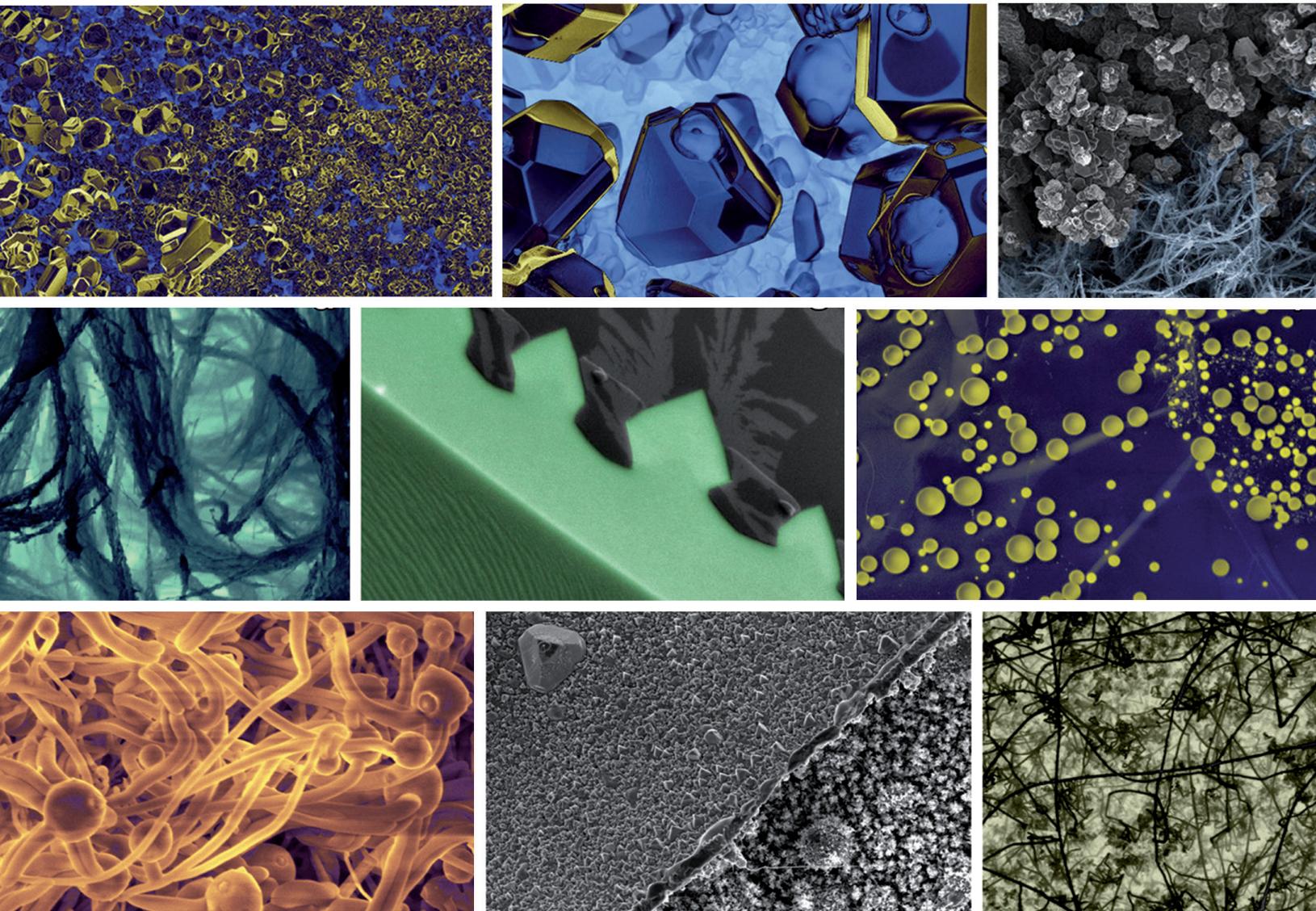


# instrumental

Wadah Transformasi Universiti Malaya

[www.um.edu.my](http://www.um.edu.my)

Bil. 1 / 2013



**Research@UM**  
**Empowering  
Communities,  
Enhancing Visibility**

**UMPEDAC**  
HICoE “jewel in the crown”  
of UM’s R & D

**ANTARTICA**  
MALAYSIA’S JOURNEY TO THE ICE



LECTURES  
BY NOBEL LAUREATE  
PROFESSOR  
BARRY  
MARSHALL



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# The CEO's Discourse on the Business of Research

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and Greetings,

Throughout the years, since its inception, the University of Malaya (UM) as an institution of higher learning has duly fulfilled its role in producing leaders, thinkers, tycoons, artists and be it, other illustrious leaders. We have made our mark, in the work and the research we have produced; the tireless effort to fulfill public expectation besides the meaningful changes we have brought about upon the nation and the world. These are known facts.

As the CEO of this great organization, I realized that resting on our laurels will not get us any higher. An organization, like all creations, must evolve to keep itself relevant. While UM has, and will always be, evolving, under my administration, this institution has transformed into a more business-like approach with the bottom line as our main concern. Thus, Research & Development, UM core business, deserves a business approach where we reward researchers based on performance, eliminate barriers to efficiency, attract quality researchers from around the world with competitive work packages and continuously develop our research and supporting capacities.

All these are not just rhetorical, changes have been made.

The Standard Academic Performance Target (SAPT), Key Performance Index (KPI), Bright Sparks and Research and Development Strategic Road Map are all part of UM's management efforts to improve and accelerate improvements on Research & Development. As a matter of fact, our research output has tripled in numbers since 2008. As the clock is ticking for the 2015 dateline to rank in the top 100 of the world universities, the university must realize that we must put in an extra effort and then some in order to achieve this objective.

We are also more focused in our approach. Currently, there are eight clusters which



complement our research effort. These are categorized as the Advanced Fundamental Research, Advanced Engineering and Technology, Biotechnology and Bioproduct, Health and Translational Medicine, Humanities and Ethics, ICT and Computational Science, Social and Behavioral Science, and Sustainability Science. Apart from that, our UM-MOHE HIR (UM - Ministry of Higher Education High Impact Research) Programme is committing MYR 590 million purely to research for the next five years. It is envisaged that the HIR projects will generate a total of 3300 Tier 1 publications that will spearhead UM to break into the top 100 world ranked universities by 2015.

