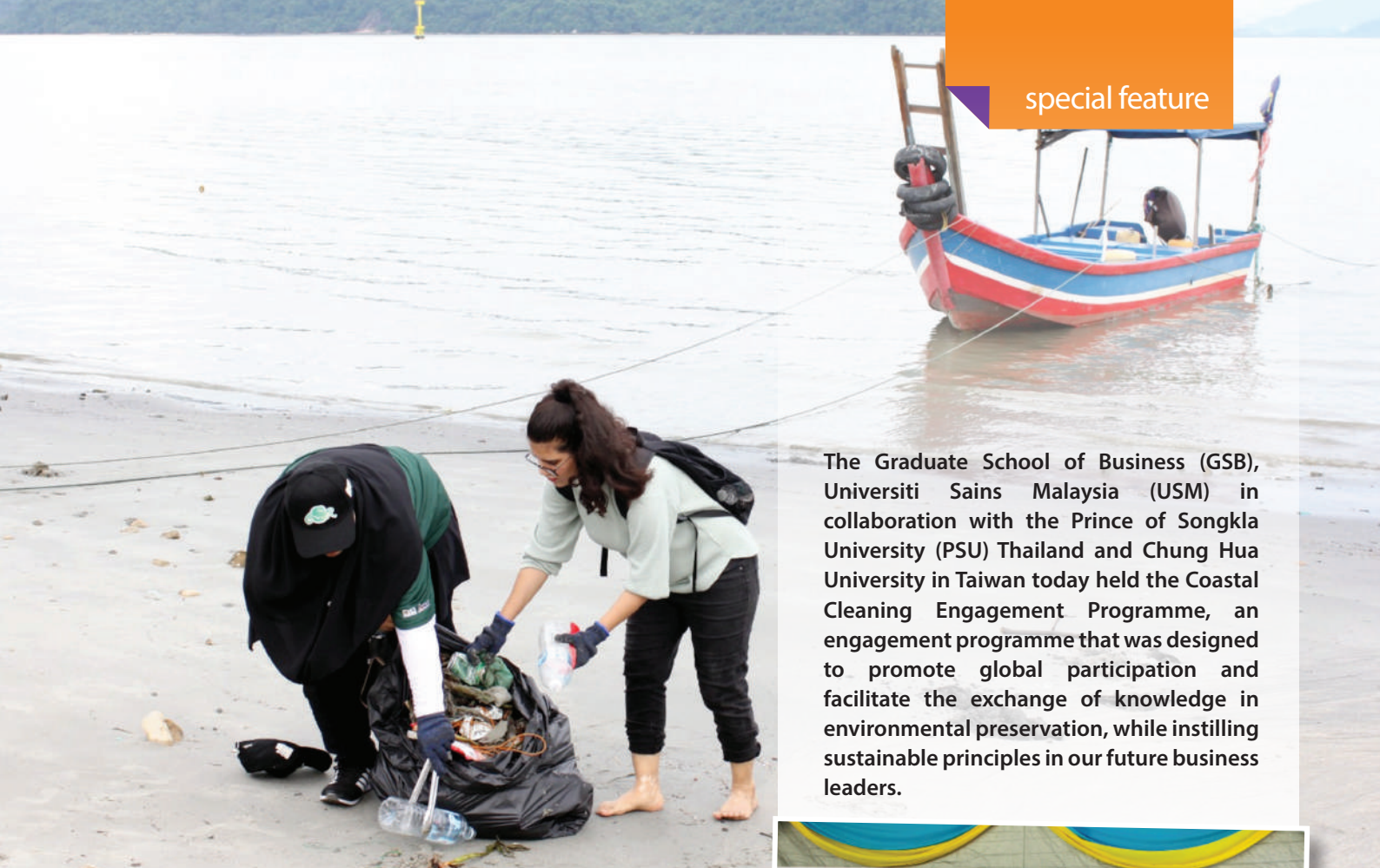
Text: Tan Ewe Hoe

Photo: Abdul Hasib Abdul Rahman



“SPICES is expected to serve as an interesting teaching and learning space that has become iconic for PPSP, and it offers a difference not only to USM but also to other medical science study centres in Malaysia.”

- Abdul Rahman



The Graduate School of Business (GSB), Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) in collaboration with the Prince of Songkla University (PSU) Thailand and Chung Hua University in Taiwan today held the Coastal Cleaning Engagement Programme, an engagement programme that was designed to promote global participation and facilitate the exchange of knowledge in environmental preservation, while instilling sustainable principles in our future business leaders.

GSB AND PARTNERS CREATE IMPACT On Coastal Communities With Engagement Programme





“This programme is not just about cleaning up our coasts, but it’s about creating lasting impacts on the communities that rely on these coastal resources for their livelihoods. By coming together today, we aim to empower and uplift these communities, ensuring that they thrive alongside the natural beauty of our coasts.”

With the aim to generate substantial and enduring positive impacts on local communities that rely on these resources of their livelihoods, this programme serves as an exceptional platform for the school and students of GSB@USM to interact with their international counterparts, with a specific focus on sustainability and the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Held at Downtown Penang Second Bridge, the programme was officiated by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Industry, Community Network and Institutional Sustainability, Professor Dr. Azlan Amran, representing the USM Vice-Chancellor.

Included at the same programme was the sharing session entitled ‘Impact of Coastal Cleaning Towards Sustainable Development Goal’ by Associate Professor Dr. Japareng Lalung and Waste Separation and Recycling’ presented by Dr. Chong Khai Lin from Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) and Professor Dr. Nabsiah Abdul Wahid from USM.

Azlan Amran in his officiating speech said, it is hoped that the programme will provide a positive impact to the visitors as they will leave enriched with the wealth of knowledge and expertise shared by the esteemed speakers.

“I would like to encourage each and every one of you to fully immerse yourselves in this experience.

“Participate wholeheartedly, learn voraciously, and engage passionately. Let us leave here not only with cleaner coastlines, but with a renewed sense of purpose and responsibility towards our environment and society;” said Azlan Amran.

“Tide together: preserve the pearl!,” he ended his speech.

Meanwhile, representing the Dean of GSB, Deputy Dean of Academic, Career and International, Dr. Zurina Mohaidin in her speech said that this programme holds an immense significance, not only in terms of the impact it will have on the environment, but also in the spirit of collaboration which it fosters among us.

