

Inspiring Futures, Nurturing Possibilities

RESONANCE



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2016 has been a wonderful year for UKM – filled with numerous achievements and successes. It has been an honour for us to be able to publish and document these remarkable accomplishments in Resonance. Thank you for sharing your stories with us. We hope it has touched or inspired our lovely readers. Here's to a great new year!

Editorial Team

Message from the **Vice-Chancellor**

What is your New Year's resolution?

Some say having one, is futile, but I believe that having an aim to achieve gives people the motivation to work towards their goal.

My resolution is for UKM to remain as an institution which is constantly referred to, respected and renowned. While 2016 has undoubtedly been a great year for UKM – from winning four Merdeka Awards to bagging the National Book Awards, million ringgit worth of endowments and MoU's with prestigious institutions – I envision 2017 to be a year filled with hope, prosper and bigger achievements.

I feel thankful that UKM was able to accomplish so much within the span of one year. There is so much to look forward to in 2017. I honestly believe, in order to soar upwards, all of us must be on the same page and give our best for UKM. Are you up for the challenge?

Prof. Datuk Dr. Noor Azlan Ghazali



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The Chancellor Tuanku Muhriz Lecture Platform for Intellectual Discourse

SYARAHAN CANSELOR
TUANKU
MUHRIZ
*THE CHANCELLOR
TUANKU MUHRIZ LECTURE*



UKM recently organized the Chancellor Tuanku Muhriz Lecture, as part of its endeavor in realizing the educational and intellectual aspirations for the development of the nation. The lecture acts as a platform for leading luminaries to share their knowledge and experience.

UKM Chancellor, HRH Tuanku Muhriz Ibni Almarhum Tuanku Munawir hopes that the inaugural lecture series will enrich the corpus of knowledge and would benefit the public through a broad partnership between leaders and renowned scholars.



The Chancellor Tuanku Muhriz Lecture

The lecture, entitled “Building Sustainable Institutions: Good Governance Matters”, was delivered by the former Bank Negara Governor, Tan Sri Dato’ Sri Dr. Zeti Akhtar Aziz.

In his opening speech, HRH Tuanku Muhriz, who is the Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negeri Sembilan, said that good governance is key in building sustainable institutions. He believes that when one holds on to his values and integrity, it will create good governance and ensures that an institution remains strong and steadfast throughout difficult phases. He added that private institutions are also responsible to ensure the practice of good governance as they are part of a network that forms a nation.

Also present at the lecture were HRH Tunku Ampuan Besar of Negeri Sembilan, Tuanku Aishah Rohani Almarhum Tengku Besar Mahmud; Negeri Sembilan Menteri Besar, Dato’ Seri Utama Mohamad Hassan and wife; Yang Amat Mulia Tunku Besar Seri Menanti, Tunku Ali Redhaudin Tuanku Muhriz; UKM Pro-Chancellor, Tun Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid; Yang Amat Mulia Tunku Zain Al-‘Abidin Tuanku Muhriz; Chairman of UKM’s Board of Director, Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Dr. Ibrahim Saad; Founder President of Aberystwyth University Alumni Club, Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Utama Arshad Ayub; the Negeri Sembilan Exco Members, distinguished guests from government and private sectors, UKM strategic partners and academicians.