This is what we, the management of UM has implemented and provide in order to help our researchers achieved their full potential, bearing in mind that ultimately, it is this great nation and the community for whom we are serving.

After all the resources provided and the careful planning, my last take on this business is, 'guys, let's go and get it'.



Gauth Jasmon

# Bicara Ketua Pengarang



Assalamualaikum w.b.t. dan Salam Sejahtera, Bersyukur kepadaNya, kita bersua kembali dalam Instrumental isu pertama bagi tahun 2013 yang membawa tema ‘Penyelidikan di UM: Memperkasa Komuniti, Memperhebat Visibiliti’.

Instrumental yang baru menjangkau edisi ketiga dan belumpun setahun jagung usianya, semakin yakin bertahit memperkembang sayapnya. Kehadirannya sudah mula menarik perhatian khalayak warga kampus.

Dipelbagai dengan aneka tajuk menarik, artikel yang membina serta gambar yang memaparkan pelbagai rona warna dan ragam Universiti Malaya (UM), tidak keterlaluan jika Instrumental kini menjadi sebutan, baik oleh pihak pengurusan, pentadbir, ahli akademik maupun mahasiswa.

Lantas, kami selaku sidang redaksi bertekad untuk memberikan yang terbaik buat tatapan warga UM selaras dengan misi pihak pengurusan untuk memartabatkan menara gading ini sebagai yang terbaik, bukan saja di tanah air malahan di peringkat global.

Seiring dengan usaha pihak pengurusan untuk memacu universiti sebagai peneraju dalam bidang penyelidikan dan pembangunan (R & D), kami juga turut mendokong dan menyokong visi yang sama, justeru pemilihan tema menjurus kepada R & D untuk keluaran kali ini.

Di antara paparan isu kali ini akan menyelusuri kisah kejayaan *UM Power Energy Dedicated Advanced Centre* (UMPEDAC) yang diiktiraf sebagai Pusat Kecemerlangan Pengajaran Tinggi Negara (HICOE) yang pertama di kampus Lembah Pantai ini.

Seperkara menarik akan diperkatakan kisah dua penyelidik dari dua spektrum berbeza, Profesor Madya Dr. Wong Li Ping yang diiktiraf sebagai pakar dalam bidang sains perubatan (Epidemiologi) dan Dr. Huang Nay Ming, pensyarah kanan Jabatan Fizik. Kisah Dr. Huang yang menempa kejayaan sebagai Saintis Muda Kebangsaan pada 2012 pastinya akan menjadi inspirasi kepada kita semua dalam mendaki mercu kejayaan.

Diketengahkan juga tentang profil warga pilihan, tabiat tidak sedar pengguna telefon bimbit, bangunan ikon, rampai berita, dan karya kreatif nukilan warga UM sendiri.

Ringkasnya, isu kali ini lebih merupakan cara kami menunjukkan penghargaan kepada kerja keras sumbangan para saintis dalam melaksanakan penyelidikan, lapangan pembangunan mahupun rekacipta inovasi yang diceburi sehingga membawa kepada hasil yang memanfaatkan masyarakat.

Semoga usaha kita diberkati dan dirahmati Allah SWT sepanjang tahun 2013.

Silakan menatap Instrumental.  
Wassalam.

Zarina Zainol Abidin  
Ketua Pengarang



## Sidang Redaksi

### Penaung

Tan Sri Dr. Gauth Jasmon

### Ketua Pengarang

Zarina Zainol Abidin

### Pengarang

Wan Mazni W. Mohd Woojdy  
Izzad Zalman Abd. Kader

### Penyelaras

Mohd Julian Borhanudin

### Penulis

Rohaizan Ramli  
Harris Rajahdin

### Pencetak

Jabatan Penerbitan Universiti Malaya

### Penyelaras e-Instrumental

Mohd Ridhwan Mohd Ezad

### Jurugambar

Roslina Hj. Chik  
Mior Nazaruddin Abd.Rahman  
Mohd Ameri Mohd Yunos  
Wan Yusof Wan Omar

Instrumental diterbitkan empat kali setahun. Artikel yang disiarkan merupakan buah fikiran para penulis sendiri dan tidak seharusnya mewakili pandangan pihak Pejabat Hubungan Antarabangsa dan Korporat atau Universiti Malaya. Sumbangan artikel dialu-alukan. Sila hantar kepada ICR atau diemel: [icr@um.edu.my](mailto:icr@um.edu.my). Semua artikel tertakluk kepada suntingan dan keputusan muktamad Sidang Redaksi.

# Research@UM

## Empowering Communities, Enhancing Visibility

By Wan Mazni binti W. Mohd. Woojdy and Harris Rajahdin



### Research in UM

As a reputable research university, University of Malaya (UM) has to embrace transformation to be effective in a competitive edge environment. Globally, changes are taking place at an extremely fast pace. Whilst holding on to our competitive advantage as Malaysia's first university, UM strives to be internationally renowned in the core business of research, innovation, publication and teaching. We have a mission to advance knowledge and learning through quality research and education for the nation and for humanity. Big ambitions require big sacrifices to be achievable. Eventually, these challenges transformed into actions will create visibility in what we do. UM core values are the elements to inspire us to produce high quality graduates, significant researches, publish books and journal articles, and provide community services to elevate our reputation in the higher institution education industry.

Vice-Chancellor, Tan Sri Dr. Gauth Jasmon has emphasized strongly stating, “The mark of a quality education is developing personal integrity and sound character in its graduates.” (The Star, 29 October 2011)

Currently, the UM’s student population is around 24,000 students (40% postgraduates). UM aims to reduce enrolment to 20,000 with a ratio of 1:1 postgraduates to undergraduates by

2015. Around 30% of the current postgraduate students are international. In the ensuing years, UM has successfully produced more than 160,000 graduates which in turn have increased the number of ISI-indexed (SCI & SSCI) publications to 2000 in 2011.

Since being granted the research university status on 11 October 2006 and the autonomy status in 2012 by the government, it now has control in four broad areas covering institutional governance, finance and revenue generation, human resource, academic management and student admission. Not only that, UM has to be more responsive and monitor the profile of potential students, keep up with market trends, keep abreast of research trends and innovation, and rely on the strength of our ISO quality. UM must stay ahead in providing quality education, and ensure programmes are up-to-date plus supported by the latest technology, maintain up-to-date facilities, acquire financial allocation, access to highly trained and skilled personnel, as the competitive aids in the business.