“This programme is not just about cleaning up our coasts, but it’s about creating lasting impacts on the communities that rely on these coastal resources for their livelihoods. By coming together today, we aim to empower and uplift these communities, ensuring that they thrive alongside the natural beauty of our coasts,” said Zurina.

The coastal cleaning effort by 3 teams at the programme managed to collect a total of 78 kgs of rubbish of various types.

Text: Nur Farrah Ezlin Mohd Suhaimi & Mazlan Hanafi Basharudin • Photo: Shahnizam Ab Rahim



USM-WU RELEASED APPROXIMATELY 5 MILLION BABY CRABS Into The Sea In Thailand

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), through the School of Distance Education (PPPJJ) has visited a restoration and research centre of Blue Swimming Crab (BSC) known as Crab Bank in Nai Thung Fisherman Village in Tha Sala District, Nakhon Si Thammarat Province, Thailand.

This visit was conducted together with the USM-WU Mobility Programme: Collaborative Actions for a Sustainable Tomorrow held in Walailak University (WU) from 9 to 13 October 2023.



18 participants were involved and were given a briefing on the Crab Bank project led by Assistant Professor Dr. Amonsak Sawusdee. During the visit, participants took part in the release of 5 batches, consisting of approximately 5 millions baby crabs or 'zoes' into the sea.

"The BSC species is one of the species that contribute to fisheries industry in Thailand, with Thailand being the fifth largest exporter of BSC worldwide," said Amonsak during the interview after the briefing.

In 1999, 20,000 metric tonne productions of BSC were recorded and which then decreased to 10,000 metric tonne in 2015. The size of an adult female crab has also decreased from 14 cm to 9 cm ever since.

"The initiative to conduct research and restore the species has been done through community engagement projects with fishing communities around Nakhon Si Thammarat and Surat Thani provinces, together with other stakeholders."

"The initiative to conduct research and restore the species has been done through community engagement projects with fishing communities around Nakhon Si Thammarat and Surat Thani provinces, together with other stakeholders.

To date, 84 Crab Banks have been established and 20,000 gravid female crabs have been caught. The newly-hatched baby crabs or 'zoes' were then released into the sea.

"This initiative has improved the production of BSC from 8 kgs in 2 to 3 days catch duration to 15 kgs in 1 to 2 days catch duration per each fishing boat. The catches are marketed online or sold during food festivals and such. The locals produced merchandise such as bags, caps and t-shirts to promote, as well as to educate the communities about this project," he added.

"18 participants were involved and were given a briefing on the Crab Bank project led by Assistant Professor Dr. Amonsak Sawusdee. During the visit, participants took part in the release of 5 batches, consisting of approximately 5 millions baby crabs or 'zoes' into the sea."



This community engagement project is one of the most successful community projects led by Walailak University, and covered 5 SDGs which are 'Life Below Water', 'Decent Work and Economic Growth', 'Zero Hunger', 'No Poverty' and 'Partnerships for the Goals'.

The aim is to provide the locals with the knowledge and guidance, which would allow them to sustain the project independently. Significantly, this would also benefit the local communities to improve their household income, to preserve and restore the environment and educate them to become knowledgeable fishermen.

Text & Photos: Nazira Zainal Abidin & Nor Rafizah Hj. Md. Zain





SOTA - JABATAN PENJARA MALAYSIA Anjur Program Teater Muzikal Muhibah 2023; Kreativiti dan Transformasi Melalui Seni di Penjara

Pusat Pengajian Seni (SOTA) Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) dengan kerjasama Jabatan Penjara Malaysia hari ini telah menganjurkan Program Teater Muzikal Muhibah 2023 iaitu sebuah terapi pemulihan yang melibatkan penghuni penjara dalam usaha menerapkan nilai-nilai murni melalui kaedah memartabatkan kesenian dan kebudayaan sejajar dengan visi Jabatan Penjara Malaysia sebagai Peneraju Perkhidmatan Korektif dan hasrat jabatan untuk menjadi 'Civilized Human Culture Development Centre' (CHCDC).

Berlangsung di Dewan Budaya USM, program ini disertai oleh seramai 82 orang penghuni dari 9 kumpulan Institusi Penjara Malaysia.

Bertemakan 'Sinar Harapan dari Terongko', program ini bertindak sebagai salah satu bentuk penyampaian 'Mesej dari Penjara' kepada masyarakat untuk mencegah perlakuan jenayah, penyalahgunaan dadah dan gejala sosial.

Majlis Penutupan Program Muzikal Muhibah 2023 disempurnakan oleh Timbalan Komisioner Jeneral Penjara (Keselamatan dan Koreksional), Dato' Haji Abdul Aziz Abdul Razak.

Abdul Aziz dalam ucapan perasmian penutupnya berkata, Program Muzikal Muhibah 2023 ini merupakan pendekatan Teater Terapi iaitu sebagai satu platform yang memusatkan kepelbagaian elemen pemulihan yang efektif dan membolehkan penghuni menginsafi kesalahan lampau.

"Harapan jabatan adalah agar program ini mampu bertindak sebagai serampang dua mata bagi menyampaikan 'Mesej Pencegahan Jenayah' kepada penuntut dan kakitangan Institusi Pengajian Tinggi Awam khususnya USM, serta komuniti setempat mengenai pencegahan jenayah, penyalahgunaan dadah dan gejala sosial serta menimbulkan kesedaran nilai kasih sayang atau nilai - nilai murni yang bertaut rapat dengan hubungan kekeluargaan," katanya.

Tambah Abdul Aziz, beliau berharap agar penonton memahami intipati mesej yang ingin disampaikan oleh penghuni-penghuni melalui persembahan teater yang dipersembahkan serta dapat dijadikan pedoman dan iktibar dalam menjalani kehidupan seharian.



“Bertemakan ‘Sinar Harapan dari Terongko’, program ini bertindak sebagai salah satu bentuk penyampaian ‘Mesej dari Penjara’ kepada masyarakat untuk mencegah perlakuan jenayah, penyalahgunaan dadah dan gejala sosial.”

Sementara itu, Timbalan Dekan Penyelidikan, Inovasi dan Libatsama Industri-Komuniti SOTA USM, Dr. Norfarizah Mohd Bakhir dalam ucapan aluannya berkata, kerjasama antara dua pihak ini adalah satu usaha perkongsian dan pertukaran ilmu, disiplin dan pengalaman yang positif yang mana hal ini bersesuaian dengan tuntutan ilmu itu sendiri untuk diamalkan dan dimanfaatkan bagi kesejahteraan sejagat.