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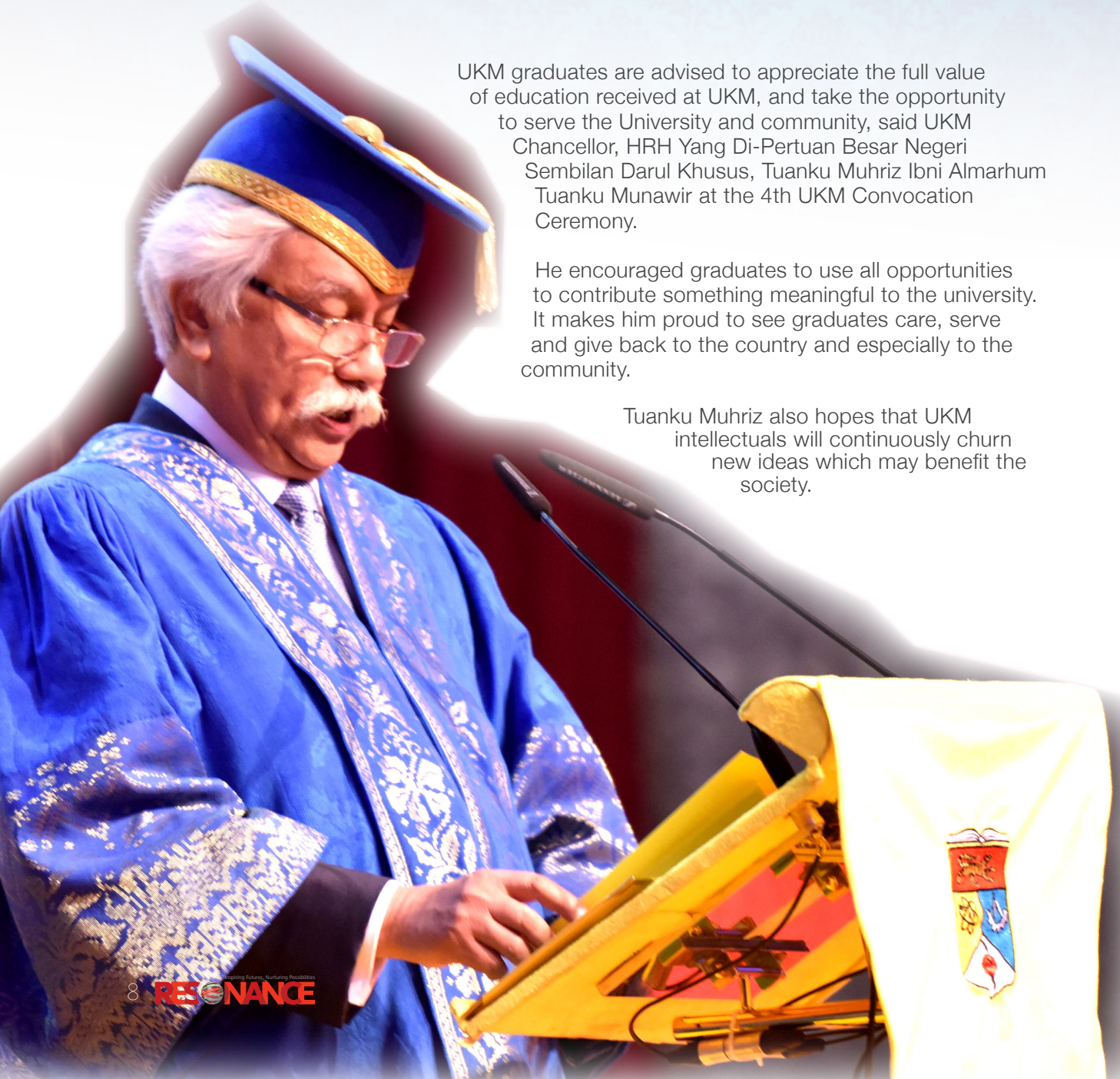
Graduates Need To Appreciate the Value of Education

– Tuanku Muhriz

UKM graduates are advised to appreciate the full value of education received at UKM, and take the opportunity to serve the University and community, said UKM Chancellor, HRH Yang Di-Pertuan Besar Negeri Sembilan Darul Khusus, Tuanku Muhriz Ibni Almarhum Tuanku Munawir at the 4th UKM Convocation Ceremony.

He encouraged graduates to use all opportunities to contribute something meaningful to the university. It makes him proud to see graduates care, serve and give back to the country and especially to the community.

Tuanku Muhriz also hopes that UKM intellectuals will continuously churn new ideas which may benefit the society.



UKM's Anugerah Pelajaran DiRaja belongs to Akbal



A fisherman's son, Mohd Akbal Qamas Abdul Basir, was announced as one of the recipients of the Anugerah Pelajaran DiRaja, at UKM's 44th convocation ceremony, recently.

Mohd Akbal Qamas Abdul Basir, who graduated with a first class honours degree in Business Administration said, he overcame his hardships with the support from his family, teachers and lecturers who never failed to motivate him to achieve his dream.

His sister who received a similar prestigious award from Universiti Malaysia Pahang, was one of his main motivation to be successful.

Akbal demonstrated excellence in academic and leadership, scoring a cumulative grade point average of 3.83. A successful entrepreneur, Akbal is also the owner of an online business, the backpackgarage.

Ummikalsum Receives UKM Vice Chancellor Award

The National University of Malaysia

UKM's graduate in Bachelor of Da'wah and Leadership Studies, Faculty of Islamic Studies (FPI), Ummikalsum Mat Lazim, 24, added another feather to her cap, when she was conferred the Vice Chancellor's Award at UKM's 44th Convocation Ceremony.

Ummikalsum, finalist of *Akademi Pendakwah Muslimat*, said she contributed her success to the endless du'a and prayers. From Baling, Kedah, and also the daughter of a retired teacher, Ummikalsum generously shared her recipe for success.

An active student, Ummikalsum was not only successful in her studies, she was also active in various activities such as being an Al-Quran teacher at Al-Bukhari Mosque Taman Universiti. She believes that one must always be focused during lectures and ask questions, should they not understand a particular topic.

According to Ummi, it was quite a challenge for her to arrange

her schedule as a student, but she held on to the words of Imam Hassan Al-Banna, that obligation exceeds the time available. Ummi also advises other students to study hard because the knowledge that is learnt will benefit the community.

With a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 3.83, she hopes that the award that she received will inspire and motivate other students. She is currently pursuing her masters degree and intends to continue her studies up to the Doctoral level to achieve her ambition to become a preacher who can help create social change.



students' excellence



UKM Student Won Women's Singles in 41st YONEX Hungarian International Badminton Championships

UKM's Faculty of Education student Yap Rui Chen, won the Women's Singles in the 41st YONEX Hungarian International Badminton Championships, Hungary, recently. The second year student, who is ranked 561 in the world, defeated Denmark's players, Sofie Holmboe Dahl, who is ranked 83, with match points: 14-12, 11-5, 6-11, 11-8.