In his comments regarding the future of UM research, Professor Dr. Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud, UM Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), emphasised that in research, the way forward is to continue and perhaps enhance what we are doing now. Funding must



necessarily increase but some streamlining is necessary. Returns on investment (social or otherwise) as well as researcher accountability must be a permanent guiding principle of the permanent research agenda and culture as the fundamental issues involved in research. Higher education has evolved in response to internal and external pressures. The foundation of success of academic research rests on a high degree of programmatic self-direction, a competitive environment that rewards success, and an entrepreneurial approach to attract the resources necessary to be successful. With the reduction in dependency on governmental base-budget appropriations, and increased tuition fees, externally sponsored research has achieved greater prominence.

### Empowering the Communities

Success in research is sometimes measured by how much it benefits the society. Community support plays a significant role in terms of returns on investment, appropriation of funds, creation of innovative ideas, and the necessary feedback for continuous improvement. In this context, it is represented by the students, staff, and the public. On the global map, UM has worked very hard to be benchmarked as the best ranked university in Malaysia and to be recognized internationally. Meanwhile, Malaysia as a country also features an attractive cosmopolitan and cultural environment which is conducive as an education hub.

UM was selected as the best university in Malaysia by the Reader's Digest Trusted Brand for six consecutive years. Academic programmes are reviewed regularly, infrastructure facilities for research enhanced, and more postgraduate programmes are established. UM ensures that our researchers have the required qualifications, the necessary funding, matching with mentors to share expertise, access to research information, and so forth. Most importantly, as a researcher,

**“Actually, it is not the ranking that is important, but nation building and how we as a premier university is able to assist the society lead a better quality of life”**

- Tan Sri Dr. Ghauth Jasmon

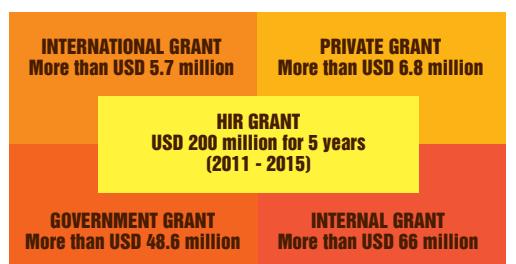
there are channels where their research output can be made readily visible and more accessible to enhance research.

Since 2006, UM has been at the forefront of ground breaking research in Malaysia as it prides itself as the highest ranked university in the country, ranked 33 in QS Asia Top 100, the only university in Malaysia to be ranked in QS Top 200 (current rank 156) and Top 500 in the Shanghai Jiao Tong World University Rankings. By doing this, we aim to fulfill the goal set up by the National Higher Education Strategic Plan (PSPTN) to secure a place for a Malaysian university in the top 100 best universities in the world by 2015 and ultimately realizing its goal of making it into the top 50 by 2020.

Vying for the ranking status is not just for the competition. It is part of our transformation strategy in gaining the trust and confident of potential students and the public. Nevertheless, Tan Sri Dr. Ghauth Jasmon said, “Actually, it is not the ranking that is important, but nation building and how we as a premier university is able to assist the society lead a better quality of life”. (Berita Harian, 20 September 2012)

Thus, the university management has emphasized the importance of research which has seen an increase of 9,161 research papers for this year alone with a total of 12,004 citations according to figures on the Scopus Metrics released by the QS World University Rankings 2012/2013.

UM's management has also set the standard academic performance target and new promotion criteria as benchmarked against global research universities in the Asian as well as other regions. The Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) allocated UM a special HIR grant of USD200 (RM590) million for high impact research projects for a period of 5 years (2011 – 2015). It offers an incentive based rewards scheme of RM50,000 for publication in Nature and Science journals to motivate academic staff in producing more research papers to be published in well respected journals. Also, incentives paid for ISI paper based on the ISI tiers (Q1, Q2 and Q3).



Research funding through grants are provided by the Government, private sector and international organisations. These include MOHE and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), Government Linked Companies (GLC) and the United Nations, European Union, National Institutes of Health, USA, foundations and through collaborations, partnerships and engagements with organisations locally and abroad. Current total for 2013 amounted USD127.1 (RM407.5) million.

### Excellent Research Facilities & Top Research Talents

UM has the complete infrastructure and excellent research facilities which complements the top research talents working on multi-discipline researches. The Institute of Research Management & Monitoring (IPPP), coordinates all research activities to effectively promote research culture in UM. The Research Clusters were established to act as the focal points for the University's research theme and thrust areas to galvanise the University's research activities through the research centres formed. The Research Clusters have unveiled new findings and discoveries in various fields which covers the whole spectrum of the learning discipline from the Social Sciences and Humanities to the Pure Sciences, Medicine, Engineering and Technology. Many research projects carried out by the researchers in UM have produced useful knowledge, generated new and advanced theories, and ideas which can be shared with the public.

A conducive environment to further develop a robust research and innovation culture among researchers has been provided by UM. The Research Management and Innovation Complex (KPPI) provides a centralised research management facility for researchers. It is the hub for encouraging and enabling researchers to work on an up-to-date high-end facility and a multi-disciplinary high impact research across the campus.

The IPPP, the Research Clusters, the Research Support Unit (USP), the University of Malaya Consultancy Unit (UPUM) and the University of Malaya Centre of Innovation & Commercialisation (UMCIC) were established with the objective of contributing towards the development of research and innovation. Furthermore, UM already has its own teaching hospital, the first in the country with 4,000 hospital staff.