“SOTA USM juga melihat kerjasama ini sebagai satu bentuk sokongan dan pendidikan, terhadap masyarakat agar memberikan sokongan positif dan membentuk pemikiran ‘peluang kedua’ dalam kalangan penghuni penjara yang sering didiskriminasi apabila pulang ke pangkuan masyarakat.

“Kita mengharapkan golongan intelek dan pelajar seharusnya bertindak sebagai agen dalam menyebarkan sokongan dan pemikiran positif apabila bekerja dalam pelbagai profesion dengan masyarakat kelak. Program sebegini juga dapat menyampaikan mesej keinsafan dan pelajaran kehidupan tentang pencegahan dan kesan jenayah kepada generasi muda khususnya para pelajar,” kata Norfarizah.

Program Teater Muzikal Muhibah 2023 ini merupakan kesinambungan daripada kerjasama yang dijalinan pada 14 hingga 15 Jun 2023 yang lalu melalui Bengkel Pemindahan Ilmu, “Pemulihan dan Pembangunan Modal Insan Melalui Seni Teater” yang mana para peserta menimba ilmu dari kepakaran pensyarah-pensyarah Bahagian Drama & Teater USM.

Bengkel tersebut melibatkan 64 peserta yang terdiri daripada pegawai-pegawai penjara dari 31 institusi penjara manakala pertandingan teater muzikal ini melibatkan seramai 259 penghuni penjara dari 29 institusi penjara di seluruh Malaysia.

Hasil daripada saringan penjurian secara rakaman yang diadili oleh juri-juri yang terdiri pensyarah-pensyarah Bahagian Drama dan Teater SOTA USM, maka 9 institusi telah terpilih untuk dibawa ke pertandingan peringkat akhir pada hari ini.

Hadir sama pada majlis adalah Pengarah Bahagian Pengurusan Banduan Jabatan Penjara Malaysia, Komisioner Haji Ajidin Haji Salleh; Pengarah Penjara Negeri Pulau Pinang Penolong Kanan Komisioner Haji Zulkifli Abdul Manah; Pengarah Penjara Seberang Perai, Penolong Kanan Komisioner Mahadzir Che Daud; Timbalan Dekan Akademik, Kerjaya dan Antarabangsa SOTA USM, Dr. Mohammad Khizal Mohamed Saat; Pengarah Dewan Budaya USM, Ramnah Ramli; Pengarah Program Teater Muzikal Muhibah 2023, Dr. Azrul Azizi Amirul serta pegawai-pegawai utama universiti dan Jabatan Penjara Malaysia.

Teks: Nur Farrah Ezlin Mohd Suhaimi

KEBERSAMAAN HPU Antara Tunjang Kekuatan Sektor Pendidikan Tinggi

“Kementerian Pendidikan Tinggi (KPT) ingin menegaskan yang sektor pendidikan tinggi mesti bergerak sebagai satu ketumbukan yang kuat dan saling menyokong,” kata Menteri Pendidikan Tinggi Malaysia, Dato’ Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin.

Menurut beliau, perkongsian secara strategik dan berkesan tentang segala ilmu, sumber, kepakaran dan penemuan baharu harus menjadi budaya.

“Bukan sahaja dalam kalangan anggota dan warga sesebuah Institut Pengajian Tinggi (IPT) atau organisasi, tetapi merentas organisasi dan lapangan.

“Bukan sahaja bersaing secara sihat dan produktif, tetapi turut mengumpul dan menggabungkan kekuatan yang ada pada semua pihak, menjadi satu kekuatan bersepadu sektor pendidikan tinggi,” katanya ketika merasmikan Sambutan 40 Tahun Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM).

Mohamed Khaled berkata, dalam konteks bidang perubatan, KPT tidak mahu lagi membeza-bezakan kedudukan dan taraf antara hospital universiti yang ada.

“Kita tidak akan melihat Hospital USM sebagai kekuatan USM, Pusat Perubatan Universiti Malaya (PPUM) sebagai kekuatan Universiti Malaya (UM) atau Hospital Canselor Tuanku Muhriz sebagai kekuatan Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) secara berasingan dan terpisah.

“Sebaliknya, semua pusat perubatan dan hospital ini adalah aset dan kekuatan bersama sektor pendidikan tinggi negara.

“Jadi, kesemua hospital dan institusi perubatan ini mesti duduk dan bergerak secara bersekali dan berlaku perkongsian sumber, kepakaran dan ilmu termasuk perkongsian sistem, pendekatan tadbir urus serta amalan terbaik,” jelasnya lagi.

Tambah Mohamed Khaled, semua Hospital Pengajar Universiti (HPU) perlu membangun secara bersama.

“Dengan bergerak secara seiring dan bersekali, segala desakan dan tuntutan teknologi terkini, amalan terbaik serta pengaplikasian platform atau medium digital dapat dihadapi bukan sahaja secara serius, tetapi dengan lebih berkesan.



“Fokus ke arah ‘Artificial Intelligence’ atau AI dan ‘machine learning’ adalah perkara yang sudah tidak boleh dielakkan. Ledakan teknologi disruptif ini sudah menerjah masuk ke dalam segenap spektrum kehidupan termasuk dalam sektor perkhidmatan perubatan dan penjagaan kesihatan,” ujarnya.

Sambutan 40 Tahun Hospital USM diadakan bertujuan untuk menyebarkan maklumat tentang perkembangan Hospital USM selaras dengan objektif penubuhannya iaitu berkongsi informasi terkini mengenai pencapaian, skop dan fungsi utama Hospital USM, melestarikan pencapaian unggul dalam perkhidmatan kesihatan kepada masyarakat setempat, dan mempromosi perkhidmatan kesihatan ke arah masyarakat sihat selaras dengan konsep Malaysia MADANI.

Mula beroperasi sejak tahun 1983, Hospital USM sehingga kini telah melahirkan lebih 3,000 pakar perubatan rentas bidang dengan melalui pelbagai evolusi dalam melaksanakan fungsinya sebagai sebuah HPU dan menawarkan perkhidmatan kesihatan kepada masyarakat.



“Jadi, kesemua hospital dan institusi perubatan ini mesti duduk dan bergerak secara bersekali dan berlaku perkongsian sumber, kepakaran dan ilmu termasuk perkongsian sistem, pendekatan tadbir urus serta amalan terbaik.”