In a recent interview, Yap said that she started playing badminton at the tender age of six as most of her family members are actively involved in badminton. Her entry to the Hungarian tournament was based on an invitation by the Hungarian Multi Alarm Sport Club, and is testimony to her increasing success in carving her name in the international badminton arena.

Realising Yap's potential, UKM fully supports her decision to compete in the international scene. Faculty of Education Dean Prof. Dato' Norazah Mohd Nordin, said the faculty is proud of her achievement and added that Yap is an example of a student who could excellently manage her academic and co-curricular activities. Other lecturers, who had personally thought her, also commended her achievement and said that Yap is a very disciplined, ambitious and responsible student, who made an effort to catch up, despite missing classes to attend training and competitions.

A total of 196 players from 30 countries took part in the tournament, which was upgraded to the International Challenge status, as an initiative to increase the tournament's world ranking points and also the prize money. Officials from the International Badminton Federation reportedly gave the tournament a ringing endorsement of the world class facilities and organization that set a new benchmark in the 41 year history of the tournament.



UKM Empowers Community on Economic Issues

The ASEAN Economic Integration Forum 2016 (AEIF 2016), held at the Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre for Arbitration recently, is testimony of UKM's commitment in empowering the ASEAN community on economic issues.

Themed "Towards Global ASEAN: Prospects, Impacts and Challenges", the forum served as a platform for discussions on socio-economic and political impacts of ASEAN's economic integration on its member states and the region and critically analyzed the prospects and challenges of economic integration among ASEAN members and the region.

According to UKM Vice-Chancellor Prof. Datuk Dr. Noor Azlan Ghazali, the discourse not only contributed to the rich literature on Southeast Asia and ASEAN but most importantly, it will help policy makers, business communities and other stakeholders in charting a people-centric and environmentally friendly regional economic development.

He added that this was the second time UKM's Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (IKMAS) collaborated with the University of Oxford and World Trade Institute (WTI) to organize such forum.

The forum also saw the launch of a book written by Prof. Julien Chaisse from the University of Hong Kong and IKMAS's Deputy Director Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sufian Jusoh, titled The Asean Comprehensive Investment Agreement: The Regionalisation of Laws and Policy on Foreign Investment, by Malaysia's Minister of International Trade and Industry, Datuk Seri Mustapha Mohamad.

The two-day forum was attended by approximately 100 local and international participants which includes government officials and representatives from private sectors and Non-governmental Organizations. Also present were Republic of Timor Leste Minister of Economy Affairs, Estanislau de Silva, High Commissioner of Solomon Islands, Vicor Samuel Ngele, and Director of IKMAS, Prof. Dr. Rashila Ramli.





50 ASEAN University Students Joined UKM-CYAL Programme

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, in collaboration with CIMB Foundation enlightened 50 students from 10 ASEAN countries on Disaster Risk Reduction, at the recent CIMB Young ASEAN Leaders Programme, held in Kuala Lumpur.



The three day programme saw participants attending talks at the Malaysian Meteorological Department and were given detailed information on the climate in Malaysia. In addition, they were also exposed to disaster risk management methods utilised in Malaysia.

With the support from the Malaysia Civil Defence Department (JPAM) and the community, the participants were exposed to the method of transfer of flood victims around the Sungai Tangkas Village, Bangi. Not only that, killing two birds with one stone, this demonstration also acts as a platform

for the community in Bangi to be aware of what should be done, if they are faced with floods.

UKM's University Community Transformation Centre (UCTC) Director Assoc. Prof. Datuk Dr. Rokiah said UCTC received about 800 applicants from across ASEAN but only 50 were selected to join the programme.

This is the second time that UKM was entrusted by the CIMB Foundation to help organise the CIMB Young ASEAN Leaders Programme.

Prime Minister Launched PPTC UKM



Besides the satellite office, PPTC houses several labs which specialises on hydrology, climatology, microbiology and water quality. These labs, plays an important role in carrying experiments and research concerning conservation and preservation of the environment.

PPTC also has a gallery that showcases the history of the establishment of the research centre. The gallery highlights the successes and accolades obtained by PPTC researchers as an initiative to share knowledge with the younger generation and communities in this area.

UKM has strong and strategic partnership with East Coast Economic Region Development Council (ECERDC). The latest is on the launching of the satellite office by Malaysia's Prime Minister, Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak. The satellite office, will help UKM unravel new perspectives on research about the lake and surrounding area.

Head of Chini Lake Research Centre (PPTC) UKM, Prof. Dato' Seri Dr. Mushrifah Idris said the satellite office was strategically placed, as the area has been awarded the biosphere reserve status by UNESCO in 2009. Not only that, UKM's research is also in line with UNESCO's stand in areas such as conservation, research and community participation.

PPTC, through UKM's Faculty of Science and Technology (FST), has successfully obtained numerous research grants such as FRGS and LRGS from the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) to conduct research.

These grants has been effectively and efficiently utilised to research the area's flora, fauna and orang asli community which will be used as a reference for other agencies such as the Pekan District Council to identify other areas which can be researched on, to ensure that Chini Lake is protected and developed in a sustainable manner.