### Enhancing Visibility

Today, the Google search will lead you to many impressive tips and initiatives on enhancing

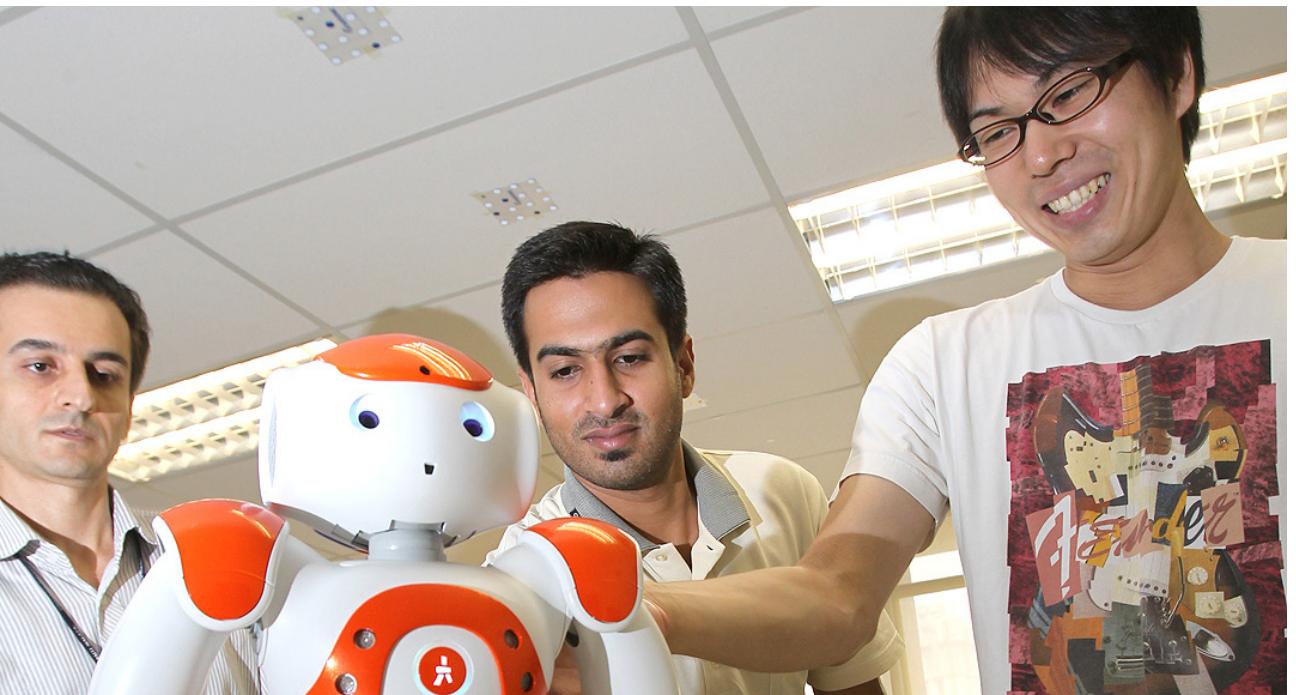


**“UM already has its own teaching hospital, the first in the country with 4,000 hospital staff.”**

visibility related to research. It is mutual thinking among intellectuals, academics and researchers. They speak the same language in research. To get feedback, responses and more information on research projects, researchers make use of the internet to broadcast them. That is the fastest way to share their researches making it easily available while getting visible which will lead to increased citations. Naturally, the articles and findings must be quality work.

Embracing transformation in implementing its strategic plan, among which UM has taken steps which will lead to enhancing visibility in research. Likewise, the many tips on the internet will elaborate further on the same subject. The following, as categorized, are some of the various ways at enhancing visibility in research from UM's perspectives and internet reference sources:

- **Sharing for mutual success**
  - (1) Having a personal website will provide a link to sharing articles or slides presentation that are published online.
  - (2) Get the opinions of fellow researchers knowledgeable in the field.
  - (3) Submit research undertaken by you or your research team for an award.
  - (4) Participate in research and poster exhibitions.
- **Available Support Services**
  - (1) Take advantage of the library functions, resources and training in open access and other services.
  - (2) UM Research website allows dedicated pages on separate projects where a researcher or research team can post information and activities of their projects.
  - (3) Establish information exchange activity with institutions related to your field of study.
- **Hone Research Skills**
  - (1) Schedule a part of your daily/weekly routine



for regular research writing. Not many people are born writers. But there are guidelines to improve writing skills. Submit or write articles on a research and send it to UM Research bulletin, 'Instrumental' (UM magazine) or related magazines/journals including that ISI articles.

(2) Take advantage of available services provided by UM, such as the Academic Development Centre (ADeC), Research Support Unit, Centre of Research Services, Research Management & Innovation Complex, *Unit Lonjakan Pencapaian Akademik (ULPA)*, *Unit Monograf dan Terjemahan Bahasa Melayu* for translation aid, writing for publication, editing services, etc.

- Get professional**

- (1) Improve on the networking by taking part in formal and informal faculty or campus activities.
- (2) Create opportunities for recognition of your work by visiting renowned institutions, spending sabbatical and research leaves abroad to cultivate an international reputation in similar research fields.
- (3) Participate and organize international conferences and be prepared for video conferencing.
- (4) Get actively involved in professional organizations and affiliations.

- Collaborate with notable researchers**

- (1) Enhanced collaboration between researchers from all disciplines within a Research Cluster has served as a constructive medium for exchanging knowledge and sharing discoveries.
- (2) UM has engaged Nobel Laureates, Professor

**66**  
Currently, UM is embarking on a new era of transformation to implement numerous mega projects which UM hopes will provide at least 30,000 jobs in the next five years.  
**99**

Barry Marshall, Professor Ryoji Noyori, and Professor David Baltimore to work with academics.

- (3) Work with UM world class professors and researchers who have won notable awards. To name a few, they are Professor Dr. Thong Kwai Lin, Professor Dr. Phang Siew Moi, Professor Harith Ahmad and many more.
- (4) Look out for opportunities on potential research grants and funds via networking or online. Get involved with High Impact Research (HIR) projects and get published in high impact journals. The HIR unit aims at maximizing productivity amongst UM staff in research and publications.

- Power of the social media**

- (1) The social media is the top popular channel to sharing with a wider public. The available forum is endless. The UMMAIL, UMLIST, and the UM website with news highlights on research awards and latest achievements, Twitter, Youtube, Facebook, etc.
- (2) The UM Research website allows researchers to disseminate information to existing and potential researchers, stakeholders and the community at large. By exploring through its pages, netizens will be enlightened with current information on UM research activities, expertise, infrastructure and services.

- Brainstorming sessions**

- (1) Brainstorming sessions are good for generating new ideas and even to de-stress. It allows for crazy, wild, innovative and new ideas to be thrown in, before finally arriving at some great ideas worth considering.
- (2) Discussion with group members in charting

a future (research) career path. Time will fly very fast. Nobody will plan your future if you do not plan it yourself.

### UM's Future Plans – Advancement in Research

Towards this end, UM is embarking on a new era of transformation to implement numerous mega projects which UM hopes will provide at least 30,000 jobs in the next five years. The involvement of all UM staff is imperative in ensuring the sustainability of UM through a self-generating revenue stream.