- Mohamed Khaled Nordin

Sambutan ini adalah satu peristiwa untuk memperingati perjalanan kejayaan yang telakar sepanjang empat (4) dekad penubuhannya. Tidak hanya menyaksikan perubahan dalam landskap perubatan, tetapi juga menyaksikan kisah-kisah kejayaan dan kisah penyembuhan yang menyayat hati. Setiap pesakit yang dirawat adalah sebahagian daripada kisah besar Hospital USM dalam memberikan harapan kepada mereka yang memerlukan bantuan.

Sebagai pelopor dalam bidang penjagaan kesihatan di negeri Kelantan, khususnya dan wilayah Pantai Timur, amnya, Hospital USM menjadi tonggak utama kesihatan masyarakat yang sentiasa memberi khidmat terbaik kepada ribuan pesakit saban tahun.

Turut hadir dalam majlis tersebut ialah Timbalan Ketua Setiausaha (Dasar), KPT, Dato' Dr. Haji Megat Sany Megat Ahmad Supian; Ketua Pengarah Pendidikan Tinggi, Jabatan Pendidikan Tinggi, KPT, Profesor Dr. Azlinda Azman; Pengerusi Lembaga Gabenor Universiti, USM, Dato' Seri Dr. Awang Adek Hussin; Naib Canselor USM, Profesor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed; Pengarah Kampus, Kampus Kesihatan USM, Profesor Dr. Shaharum Shamsuddin; Pengarah Hospital USM, Dato' Profesor Dr. Nik Hisamuddin Nik Ab. Rahman; dan Timbalan Pengarah (Operasi), Hospital USM merangkap Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Sambutan 40 Tahun Hospital USM, Profesor Dr. Mohd Imran Yusof.

*Teks: Nik Sheila Erini Che Mat Kamel
Foto: Abdul Hasib Abdul Rahman*



EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH KNOWLEDGE, USM Alumni The First Malaysian To Win Wikimedian Award

“Knowledge is power.
Information is liberating.
Education is the premise
of progress, in every
society, in every family.”

– Kofi Annan

A graduate from the School of Humanities, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Taufik Rosman, the 24-year-old Sabahan has recently been recognised for his extraordinary dedication to enriching the Malay-language edition of Wikipedia.

Hailing from a family of educators, Taufik’s passion for spreading knowledge was ignited at the age of 13 when he noticed there weren’t that many entries in the Malay-language edition of Wiktionary (the dictionary counterpart to Wikipedia). Thus, he resolved to fix this by adding Malay words to the site.

A few months ago, Taufik received the prestigious Wikimedian of the Year Award, an accolade that celebrates the outstanding contributions of Wikimedia editors and contributors worldwide that marks Taufik as the first Malaysian to receive this esteemed recognition.

Taufik described that this achievement as an “overwhelming” experience.

“Usually, what I translate would be related to culture, both Malaysian and cultures from abroad. I’ve translated articles on Japanese and Maori cultures among others, in the past.

“There may be some misconceptions regarding the site’s reliability, but the English-language edition of Wikipedia was difficult to tamper with, especially for newcomers,” said Taufik adding that he has always been a fan of Wikipedia’s accessible nature.

Entries to the site are typically vetted for the subject’s notability and verifiability, and monitored by moderators like Taufik, who is based in Sabah. Such entries are also expected to cite multiple sources and use neutral wording.



“Most people have been told that Wikipedia is unreliable, and I mean, it is. You cannot cite Wikipedia but all Wikipedia articles have sources and citations – which you can find at the bottom of the article,” he added.

According to him, the sources make the articles reliable. Hence, he calls on other Malaysians to join in on the effort to contribute their thoughts and knowledge about Malaysia to the website.

“I guess I can say that each one of us knows something about the world. If we all could gather in one place to add this knowledge online, it would make information about our country Malaysia more accessible.”

While there aren’t many volunteers like Taufik in the country, he volunteers to conduct workshops and events at universities across the country.

As a volunteer, he teaches students how to make entries and educates them on the necessity for the so-called free knowledge movement, in order to combat misinformation.

Taufik is currently focusing on documenting Malaysia’s rich tapestry of indigenous languages in East Malaysia and among the 18 Orang Asli groups.

“Recently, I went to Kelantan to teach the Orang Asli tribe to write their native language by instructing them on how to write for Wikipedia.



“Usually, what I translate would be related to culture, both Malaysian and cultures from abroad. I’ve translated articles on Japanese and Maori cultures among others, in the past.”

- Taufik Rosman

“This Sunday, I will be organising a programme in the forest with secondary schools in Dungun, in collaboration with the Dungun District Education Office, to teach students how to take photos and upload them to Wikipedia,” he said.

On that note, he called on fellow Malaysians to consider contributing their own knowledge about the country and the world around them to the site.

For instance, the Malay Wikipedia has only about 300,000 articles, compared to Indonesia’s 659,004 articles.

“I would love to see the Malaysian public having this culture of free knowledge. Having people share knowledge with one another is quite beneficial because it shows that Malaysians care about providing knowledge for free and making it accessible,” he concluded.

The Wikimedian of the Year is an annual award that is dedicated to honour great contributions to the Wikimedia (Wiktionary, WikiCommons, and Wikipedia) movement.

Established in August 2011 by co-founder Jimmy Wales, they select and honour recipients at the annual awards show called Wikimania.

*Text: Nur Farrah Ezlin Mohd Suhaimi
Photos: freemalysiatoday*



Practicing GOOD LEADERSHIP Through HUMILITY

It was a pleasure for the Alumni Bulletin editorial team to be able to hold an 'in-person' session with Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) distinguished alumni, Dr. Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan, the Ministry of Health Director-General. Though most of his time is spent in a whirl of feverish activities or leadership task, this figure, well-known as an expert in public health, did not upset us as he agreed to share his valuable thoughts on many issues pertaining to life and success.

Radzi who was born in Pulau Pinang on 1st May 1965 is also very well known as a consultant physician and gastroenterologist. When asked on his habits with regard to success, Radzi has his own conviction regarding himself. He believed that in order to be a good person, he must do good without any prejudice.

"As human beings and as a Muslim in particular, we have to do good deeds in this world. I always feel that in order for us to be and do good, you need to believe in whatever cause that you are pursuing. As for myself, even from my childhood, I have always looked at a doctor as being a truly noble profession. I say that basically because of the nature of being a medical practitioner, which is to help others.

"I think the values that we need to have in someone would be one who is really passionate, and really knows exactly what free healthcare is all about. It is not just about getting the degree or becoming a super specialist or things like that, but they must look at the healthcare service in an innovative, holistic manner."