CEO@Faculty

Shares Insights at UKM

Any job will give you beneficial experience.

That was Leonard Ariff Abdul Shatar, Chemical Company of Malaysia (CCM) Group Managing Director's advice to UKM students who are about to venture out to the working world, at the recent CEO@Faculty Talk, in UKM.

Upon graduating in 1988, jobs were scarce and about 15 per cent of the people Leonard knew, ended up selling burgers, despite graduating with honors, or having a masters and PhD degree. However, five percent, out of the 15 per cent who sold burgers after graduating, now run public listed company, said Leonard, adding that where one starts his or her career is not a reflection of where they would end up later in life.

He added that, it doesn't matter how or where one begins his or her career as it is a way to gain experience, and therefore, nothing will be wasted. Leonard advised; do not despair, if, as a law graduate, the first job offer you get is as a cashier at a tire shop. Look at it in a positive way as you can garner new skills and learn something new along the way.

The CEO@Faculty Talk also saw Leonard sharing valuable tips on becoming a good leader and his experience in being the Group

Managing Director of CCM. The CEO@Faculty Programme is one of the initiatives outlined under the Malaysia Education Blueprint 2013-2025 and is a bid to bring more industrial insight into the classroom.

The programme aims at bringing the CEOs from leading business corporations to mentor the Malaysian universities, share their experiences and knowledge, invest time and energy via many types of engagement sessions, ultimately for the benefit of the academia and most importantly, the students.

Leonard saw his appointment as UKM's CEO@Faculty as a way of giving back to the community. He added; he have been blessed because he obtained scholarships to pursue his studies and feel that accepting this appointment is a way for him to give back to the country that has given him so much.

An MOU signing ceremony was also held between UKM and CCM for the Jati Programme. Also present at the talk was UKM Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Industry and Community Partnerships Prof. Dato' Dr. Imran Ho Abdullah and UKM Faculty of Pharmacy Dean Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jamia Azdina Jamal.



DMFC Converts Chemical Energy to Electrical Energy



Direct Methanol Fuel Cell (DMFC) developed by Prof. Ir. Dr. Siti Kartom Kamarudin can convert chemical energy into electrical energy by using methanol and air instead of grid electricity.

According to Prof. Siti Kartom, DMFC is an alternative renewable source which can be used to support battery technology. The advantage of DMFC compared to batteries is that it does not need to be recharged and can be easily used by refuelling with liquid methanol that is cheap and easily available.

Many researchers have shown great potential of DMFC, however, many fundamental factors still need to be resolved before the product can be widely commercialized, she said at the Distinguished Professorial Lecture here, recently.

Prof. Siti Kartom said UKM researchers have managed to resolve some fundamental issues such as developing novel hybrid and nano-

structured catalysts that are cheaper and have better kinetics reaction compared to the commercial catalyst.

UKM has also developed membranes that are capable to reduce the methanol crossover and consequently improved the efficiency of the cells. Nor only that, UKM has also introduced teaching modules for secondary schools in the field of Renewable Energy known as DMFC Edu Kit.

Besides that, portable off grid low carbon power pack is currently being developed for several applications like external hand phone charger, medical equipment from alcohol based liquid fuel.

Prof. Siti Kartom was awarded the Malaysian Rising Star Award based on her achievement to be one of the highest cited researcher in the world and was also recognised as The World's Most Influential Minds 2015 Top 100 in engineering.



UKM Medical Experts Received International Awards

UKM medical experts, Prof. To' Puan Dr Nordiah Awg Jalil, Prof. Dr. Christopher Ho Chee Kong and Prof. Dato' Dr. Lokman Saim did UKM proud when their contribution to the field of medicine were internationally recognised.

Prof. To' Puan Dr. Nordiah Awg Jalil, received the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA) International Scholarship Award as a recognition of her expertise in infection prevention and control in Malaysia. As one of the key opinion leaders in health issues pertaining to infectious diseases, Prof. Dr. Nordiah has been involved with many initiatives related to preventing infections in the healthcare setting specifically the WHO hand hygiene.

Prof. Dr. Nordiah is a Senior Consultant Microbiologist and Head of Infection Control Unit at PPUKM. She is extremely active in the field of healthcare epidemiology and infection control, and has previously received the Maal Hijrah award of Excellent Achievement in Research and Development.

Also making waves in the international medical fraternity is UKM Technologist in Residence, Prof. Dato' Dr Lokman Saim who received the International Humanitarian Award for Public Service for 2016 from the American Academy of Otorhinolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery Foundation, which is the highest professional body representing the Ear Nose and Throat Surgeons (Otorhinolaryngology) of USA.

Among his notable achievement in UKM was when he led a local team of medical professional which includes surgeons, audiologist and speech therapist to perform the first cochlear implant surgery in Malaysia and Southeast Asia in December 1995. He is the first ENT surgeon in the South East Asian Region to receive this award. Prof. Dr Lokman Saim is also UKM Medical Faculty's former Dean.

Meanwhile, Prof. Dr. Christopher Ho Chee Kong became the first Malaysian to receive the International Guest Scholarship Award from the American College of Surgeons. Specialising in urology and sexual medicine, Prof. Dr. Ho's commitment in teaching and research enabled him to be one of 12 recipients selected from a pool of highly competitive applicants.