There are plans to increase the number of HICoE in the near future. More laboratories will be accredited based on national and international standards. Various research centres have been established. The Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences (IOES) conduct significant research in the South China Sea, and apply new technologies to protect our fisheries resources and enhance food security.

The Photonics Research Centre (PRC) and the Nanotechnology & Catalysis Research Centre (NanoCat) has been identified as the Potential Higher Institutions Centres of Excellence (Potential HICoE's). Three UMCoEs have already been established, that is TIDREC, IOES and CEBAR. These are among the strategies and initiatives taken to push forward UM's research activities and prestige globally.

Furthermore, there is a huge wealth of untapped research discoveries waiting to be further explored. Global Warming, Infectious Diseases, Tropical Medicine, Energy and Water Safety, Food Adequacy, Advanced and Value-Added Manufacturing and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) have been

**66**  
Research and innovation is expected to play a major role in shaping Malaysia's economy in this century.  
**99**

identified as strategic niche areas which the country needs to focus on.

With the transformations in the field of research and innovation in higher education globally has resulted in increased mobility, collaboration and a revolutionary change in the way we teach and learn. The collective effort of the UM Management and staff as well as public support are the source of inspiration for UM to strive forward to be ranked among the best universities in the world.

Research and innovation is expected to play a major role in shaping Malaysia's economy in this century. Job creation and an improvement in quality of life are expected from the investments the Malaysian government has made in recent years. Malaysia's future economic well-being and its ability to break out of the middle income trap it finds itself in depends very much on its success in transforming its economy into an innovation-led one.

In conclusion, we have to face the reality that within the research university community there is a growing recognition of the need for research intelligence and well-established performance and risk management systems. These can help focus institutional strategies on research quality, raise the profile of the institution nationally and internationally, manage talent and resources, and build a high-quality research environment. The strength of UM lies in its people and the input from quantified efforts.

(Note: This article is based on the current issues in the University of Malaya and related reference materials on the topic as presented by the writers.)



# International Affairs

By Choong Chai Kun



1. 15 February 13 - University Hadhadharomout of Science & Technology, Yemen
2. The Vice-Chancellors of UM and Loughborough University during the visit of the latter to UM - 31 January 2013
3. Delegation from German Exchange Academic Service (DAAD)
4. A photo to commemorate the signing of an MoU between UM and the Korean National Police University - 16 January 2013
5. Visit by Minister of Education and Science of The Republic of Tatarstan, Mr. Engel Fattakhov and delegates from various universities in Tatarstan - 9 January 2013
6. Visit by PhD students from Indiana University - 12 March 2013



7. A photo to commemorate the signing of an MoU between UM and the Korean National Police University - 16 January 2013
8. Visit by the delegation from Queen's University Belfast on 4 March 2013
9. The signing ceremony of an agreement between UM and the Italian Trade Commission, in the presence of H.E. Mario Sammartino, Ambassador of Italy - 8 January 2013
10. Prof. Dr. Mohd. Hamdi Abd. Shukor presenting a token to Dr. Osamu Aruga, Director of International Planning Division, MEXT, Japan - 31 January 2013
11. Deputy Vice-Chancellors of UM and University of Reading signing a Memorandum of Understanding for academic cooperation - 28 February 2013
12. Visit by Bogor Agriculture University, Indonesia - 19 February 2013



# WISMA R&D

## Lambang Komitmen UM Tingkatkan Aktiviti Penyelidikan & Pembangunan

Oleh Rohaizan Ramli

Sejajar dengan *tagline* Peneraju dalam Penyelidikan dan Inovasi, Universiti Malaya (UM) membuktikan komitmennya dalam menyediakan prasarana terbaik bagi memperkembangkan aktiviti penyelidikan dan pembangunan dengan kewujudan bangunan Wisma R&D.

Bersesuaian dengan nama Wisma R&D, bangunan ini sememangnya dikhaskan untuk menempatkan pusat-pusat penyelidikan UM bagi memberikan keselesaan kepada para penyelidik UM dalam menjalankan aktiviti penyelidikan mereka. Sebanyak RM70 juta dibelanjakan oleh UM bagi mengambil alih bangunan yang sebelum ini dikenali sebagai Wisma Telekom milik Telekom Malaysia pada tahun 2009.

Terletak di Jalan Pantai Baru, bangunan ini memiliki ketinggian 22 tingkat dan secara keseluruhannya berkeluasan 444,832 kaki persegi. Setiap tingkat memiliki keluasan antara 11,287 hingga 41,349 kaki persegi. Ianya turut dilengkapi 3 tingkat parkir kereta dan lokasinya hanya berjarak lebih kurang 1 kilometer dari kampus UM. Dari tingkat 22 bangunan ini, keindahan panorama kampus UM dapat dilihat dengan jelas.

Proses pengubahsuaian secara berperingkat telah dilaksanakan namun pengubahsuaian dalam bagian sesetengah tingkat masih lagi rancak. Wisma R&D kini menempatkan hampir 20 pusat penyelidikan pelbagai disiplin dan juga Pusat Tanggungjawab (PTJ). Ia juga dijadikan sebagai tempat bagi tujuan latihan dan pembangunan staf UM.

PTJ dan pusat penyelidikan yang menjalankan operasi mereka dari Wisma R&D adalah:

- 1) Pusat Teknologi Maklumat (PTM);
- 2) Pusat Pendidikan Berterusan Universiti Malaya (UMCCed);
- 3) Institut Kepimpinan Pendidikan (IKP);
- 4) Unit Lonjakan Pencapaian Akademik (ULPAUM)
- 5) Pusat Pembangunan Akademik (ADeC)
- 6) Persatuan Siswazah Universiti Malaya
- 7) Pejabat Bengkel Niaga Ala Cina (BENA)
- 8) Pejabat Keselamatan
- 9) Pusat Sukan (dalam proses perpindahan)
- 10) Unit Pengurusan Wisma R&D
- 11) Pusat Jaringan Masyarakat & Industri (CltRa)
- 12) Pusat Pengajian Pribumi Malaysia
- 13) Pusat Pengkhususan Tenaga Kuasa Termaju UM (UMPEDAC)
- 14) Makmal Penyelidikan Fakulti Sains Komputer dan Teknologi Maklumat (FSKTM)
- 15) Pusat Penyelidikan Fotonik
- 16) Centre of Quranic Research (CQR)
- 17) University of Malaya Malaysian Centre of Regulatory Studies (UMCoRS)
- 18) Centre of Excellence for Research in AIDS (CERIA)
- 19) Tropical Infectious Diseases Research & Education Centre (TIDREC)
- 20) Pusat Penagihan Sains Universiti Malaya (UMCAS)



“ According to the Ministry of Information, there are about 200,000 *Mat Rempit* in Malaysia engaging in criminal activities ranging from drug abuse, rape, theft, larceny to organized crime.