"Doctors have been helping people to return to work. So this is something which I have always seen from my childhood and even during my student days. I think this is something that I really love to do and this is very much in line with my inner feelings," said Radzi.

He also said that the best way to help others and making an impact to people is by helping them. "In this case, other than being a doctor, it will help me to fulfil my desire to provide value as a human to the work that I do. As for me, while treating my patients, at the same time I can do '*jariah*' or charity. That's what I have in me all the while, to embrace this kind of conviction," he added.

The motivation to be involved in public health

As he mentioned before, what is needed to instill passion in what he currently does, is to understand the role of public health, especially when we are the ones handling the healthcare issues. So from his experiences, most of his motivation would come from within.

“Maybe I can share with you the time when I first started as a clinician, and then throughout my career fully at the hospitals. It was then I started to realise that I'm actually looking at a very narrow scope of patients on the spectrum of the problems in healthcare, efficacy qualities and assisting physicians. I'm more on the therapeutic area of the medical field, and gastroenterology in particular is very narrow. And I started to see that, for example, I've seen lots of colorectal cancer cases. They come in at the very late stage. Cases of liver cancer patients coming at the very late stage, as well as some of the problems that we have, for example, the liver cirrhosis, they're all coming at this stage whereby it's already spreading.

It strikes me on how I see things in another perspective. We need to look at more on the preventive aspect. If that was the root of the problem, then we could do promotions or campaigns in society or in the communities. So that will lead to public health improvements. I have really started to realize this thing. I think it may seem a bit late in my career, but it's still not too late. That's why I think I'm starting to get involved with my counterpart in the public health sector, in the clinic, as well as in the medical field.

As for the policy makers, they should have it in their hearts on how they can work together in this situation. I'm starting to see the results of what I'm doing and which definitely brings me joy. Yet, I don't know whether my predecessor or whoever's in the top management is noticing me taking this kind of approach. I think that probably they have decided or perhaps suggested to nominate me as the deputy to continue doing the work in healthcare, which at the moment is holistically interesting.

When we discussed the issue further, Radzi then shared his view on the occasion where students especially, have become too rigid in their fields of study. He shared his key points when seeking talents, and the core values that they must possess. He also advised students who would like to venture into the healthcare field.



“Why do you want to become a doctor? If the answer is because ‘I'm interested and passionate’, you will need to do whatever it takes, in order for you to fulfil your dream and become a successful doctor.”

“What we'll look for is a person's number one priority. I think the values that we need to have in someone would be one who is really passionate, and really knows exactly what free healthcare is all about. It is not just about getting the degree or becoming a super specialist or things like that, but they must look at the healthcare service in an innovative, holistic manner. Look at how they look at patients. They need to look beyond that. They can't just look at patients from the disease that they have, but they must look at the patients as human beings who have all their loved ones. Having all these raw quality data would determine how we should look at it. So the first aspect would be the interest, and they must also have a clear direction on how they're going to approach their career. So, for clinicians as I mentioned just now, when they see the patients, they must see them holistically, and not just the disease alone in particular, and then the people who are responsible for public health must look at the wider impact in the health care services offered.

Students generally tend to be very ambitious, which is good. But what they do not know is actually, how or where to be where you are right now. It took a lot of effort, a lot of sacrifice. They do not quite know that; what they know is like okay, I want to be there. I just want to be, I want to, I want to, I want to be; but it takes a lot to be where you are right now. It's a big responsibility to answer to the public. You have a big task to do. So there is the need to tone down the mindsets of the students, and then make them see how to achieve their ambition in a realistic manner.

The sacrifices that come along and some advice to ponder upon

In order to achieve such an incredible success in career or even in life, one needs to overcome challenges and sacrifices. As we all know, the path to success is paved with sacrifices and the journey is often bumpy and uneasy. Here, what Radzi has to overcome in terms of challenges and sacrifices has made him where he is now.

“I think the most important thing and crucial is the core value that we carry along. In this case, the core value that I wish everyone could have in their soul, in order for them to put more focus in their work, is definitely the interest. Then only the passion follows, because it is not just the interest that matters. They must be passionate and they must believe in what they are going to do or to be.



“As for me, while treating my patients, at the same time I can do ‘jariah’ or charity. That’s what I have in me all the while, to embrace this kind of conviction.”

Here are some examples. If you plan to become a doctor, you have to first and foremost ask yourself this question. Why do you want to become a doctor? If the answer is because ‘I’m interested and passionate’, you will need to do whatever it takes, in order for you to fulfil your dream and become a successful doctor.

Subsequently, they must also understand that they must know what is expected of them, once they have become a doctor. Being a doctor is not as interesting or glamorous as it sounds. You will have to deal with challenges, emotions and even the ability to deal with uncertainties. On the other hand, you must ensure that you have the ability to do your job correctly, as the role of a doctor is surely to save lives.

You will also need to sacrifice your time, especially when your presence is needed at your workplace during odd hours. This is the most challenging part, whereby to a certain extent it may affect your quality times with your loved ones, or doing your hobbies or whatever you love to do. So, that is why I said you must be very sure on what you want to do.

So, we come back to the ‘interesting’ topic. What is happening now, what we are seeing right now is, I see many people who want to become a doctor mainly because they want to have a better life. They’ll attain more money and have a better lifestyle. Yes, I won’t deny that part. Surely you will get a higher pay compared to other professions, but what is missing there would be satisfaction. And if it is the salary that matters, you will definitely feel exhausted and will soon start to feel the burden. It is different if you are doing it because you are passionate about it. You’ll enjoy it and then you would feel fulfilled from the result of your work. That is more rewarding as compared to simply because of all the material and monetary pursuits.

It is very fulfilling, especially when you look at the outcomes of what you have done. I can share my experiences when I had to deal with some of my patients. They got really sick to the extent that they almost lost their life. But with the treatment and care that I gave them, they have recovered well and have returned to what resembles a normal life. Their family is very much happier, and they can even continue their daily lives as a husband, father, worker and so forth. I felt really good and truly satisfied as I am part of the people’s journey in life. I felt rewarded and for sure I knew I got the very best reward from God.