UKM CIO Won Distance Education Award

UKM Chief Information Officer Prof. Dato' Dr. Mohamed Amin Embi did UKM proud when the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) he developed, earned him the Excellence in Distance Education Award at the Commonwealth of Learning Ceremony in Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, recently.

The prestigious award, given out every three years, acknowledges his expertise and finesse in developing open education resources through strategic and innovative use and reuse of available resources. This is the second time that Prof. Dr. Mohamed Amin's innovative teaching and learning method and materials, embedded in the Rethinking Teaching, Redesigning Learning MOOC, was acknowledged at an international level.

The MOOC, Rethinking Teaching, Redesigning Learning, was developed by using the 'just enough' and 'just for me' concept. The 'just enough' concept, saw Prof. Dr. Mohamed Amin producing short videos while the 'just for me' method, saw him utilising pdf articles and videos as teaching and learning materials. He explained that it took him about two weeks to curate the materials and videos which were suitable to be used for the course.

To date, the Rethinking Teaching, Redesigning Learning MOOC has attracted more than 4,100 students from more than 108 countries.

Young UKM Researcher wins New Innovator Entrepreneurs Award



A young UKM researcher, Mohamad Hanif Md Saad, defeated representatives from universities, research agencies and private companies to emerge as the winner of the 2016 New Innovator Entrepreneurs Award.

Mohamad Hanif, a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Mechanical and Materials Engineering, Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment, said, the award winning product produced, CAISER, is a tool which can be used by system developers to create complex event processing-based intelligent systems.

CAISER, was created based on an innovation to the current surveillance system. According to Mohamad Hanif, his initial research with Prof. Dr. Aini Hussain focussed on surveillance system, such as CCTV. However, they decided to innovate and create something practical, that will be able to detect cases such as criminal activities and fire, before it even occurs. This was achieved by incorporating other sensors such as smoke sensor and door sensor, in the surveillance system.

He added that his research team plans to produce various smart applications, which utilises the CAISER platform. Mohamad Hanif envision CAISER as a tool which can be the platform for a smart home system, intelligent network monitoring system and smart city which is not only for home use, but also can be utilised by the industry and community. CAISER has garnered interest from various stakeholders and Mohamad Hanif has received various offers from buyers who wished to purchase the platform.

With the victory, Mohamad Hanif, Prof. Dr. Aini and their research team received RM100,000, a trophy and a certificate. The award was presented by the Prime Minister, Dato ' Seri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak.

Renowned **ENT** Surgeons Convene in UKM

UKM Department of Otorhinolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery has successfully organized the 9th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Rhinosinusitis and Nasal Polyposis (ISRNP) 2016, which brings together reputable ENT surgeons and experts from all over the world.

According to UKM Vice-Chancellor Prof. Datuk Noor Azlan Ghazali, the symposium provides a platform to share knowledge on best practices, emerging technologies, innovations and new surgical techniques in the treatment of chronic rhinosinusitis.

Special lectures by internationally renowned professors, live cadaveric dissection

demonstrations, expert panel forums and scientific paper presentations provides an excellent opportunity for participants to be updated with the latest information in rhinosinusitis and polyposis.

UKM Chancellor, the Yang Di Pertuan Besar Negeri Sembilan HRH Tuanku Muhriz Ibni Almarhum Tuanku Munawir and his consort the Tunku Ampuan Besar Negeri Sembilan Tuanku Aishah Rohani Binti Tengku Besar Mahmud graced the event.

The three-day symposium brought together more than 200 participants and 50 international speakers including experts from Italy, United Kingdom, India and Greece.



UKM Collaborates with Eight Malaysian Higher Education Institutions



Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with eight universities in Malaysia which consists of Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), Universiti Tenaga Nasional (Uniten), INTI International University (INTI), Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UniKL), Kuala Lumpur Infrastructure University (IUKL), Multimedia University (MMU), and Cyberjaya University College of Medical Sciences, recently.

UKM Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Datuk Dr. Noor Azlan Ghazali said the MoU is to respond to the Minister of Higher Education's idea in creating a flexible learning concept that ensures access to education for all walks of life, at any time or place.

Through this partnership, each institution will work together to deliver a unique learning experience, share human and financial resources, conduct high impact research, and award certificates, diplomas and degrees together. This collaboration allows the mobility of students and lecturers as well as the mutual recognition of courses by various universities and colleges.

Prof. Datuk Noor Azlan signed the MoU on behalf of UKM, while each of the other institutions were represented by their respective Vice-Chancellors.

Also present at the MoU signing ceremony were the Chairman of UKM's Board of Directors, Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr. Ibrahim Saad, UKM Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic & International Affairs), Prof. Dato' Riza Atiq OK Rahmat and senior officers from each University.