# *Mat Rempit*

## Illegal motorcycle street racers in Malaysia

By Mohd Julian Borhanudin

Illegal motorcycle street racers also known as *Mat Rempit* have become a social epidemic spreading nationwide. According to the Ministry of Information, there are about 200,000 *Mat Rempit* in Malaysia engaging in criminal activities ranging from drug abuse, rape, theft, larceny to organized crime. So notorious is the term *Mat Rempit* that on its website,

In her breakthrough study to understand further the *Mat Rempit*, Associate Professor Dr. Wong Li Ping of the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya and her group of researchers went to the streets across Malaysia and interviewed the *Mat Rempit* directly. The study, named “Socio-demographic and behavioral characteristics of illegal motorcycle street racers in Malaysia” sought to understand the factors associated with street racing among illegal motorcycle racers in Malaysia. The behavior characteristics investigated included racing activities, health behavior and self-rated level of masculinity.

### Results

A total of 2022 participants from 11 states and the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur were interviewed from June 2008 to January 2009. Startlingly, within the age range of 12 to 35 years old, the large majority of illegal

street racers were students with some not having any motorcycle licenses. Those employed reported a personal monthly income of less than RM 1000 per month. The respondents have been racing from two months to 12 years.



\* File photo

the Ministry of Information has substituted the term with *Samseng Jalanan* or Street Gangsters. Despite the renowned negative consequences and long existence of *Mat Rempit* in Malaysia, empirical research on the topic is limited.



“

A special trait or ideology found most common in the mindset of the illegal racers is the masculinity ideology.

- Associate Professor Dr. Wong Li Ping

The illegal street racers displayed behaviours that put health to risk with cigarette smoking becoming the habit of 78.3% of them, followed by general alcohol use at 27.8%, and recreational drug use at 18.8%. The study also found that a variety of delinquent behaviors exist concomitantly with illegal motorcycle street racing where racing under the influence of alcohol and stunt riding were highly prevalent.

A special trait or ideology found most common in the mindset of the illegal racers is the masculinity ideology. Masculinity refers to those characteristics described as honor, courage, aggressiveness, dominance, toughness, and the willingness to resort to violence to resolve interpersonal conflicts. This is especially related to the health-risk behaviors of the *Mat Rempit* since men with traditional masculine beliefs are

less likely to report practicing health protective behaviors.

Furthermore, the study shows that there is a distinctive link between masculinity and street racing as the odds of racing frequency very often/ often vs. sometimes/ rarely increased with health risk behavior and masculinity scores. This distinctive link indicates that intervention and preventive messages should highlight the negative aspects of masculinity and aimed to change youth's notions of masculinity that often emphasize risk taking.

The qualitative findings found that reasons for illegal racing were to gain respect and honor from peers and the street racing community for being brave and tough, boredom and lack of recreational activities as well as a minor but present reason of reducing stress. The motives for such activity were stated as sensation or thrill seeking, gaining honor and reputation which were initiated by factors including peer, media influence, parenting style, monetary reward and the recurring stress release and limited community activities.

### Conclusions

The findings from this study have several implications for reaching out to youth known to be associated with illegal motorcycle street racing. The study found illegal motorcycle street racing is associated with a variety of participant, parent and family characteristics. There is a need for increasing emphasis on designing health promotions interventions for low-income individuals as they are particularly vulnerable to becoming

involved with illegal street racing.

Targeting and educating the lower socio-economic street racers may assist in lowering the rates of risk behaviour and injury due to street racing. Higher level of parental monitoring and control may prevent motorcycle racing-related behaviours among adolescents and youths. The distinctive link between masculinity and street racing indicates that intervention and preventive messages should highlight the negative aspects of masculinity and aimed to change youth's notions of masculinity that often emphasize risk taking.

Comprehensive behavioural interventions to simultaneously address the multiple and inter-related risky behaviour exhibited by the illegal racer is warranted. The findings of this study provide information on the development of future programmes aimed at adolescents and young adults, and may be particularly useful in developing interventions to eradicate illegal motorcycle street racing.



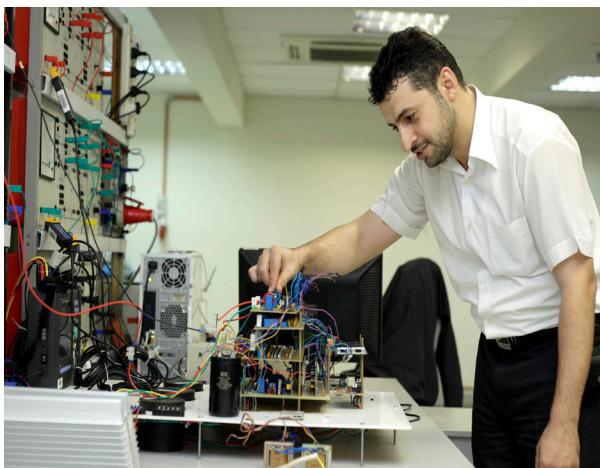
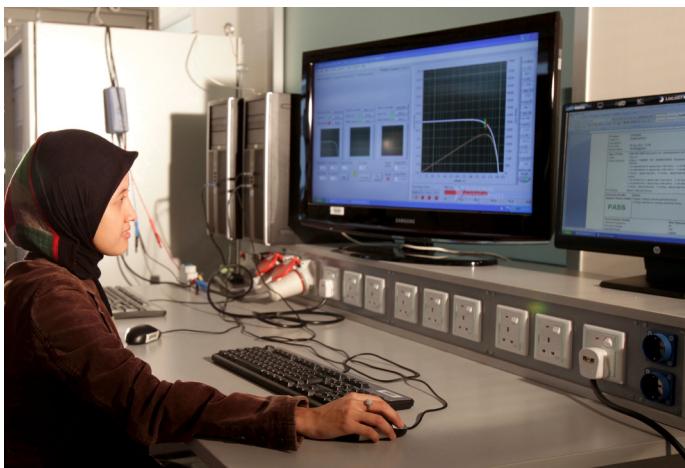
\* File photo

# UMPEDAC HICoE ‘jewel in the crown’ of UM’s R & D

By Harris Rajahdin

“UMPEDAC’s research focuses on renewable energy. Unlike fossil fuels which face depletion in the near future, renewable energy does not face the same problem.”