So the same goes as well at this point in time, whereby now I’m more on looking at the healthcare field in a wider perspective. What drives me to this point is that, I would like to see change happening now. I would like it to change and to have some reformation because in today’s world, we have to deal with a lot of issues and challenges. So this is where I think I can contribute to improve and I would like to make it happen in a way that it should be. So in shaa Allah it will be my fulfilment for something that I have embarked on. No matter how many the obstacles or the challenges are, but with passion, attention and conviction, I think in shaa Allah I can overcome all that with the help of my big ‘family’ in this field.”

The biggest issues and ways to tackle them!

"It is very pertinent. I think the most difficult or the most challenging issue is to bring change. As I have said before, to bring change requires a lot of time and sacrifices. We have so many legacies, have so-called cultures and norms. Our healthcare landscape has also changed. We face a lot of health issues related to unhealthy lifestyle. To prevent now is way better than to treat. So we need to create a paradigm shift. If we don't change, we will not be able to adopt or to adapt to these new kinds of challenges that we have now.

So the main thing is to make a change, and to understand that not many people will make the necessary changes. I have gotten lots of resistance to the changes that I had made at every level. There will be resistance, but we have to do it. Because as I have mentioned just now, certain things have changed in some parts of our culture and our norms, to the extent that what we used to do previously might not be relevant now. So changes are inevitable.

What I would like to say is, we need to engage with the community for us to solve these issues. We must reach out to the targeted groups and tell, advocate, educate and persuade them on how important it is to make a change. Once you have engaged them, you may proceed to the next level, which is to execute.

So, before you make some changes you need to get some buy-in from your target audience. Keep on explaining what and why you have to take such actions or rules or ways to do work. I think eventually, you will get the results as what you have aimed for. And of course, I think you need to persevere with this. It may be difficult at the early stage, but surely at the end everybody will take it up and move on with the new environment and the changes it brings.

*Text: Marziana Mohamed Alias
& Mazlan Hanafi Basharudin
Photo: Nor Amin Zainal Kamarudin*



Down memory lane at USM

"I would say that the most memorable ones are definitely when I met my soulmate in USM. As we all knew, the USM medical campus is located in Kubang Kerian, Kelantan. But I have met her before I moved there. However, the memorable one is that the way I managed to get to know my in-laws' family. My family has actually been the strongest supporter, and so are my in-laws' family. I also became very much interested in that particular place as I get to know a lot of the Kelantanese dialect. And they are very good and friendly people. They are very unique and nice in the sense that I get to learn a lot of their culture and the way they speak.

What made me more attracted to the people in Kelantan is the fact that they have preserved their dialect very well. Even the Chinese community there can speak the dialect fluently. I stayed somewhere in a rural area in Kelantan called Pendek, where all the Chinese speak like the local Malays. Some of the words that I still remembered is 'gemulah', which refers to someone who has passed away. This was what a local Chinese told me.

Secondly, I would say that I enjoyed the 'food paradise' surroundings in Kelantan. I enjoyed food very much and even until now, 'Nasi Kerabu' is still my all-time favourite. I really love the authentic food in Kelantan.

I think that the last and probably the most memorable one would surely be the lecturers. I got the opportunity and privilege to be taught and to be trained by senior and experienced physicians. They are all my 'gurus' who taught me about medicine and gastroenterology. Maybe they are all now in their late 60s or 70s. I had the privilege to be among them at the height of their careers. I was 'blessed' with all of their wisdom, in addition to their training. Those are the memorable moments where I began my 'adulthood' in Kubang Kerian."

Profesor Dato' Dr. Hj Jafri Malin Abdullah, dari Pusat Pengajian Sains Perubatan/Hospital USM (HUSM), Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), telah dipilih sebagai penerima Anugerah Pencapaian Sepanjang Hayat (Lifetime Achievement Award).

Jafri Malin, yang juga Pengerusi 'Brain Behaviour Research Cluster' dan Profesor Neurosains di USM, telah dipilih oleh Persatuan Neurosurgi Malaysia (Neurosurgery Association of Malaysia/NAM) untuk menerima anugerah tersebut pada kali ini.

Beliau adalah calon ke-4 yang terpilih untuk menerima anugerah dalam majlis yang diadakan setiap 2 tahun ini. Penerima pertama anugerah sebelum ini adalah Dato' Dr. Selvapragasam, Mantan Ketua Perkhidmatan Neurosurgi Malaysia KKM; diikuti dengan Dato' Dr. Fadzli Cheah Abdullah, Mantan Presiden Persatuan Neurosurgi Malaysia; dan seterusnya Dato' Dr. Johari Adnan Siregar, Mantan Ketua Perkhidmatan Neurosurgi KKM.

Anugerah ini diberikan kepada individu yang memberi sumbangan besar dalam bidang neurosurgi, di samping dalam bidang pendidikan serta sebagai sumber inspirasi kepada calon-calon pakar bedah, dan juga yang telah memberikan impak dan kemajuan yang besar dalam bidang neurosurgi di Malaysia.

Jafri Malin antara lain telah menghasilkan lebih 350 penulisan, di samping menjadi editor pelbagai jurnal dalam bidang terbabit. Beliau juga telah menghasilkan seramai 121 pakar bedah yang telah menamatkan pengajian dan latihan masing-masing. Beliau juga merupakan alumni Pusat Pengajian Sains Perubatan tahun 1986.

Sehingga kini, beliau masih aktif dalam memberi kesedaran serta terlibat secara langsung dalam menghasilkan lebih ramai pakar bedah neuro, dan juga dalam bidang berkaitan seperti neurologi dan neuropsikologi.

Turut hadir adalah pihak pengurusan NAM serta ahli-ahli persatuan tersebut.

“Jafri Malin antara lain telah menghasilkan lebih 350 penulisan, di samping menjadi editor pelbagai jurnal dalam bidang terbabit. Beliau juga telah menghasilkan seramai 121 pakar bedah yang telah menamatkan pengajian dan latihan masing-masing.”

Teks: Mazlan Hanafi Basharudin
Foto: <https://www.hmetro.com.my/>

PAKAR BEDAH NEURO USM

**Diiktiraf Oleh NAM,
Terima Anugerah
Pencapaian Sepanjang Hayat**





ENGINEERING CAMPUS WELCOMES VISIT by A Collaborative Partner from Universita Di Parma, Italy

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) Engineering Campus recently received and welcomed a visit by Professor Dr. Cristina Sissa, a researcher from Universita Di Parma in Italy.

The visit was meant to explore the potential collaboration between both organisations, as stated by the USM Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation, Professor Dr. Habibah A Wahab at the discussion held during the visit.