App calculates risk of stroke

STROKE RISKOMETER: It also educates users, provides strategies to control risk factors

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ONE in six Malaysians is at risk of suffering a stroke at least once in his lifetime. Health Ministry's Medical Development Division director, Datuk Dr Azman Abu Bakar, said a sedentary lifestyle, poor diet choices and no exercise were the main causes. "Stroke affects 45,000 patients and accounts for 14,000 deaths annually," he said before the launch of the dual-language Stroke Riskometer app, which was developed by Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Centre (UKMMC) yesterday.

"This app is convenient as it is also in Bahasa Malaysia," he said.

UKMMC Medical Department head Professor Datin Dr Norlinah Mohamed Ibrahim, who led the development of the app, said it was not only aimed at calculating the risk of a stroke in the next five to 10 years, but also educated users and provided them with strategies to control risk factors.

"Stroke is one of the leading causes of death in the country after heart disease and cancer. The cost of outpatient treatment for stroke in Malaysia is approximately RM316.5 million



Datuk Dr Azman Abu Bakar showing the app at **Hospital Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia** yesterday. Pic by Muhammad Asyraf Sawal

annually," she said.

Dr Norlinah said the number of stroke cases was likely to increase as the prevalence of metabolic and behavioural risk factors had reached pandemic levels worldwide.

"There is a need to develop more effective strategies regarding primary prevention of stroke. Despite these alarming statistics, it is a preventable disease," she said.

The New Straits Times

28 October 2016



Tuanku Muhriz (second from right) sharing a light moment with Prof Dr Balwant Singh.



Tuanku Muhriz (second from left) presenting an award as Prof Dr Balwant Singh (left) and Prof Dr Noor Azlan (third from left) look on.



(Left) A cultural troupe performing a dance.

UKM hosts international symposium

300 local and foreign delegates share knowledge on Rhinosinusitis and Nasal Polyposis advancements

By **SIMON KHOO**
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THIS year's 9th International Symposium on Recent Advances in Rhinosinusitis and Nasal Polyposis (ISRNIP) was successfully hosted by Malaysia at Putrajaya Marriott Hotel.

The prestigious three-day symposium was significant as it was the second held in the Asia-Pacific region after Japan. The Yang di-Pertuan Besar Negri Sembilan Tuanku Muhriz Almarhum Tuanku Munawir, who is also Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) chancellor was present at the gala dinner on the second day.

The state ruler was accompanied

by his consort Tunku Ampuan Besar Tuanku Aishah Rohani Almarhum Tengku Besar Mahmud.

Also present were UKM vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Noor Azlan Ghazali, deputy vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Riza Adig Abdullah Bahmat, ISRNIP 2016 president Prof Datuk Dr Balwant Singh Gendeh, organising chairperson Assoc Prof Dr Salina Husain, Hospital Canselor Tuanku Muhriz director Prof Dr Zaleha Abdullah Mahdy and Social Care Foundation chairman Tan Sri Robert Phang.

In addition to a sumptuous Chinese course meal, guests who included some 50 foreign delegates and international speakers, were treated to cultural performances.

Tuanku Muhriz also presented

several internal awards to recipients for best logo design (Dr Muhammad Norzham Mesran), best free paper presentation (Dr Lum Sai Guan) and best electronic poster (Dr Aidayanti Daud).

Prof Balwant Singh, who is a consultant ENT surgeon at the UKM Specialist Centre, said hosting an important medical specialty conference which deals with diseases of the ear, nose and throat was a recognition for the country and could help to elevate the status of UKM as a research university.

The ISRNIP was founded in Siena, Italy, by Prof Dr Desiderio Passali and was held in mostly Western nations. "During the last congress in Panama, it was decided that

Malaysia be given the honour to be the host this year. We will be passing the baton to the Philippines as host next year," he told *StarMetro*.

The ISRNIP 2016 adopted the theme "Advances in Rhinosinusitis: Evolution to Present Day", which saw several international speakers sharing their academic papers on the latest advancement in the field.

Among the participating countries were Italy, Croatia, Belgium, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine, Japan, Panama, Portugal, United Kingdom, Romania, Greece, the Philippines, Singapore, Indonesia, India, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Korea.

Some 300 participants, including local and foreign experts in subspecialties such as allergy and immunology, otology, head and

neck, rhinosinusitis, skull base and facial plastic surgery took part in the symposium which comprised plenaries, symposia, special lectures, workshops, presentations and roundtable discussions.

Prof Noor Azlan said UKM placed special emphasis on academic scholarship and professional advancement in medicine, and organising the symposium put the university on the forefront of medical innovation.

He also congratulated the organising committee and sponsors for providing a good platform for participants to share knowledge on best practices, emerging technologies, innovation and new surgical techniques in the treatment of chronic rhinosinusitis.

The STAR

28 November 2016

Four receive Merdeka Award

RECOGNITION: They are honoured for contribution to country, region

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FOUR outstanding Malaysians received the 2016 Merdeka Award at Dewan Filharmonik Petronas here last night.

The four who received the award from Sultan of Perak Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah were Tan Sri Lakshmanan Krishnan, Tan Sri Dr Salleh Mohd Nor, Prof Datuk Dr Looi Lai Meng and Prof Datuk Dr Wan Ramli Wan Daud.