- Professor Dr. Nasrudin Abd Rahim, Director of UMPEDAC



The UM Power Energy Dedicated Advanced Centre (UMPEDAC) is one of the three ‘jewels in the crown’ for UM alongside the Photonics Research Centre in UM (PRCUM) and Nanotechnology & Catalysis Research Centre (NanoCat).

Accorded the status of Higher Institution Centre of Excellence (HICoE) on October 2009, UMPEDAC has been the driving force in the research of power electronics conversion techniques.

Initiated by the Ministry of Higher Education in line with the National Higher Education Strategic Plan (PSPTN) which aims to produce 20 Centres of Excellence (CoE) by 2020, HICoE's have been identified as the leader in their respective fields, thus playing a bigger role in propelling the country's research and development to greater heights on the world stage.

In UM, UMPEDAC has been acclaimed as one of only 6 CoE's in public institutions of higher learning granted the status of HICoE.

Being at the forefront of research for the development of renewable energy, UMPEDAC's main goal is to become a national centre for testing of Photovoltaic

(PV) modules, PV cells and high power inverters up to 300 kVA.

“UMPEDAC's research focuses on renewable energy. Unlike fossil fuels which face depletion in the near future, renewable energy does not face the same problem,” said Professor Dr. Nasrudin Abd Rahim, Director of UMPEDAC.

“Currently UMPEDAC is conducting research on solar energy (PV cell, PV module and PV inverter testing, integration system, monitoring system), wind energy (system, mechanical design, monitoring system), solar thermal and smart grid system.”

“Besides being a form of clean energy, renewable energy is also environmental friendly and relatively cheap. As time goes by, renewable energy will become cheaper while fossil fuels will become more expensive,” he added.

In the long run, UMPEDAC will look to conduct ground-breaking research into the field of renewable energy, i.e the research of microwave energy, smart grid system and smart building system.

“Among UMPEDAC's achievements include, the technology licensing of

“Our long term goal is to empower Malaysia with the capability to become a regional and international leader in power energy.”

- Professor Dr. Nasrudin Abd Rahim



“Our long term goal is to empower Malaysia with the capability to become a regional and international leader in power energy,” he added.

## UMPEDAC list of achievements

1. The set up of high power inverter testing facility to test inverters up to 300 kVA, suitable for solar farm applications
2. Currently, UMPEDAC is working on setting up a smart grid on campus laboratory, the first of its kind in Malaysia.
4. UMPEDAC is equipped with a test bed for Electric Vehicle and RT Laboratory, also the first of its kind in Malaysia

## RESEARCH FACILITY

### Software:

PSpice, Protel, Matlab/Simulink, ANSYS, ADM, PSCAD, FEM, Microcontroller/FPGA Development System, Xilinx Development System, Programmable Interface Controller (PIC) Development System, Texas Instrument Digital-Signal-Processor-Based Development, OPERA Design Software, DSpace.

### Infrastructure:

- 4.2kW solar-panel system,
- 2 units of 12kW permanent-magnet synchronous motor,
- 2kW Solar PV Demo House at Section 24, Shah Alam,
- PV Inverter Anti-Islanding testing equipment,

• 20kW Permanent Magnet Synchronous Motor,

• Solar Cell/Module Tester

• Online measuring equipments,

• Range of power supplies and measuring equipments,

• Solar Tracker with online monitoring system and climatic chamber,

• High Precision Solar Cell I-V Tester

• Electroluminescence-Measurement System for Characterisation of Solar Modules

### Laboratories:

- Inverter Testing and Research Laboratory
- Solar Cell Testing and Research Laboratory
- Renewable Energy Research Laboratory
- Power Electronics Research

- Machine and Drives Research Laboratory
- Smart Grid Research Laboratory
- RT-Laboratory/Computer Laboratory
- Printed Circuit Board Laboratory



# Kajian UMCEDEL Hangatkan Bahang Pilihan Raya Malaysia

Oleh Rohaizan Ramli

**A**pakah pilihan pengundi Malaysia dalam Pilihan Raya Umum Ke-13 (PRU13)? Jika persoalan ini dibangkitkan, semua lapisan masyarakat tidak mengira umur, bangsa dan darjah pasti melupakan sejenak urusan kerja sehari-hari bagi mendengar jawapannya dan mungkin turut sama bertekat. Analisis dan pandangan dari pelbagai pihak saban hari mewarnai dada-dada akbar, kaca-kaca televisyen, laman-laman sosial dan blog-blog.

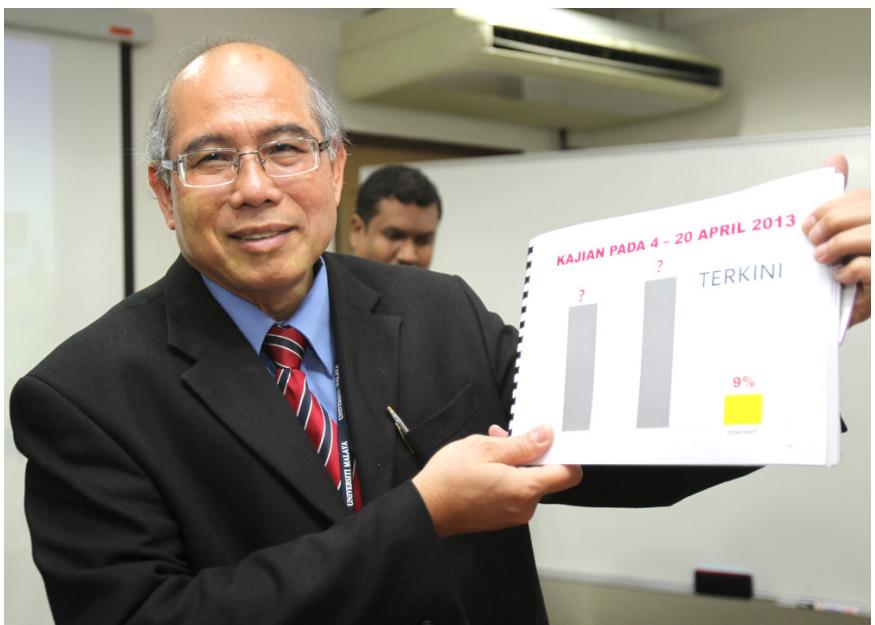
Di Universiti Malaya (UM) para penyelidiknya turut tidak ketinggalan menjadikan pilihan raya sebagai bidang kajian mereka bagi berkongsi hasil penyelidikan dengan masyarakat Malaysia. Maka dengan itu tertubuhlah Pusat Kajian Pilihan Raya dan Demokrasi ataupun sinonim dengan nama UMCEDEL pada tanggal 14 April 2010. Sepanjang penubuhannya pelbagai kajian telah dilakukan oleh UMCEDEL dan hasil kajian ini dikongsi bersama masyarakat.