Text: Siti Faizah Abd Halim

Photo: Muhammad Taufik Abdul Rahman

According to her, USM has so far built a strong collaboration with other institutions involving multidisciplinary fields, so it is the right time for USM, as one of the leading universities in Malaysia to add Universita Di Parma to its list of partners.

In addition, Habibah also hoped that the collaboration would offer a better platform for the student exchange programme, as the students will be able to discover the best technology offered by Universita Di Parma and apply it when they serve USM in the future.



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HOSPITAL USM SASAR SIFAR KES 'MEDICO LEGAL'

Kes kecuaiian dalam amalan perubatan atau lebih dikenali sebagai kes '*medico legal*' sering berlaku di pusat perubatan atau hospital.

Pengarah Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Dato' Profesor Dr. Nik Hisamuddin Nik Ab. Rahman berkata, sebagai sebuah Hospital Pengajar Universiti (HPU) yang berpengalaman, Hospital USM sangat komited dan memberi perhatian serius terhadap isu yang berkait dengan '*medico legal*'.

Teks: Wan Nor Azlin Wan Azlan

Foto: Abdul Hasib Abdul Rahman.

"Warga kerja Hospital USM yang terlibat diseru untuk menasarkankan '*zero tolerance medico legal*' sebagai penanda aras agar kes '*medico legal*' di Hospital USM dapat dikurangkan pada masa hadapan.

"Pengurusan Hospital USM juga menetapkan pengurusan risiko sebagai satu tonggak untuk penambahbaikan pengurusan hospital dalam menangani cabaran masa kini.



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USM TAWAR PROGRAM AKADEMIK BERIMPAK TINGGI di Kuala Lumpur: Sasar Peningkatan 100 Peratus Enrolmen Pascasiswazah

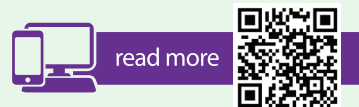
Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) mengambil langkah strategik dalam menyerlahkan keterlihatannya melalui transformasi dan penjenamaan semula kampusnya di Kuala Lumpur atau lebih dikenali sebagai USM@KL.

USM@KL adalah pusat pembelajaran dan penyelidikan yang terletak di tengah-tengah pusat bandaraya Kuala Lumpur dan menawarkan program-program ijazah tinggi yang kompetitif, berdaya saing dan bernilai tinggi.

Teks: Marziana Mohamed Alias

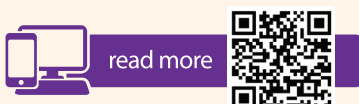
Foto: Mohd Fairus Md Isa

Pengerusi Lembaga Gabenor USM, Dato' Seri Dr. Awang Adek Hussin berkata, transformasi USM@KL yang dahulunya beroperasi di Wisma Sejarah, Jalan Tun Razak ke MoF Inc Tower, Persiaran KLCC adalah bertepatan dengan keadaan semasa.



Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) menerusi Institut Perubatan dan Pergigian Termaju (IPPT) memeterai memorandum perjanjian (MoA) dengan Buddhist Tzu-Chi Merits Society Malaysia dalam usaha memperkukuh kerjasama untuk memperkasa pencapaian akademik pelajar B40.

Majlis penandatanganan MoA tersebut menyaksikan Pengarah IPPT dan Pusat Perubatan Universiti Sains Malaysia Bertam (PPUSMB), Profesor Dr. Tunku Kamarul Zaman Tunku Zainol Abidin yang mewakili Naib Canselor USM dan Naib Presiden Buddhist Tzu-Chi Merits Society Malaysia, Datuk Simon Wong Woon Keong menurunkan tandatangan pada dokumen MoA bagi mewakili institusi masing-masing.



IPPT USM DAN BUDDHIST TZU-CHI MERITS SOCIETY MALAYSIA METERAI MoA, Bantu Perkasa Pencapaian Akademik Murid B40

Researchers from the USM Centre for Global Archaeological Research (CGAR) had recently made a very important discovery that confirmed the existence and size of an ancient building structure and artefacts with artistic elements, believed to be dating back some 1,200 years, at the Bukit Choras Archaeological Site at Yan, Kedah.

The excavation work, which was carried out in collaboration with the National Heritage Department (JWN) and the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC), revealed five main discoveries, namely the temple structure, two sculptures, a Kalam Semah, an inscription stone and earthenware fragments.

USM CGAR senior lecturer, Dr. Nasha Rodziadi Khaw, who led the research and excavation work funded through the FRGS grant from the Ministry of Higher Education, said the purpose of the excavation at the site was to confirm the existence and size of the structure that had been detected through a geophysical study that was conducted in 2017.

“Excavation and research work was carried out at the summit of Bukit Choras between 28 August and 12 September 2023, and our initial findings had led us to believe that the temple site could date back to around the eighth or ninth century AD, which is the same as most of the temple sites in the Bujang Valley and the development period of the Srivijaya Empire.

“The uniqueness of this temple at this archaeological site is first and foremost in how it has been preserved. We can see that the walls in the north, west, and south areas are well preserved.



HISTORICAL DISCOVERY: **USM CGAR Team Unearths The Largest Ancient Temple at Bukit Choras - Highly Artistic Building Structure and Artefacts**



"Secondly, we discovered two human-sized structures made of stucco, and the discovery of stucco has not been reported in the Bujang Valley but only in Sumatra and Java," he said at a press conference here today.

Nasha said based on preliminary research, there is a similarity between the temple architecture in Bukit Choras and that of the temples in West Java and Sumatra, raising questions about the cultural relationship between Kedah Tua and other ancient civilization sites in South-East Asia.

"The temple is estimated to measure nine square metres, but the actual size can only be confirmed after the excavation work is done, which is currently 40% complete."

"The uniqueness of this temple at this archaeological site is first and foremost in how it has been preserved. We can see that the walls in the north, west, and south areas are well preserved."

- Nasha Rodziadi Khaw

He said the Bukit Choras Archaeological Site is considered special due to its isolated position north of Gunung Jerai, whereas the other archaeological sites in Bujang Valley are mostly situated south of Gunung Jerai around Sungai Merbok and Sungai Muda.

"My team still needs time to do more on-site research, perhaps for several years, before any conclusion can be made about the ancient site.

"I hope at the end of the day, we can provide more information and data that can add value to the rich history of Kedah Tua.

"This temple is also the biggest ever found in Bujang Valley and has an interesting artistic architecture," he added.