Lakshmanan is a pioneer in the Malay film industry. He received the award in the Education and Community category for his outstanding contribution to laying the foundation for the modern film industry and for his instrumental role in developing early acting talent, including the late Tan Sri P. Ramlee.

Salleh received the award under the Environment category for his contribution to the conservation of the natural environment and forestry, through his leadership role at the Forest Research Institute Malaysia and the Malaysian Nature Society.

Dr Looi, the longest-serving diagnostic renal pathologist in the country, was honoured under the Health, Science and Technology category,



Sultan of Perak Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah with award recipients (from left) Prof Datuk Dr Wan Ramli Wan Daud, Prof Datuk Dr Looi Lai Meng, Tan Sri Dr Salleh Mohd Nor and Tan Sri Lakshmanan Krishnan in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. Pic by Mohamad Shahril Badri Saali

pioneering research in amyloidosis, renal pathology and cancer pathology, and for her role in promoting pathology in the country and the region.

As for Dr Wan Ramli, he was given the award under the Outstanding Scholastic Achievement category for his scholarly research and development in advancing the technology of fuel cells and hydrogen energy in the country and the region.

All four recipients gave their acceptance speeches after receiving their awards.

leagues who have been with her throughout her 35-year journey. She also attributed her success to her university, Universiti Malaysia.

"I owe whatever success I have achieved academically to the university I work in. To Universiti Malaysia and the Faculty of Medicine, this tribute is to you."

Dr Wan Ramli, the last of the recipients, said it was a great honour for him, as a scientist and professor who has devoted 35 years of his life in the research of hydrogen and fuel

cells, to get the award.

Sultan Nazrin, the royal patron, presented the Merdeka Award trophy, a work of art by Malaysian artist Latiff Mohidin, a recognition certificate and a cash award of RM500,000 to the recipients.

Present was Raja Permaisuri Perak Tuanku Zara Salim.

Guests were entertained by a dance performance by Emma Tash and Azmi Zainal, as well as two vocal performances by Salamiah Hassan and Akim Ahmad, accompanied by the Malaysian Philharmonic Youth Orchestra.

Cartoonist Datuk Mohammad Nor Khalid, better known as Lat, also sketched his famous Kampung Boy character lifting the Merdeka Award trophy.

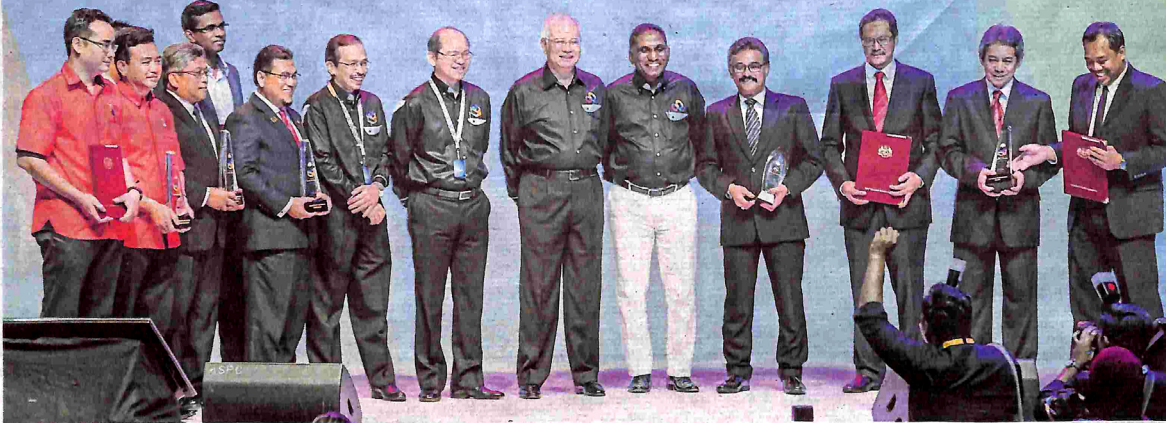
Lat was the Merdeka Award recipient in 2014 for his outstanding contribution to the promotion and pluralism of Malaysia's cultural identity through the use of cartoons, and for the promotion of understanding and respect among Malaysia's ethnic communities.

Since its establishment in 2007, 34 people and two organisations have received the award.

The New Straits Times 9 December 2016

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Committed to an open economy



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak with award recipients at the Global Entrepreneurship Community in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. With him are Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Madhus Tangau (sixth from left) and Treasury secretary-general Tan Sri Dr Mohd Irwan Serigar Abdullah (fifth from right). Pic by Asyraf Hamzah

GLOBAL MART: It will encourage creativity, innovation, says Treasury sec-gen

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KUALA LUMPUR
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MALAYSIA will continue to practise an open economy to encourage and facilitate entrepreneurship not only locally, but also globally.

Treasury secretary-general and Malaysian Global Innovation and Creativity Centre (MaGIC) chairman Tan Sri Dr Mohd Irwan Serigar Abdullah said many bigger nations were taking a step backwards as they feared losing jobs. This was a false notion.

He said recent policies and ref-

erenda had given a negative signal towards the health of the world's economy and trade.

"All these things are taking the world a step backwards, which we should not encourage."

"Asian nations like Malaysia, China and India are opening up to encourage innovation and creativity, and youngsters to venture into new areas and penetrate the market."

"Although we can survive without the West, we want them to be a part of us in this journey in making the world a better place," he said after the launch of the Global Entrepreneurship Community (GECCommunity) here yesterday.

Creations of new technology, he said, would go on and to facilitate

this, countries must open up.

Irwan said Malaysia had announced the Knowledge Entrepreneur Visa in next year's budget to encourage foreign entrepreneurs to work here on a contract basis, and even urged organisations to employ foreigners to show an unrestrictive mindset.

"Knowledge transfer has to come from all types of culture and parts of the world for us to go to the next level."

He said Malaysia planned to be technology leaders by 2050.

With this, he said, the landmark programmes — social enterprise certification and social procurement incentive — announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib

Razak yesterday would begin in June.

He said MaGIC would be in charge of the certification process where entrepreneurs involved in social enterprise would receive recognition to make it easier for them to receive financial help.

He said priority would be given to entrepreneurs who cared not only about profit, but also solving social problems and addressing B40 issues, such as providing solar energy, clean water and education to the rural areas.

MaGIC chief executive officer Ashran Ghazi said the intent of the certification was to encourage more corporate sectors and the government to give an "extra eye" to the social enterprises, allowing the latter to leverage opportunities.

Knowing that they were certified social enterprises gave corporations motivation to support them, he said.

Ashran said MaGIC would also be

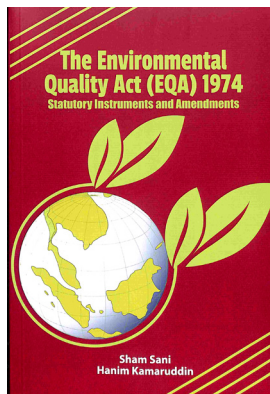
kicking off the Global Accelerator Programme and Asean Impact Challenge next year as a platform to support GECCommunity's activities.

He said the first programme was to be a platform to support the discussions and ideas developed during the nine clusters, while the Asean Impact Challenge was to harness talent to solve problems that affected the community.

The first day of GECCommunity saw more than 4,000 entrepreneurs, innovators, industry leaders and ecosystem influencers participating in the inaugural event.

Speakers include Tomorrow chief executive officer Mike Walsh, The Conversation Farm chief executive officer Jon Duchinsky, celebrity entrepreneur Bill Rancic, Leadapreneur co-founder Jessica Macias, KFit founder Joel Neoh, Grab's Jaygan Fu Ponnudurai and iflix group chief operations officer Azran Rani.

New Releases



The Environmental Quality Act (EQA) 1974-Statutory Instruments and Amendments

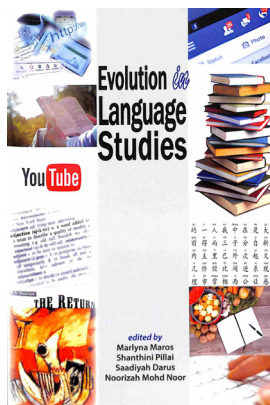
Penerbit UKM

ISBN : 978-967-412-433-5

RM 35.00

Sham Sani & Hanim Kamaruddin

EQA 1974: Statutory Instruments and Amendments deals with the EQA and all its amendments during the last 40 years up until 2014. The book will be useful to students of ecology, environmental studies, forestry, natural sciences, social sciences, geography, education, development managers and the public interested in environmental conservation, the natural ecosystems and sustainable development.



Evolution in Language Studies

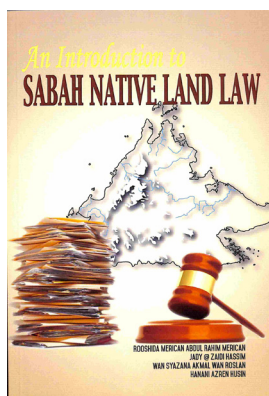
Penerbit UKM

ISBN : 978-967-412-420-5

RM 35.00

Edited by: Marlyna Maros, Shanthini Pillai, Saadiyah Darus & Noorizah Mohd Noor

The evolution of language research and practice is an ongoing endeavour. It is becoming more challenging with the adverse of the digital age where the borders between the physical and the virtual are seamless and fluid. Throughout the years, research enquiries have emerged from within the traditional topical perspectives on various aspects of language studies to spectrums of interdisciplinary outlook. This book presents some of these enquiries that range from online language learning, classroom-based learning linguistics in language learning, and literary studies.



An Introduction to Sabah Native Land Law

Penerbit UKM

ISBN : 978-967-412-406-9

RM 35.00

Rooshida Merican Abdul Rahim Merican, Jady@Zaidi Hassim, Wan Syazana Akmal Wan Roslan & Hanani Azren Husin

In the global perspective pertaining to the native land law, there are several instruments that have been formed in order to tackle this important issues. The foundational documents for indigenous land rights in international law include Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 ("ILO 169") and Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This book highlights issues from manipulation of the Ordinance provisions and lacuna pertaining to Native Customary Rights (NCR) vis-a-vis the non-natives rights to acquire and develop native land. Suggestions are made toward amending several provisions in the Sabah land Ordinance.