The Bukit Choras Archaeological Site, which was gazetted as a heritage site under the National Heritage Act 2005 (Act 645) on 28 December 2016, has now proven its historical significance beyond doubt.



This collaborative pilot project, initiated following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between JWN and eleven local public universities back in March 2023, has brought to light previously hidden treasures.

Meanwhile, USM Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed said the university's research team has been excavating the archaeological sites in Lembah Bujang for the past 10 years with funding from the Ministry of Higher Education.

"We have been working and will continue to work closely with JWN and other related parties to further develop and expand our archaeo-tourism products.

"There is still a lot of excavation work that we hope to carry out in the Lembah Bujang area. Furthermore, we believe this important discovery will shed some light on the facts and allow us to review historical events written by western historians," said Abdul Rahman.

Also present at the site was USM CGAR Director, Professor Dr. Stephen Chia Ming Soon, who added, "we are all very excited with the discovery, and the first phase of excavation work conducted for two weeks had revealed that the temple still maintained its full building structure with the entire west wall of the temple and half of the north and south walls intact.

"The statues and artifacts found at the site will be taken to the USM Archaeology Gallery for conservation and further research.

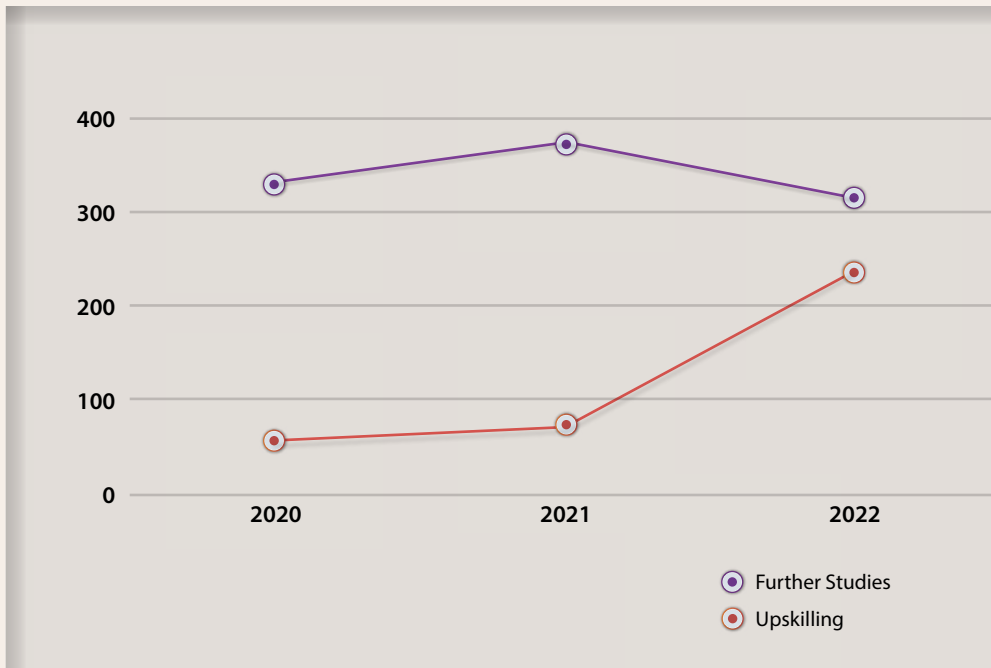
"The second phase of excavation work on the remaining temple structure is expected to resume in January next year," he said.

Text: Tan Ewe Hoe

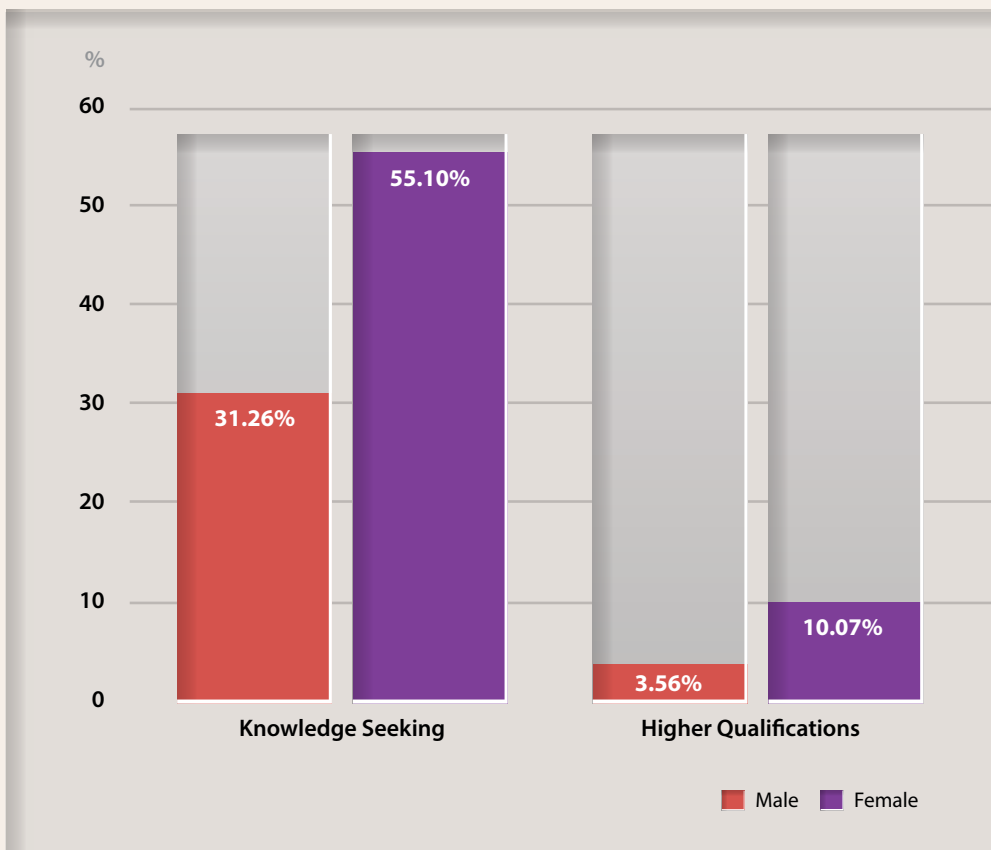
Photo: Shahnizam Ab Rahim

POST-GRADUATE PURSUITS

Alumni Further Studies and Upskilling Trends



Reasons for Further Study by Gender



2024



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with good health,
boundless happiness, and the courage
to chase your dreams,
no matter how distant they may seem.

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