Ketika Parlimen dibubarkan pada 3 April lalu bagi memberi laluan kepada PRU13, UMCEDEL menggerakkan 20 orang enumeratornya ke seluruh Semenanjung Malaysia bagi membuat kajian mengenai pilihan pengundi menjelang hari pengundian. Kajian dilakukan secara bersemuka dengan melibatkan etnik Melayu, Cina dan India. Seramai 1,407 responden terlibat dipilih secara rawak dengan soalan kaji selidik berstruktur. Pada 20 April yang bersamaan dengan hari penamaan calon, pasukan ini menamatkan kajian mereka yang turut diselia oleh empat orang penyelia. Keseluruhannya, 957 bangsa Melayu, 341 bangsa Cina dan 109 bangsa India terlibat dalam kajian ini dengan 53 peratus terdiri daripada responden perempuan dan 47 peratus lelaki.

Hasil kajian menunjukkan ‘trend’ tidak pasti apabila diaju persoalan sama ada Barisan Nasional (BN) atau Pakatan Rakyat (PR) akan memenangi PRU13 semakin menurun dengan data terkini sebanyak 9 peratus sahaja. Dua kajian terdahulu mencatatkan 21 peratus (1-16 September 2012) dan 15 peratus (26 September – 11 Januari 2013) responden memberikan jawapan tidak pasti.

Semasa sidang media khas bagi mengumumkan hasil kajian terkini

UMCEDEL, Pengarahnya, Profesor Dato' Dr. Mohammad Redzuan Othman menjelaskan pengundi Cina semakin jelas dengan pilihan mereka menjelang hari pengundian dengan peratusan tidak pasti semakin menurun dari 53 peratus kepada 35 peratus dan terkini 17 peratus.



Prof. Dato' Dr. Redzuan menunjukkan laporan penuh kajian UMCEDEL yang bermula pada hari pembubaran parlimen dan berakhir pada hari penamaan calon.



“  
54 peratus responden percaya Datuk Seri Najib seorang pemimpin yang mesra rakyat berbanding Datuk Seri Anwar 46, tetapi 50 peratus daripada responden yang mengundi buat kali pertama memilih Datuk Seri Anwar sebagai pemimpin mesra rakyat berbanding Datuk Seri Najib 45 peratus.”

- Profesor Dato' Dr. Redzuan.

“Sebaliknya pengundi Melayu semakin tidak pasti dengan pilihan mereka dengan peratusan responden memberi jawapan tidak pasti semakin meningkat iaitu dari 37 peratus kepada 53 peratus dan data terkini mencecah 77 peratus,” kata beliau.

Sementara hasil kajian terhadap manifesto BN dan PR menunjukkan

kecenderungan pengundi lebih kepada manifesto PR dengan 42 peratus, BN 36 peratus dan 22 peratus tidak pasti. Kajian juga mendapat 61 peratus pengundi Cina cenderung untuk percaya kepada manifesto PR, manakala 53 peratus pengundi India percaya kepada manifesto BN dan 38 peratus pengundi Melayu percaya kepada manifesto BN.

Kajian UMCEDEL turut meliputi sama ada bendera dan poster yang dipamerkan oleh parti politik semasa berkempen turut mempengaruhi pengundi untuk membuat pilihan menunjukkan 66 peratus responden percaya ianya tidak mempengaruhi mereka membuat keputusan. Responden turut ditanya mengenai kewajaran untuk Datuk Seri Najib Razak dan Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim untuk berdebat tentang manifesto masing-masing. Keputusannya menunjukkan 63 peratus daripada mereka merasakan kedua-dua pemimpin politik ini perlu berdebat.

UMCEDEL turut membuat kajian berkaitan pemimpin yang menjadi pilihan pengundi dalam PRU13 dengan membuat perbandingan antara Datuk Seri Najib dan Datuk Seri Anwar. Antara aspek yang dikaji adalah pemimpin yang rapat dan mesra rakyat; pemimpin yang berwibawa dalam pentadbiran; pemimpin yang telus dan berwawasan untuk memajukan Malaysia; pemimpin yang menjadi pilihan pengundi muda; dan pemimpin yang memiliki ciri-ciri kepimpinan Islam.

“54 peratus responden percaya Datuk Seri Najib seorang pemimpin yang mesra rakyat berbanding Datuk Seri Anwar 46, tetapi 50 peratus daripada responden yang mengundi buat kali pertama memilih Datuk Seri Anwar sebagai pemimpin mesra rakyat



Dipenuhi media: Hasil kajian UMCEDEL sentiasa dinanti-nantikan oleh pihak media

berbanding Datuk Seri Najib 45 peratus,” kata Profesor Dato' Dr. Redzuan.

“Datuk Seri Anwar menjadi pemimpin pilihan golongan muda berbanding Datuk Seri Najib dengan 46 peratus daripada responden memilih beliau berbanding Datuk Seri Najib 39 peratus,” tambah beliau.

Berkaitan penayangan video seks sebagai kempen menjelang pilihan raya, 62 peratus responden percaya ianya tidak mempengaruhi mereka dalam membuat keputusan dan hanya 11 peratus merasakannya ianya memberi kesan dan selebihnya tidak pasti. Kajian juga mendapat 39 peratus responden percaya video seks tersebut merupakan propaganda UMNO, 22 peratus mengatakan tidak dan 39 peratus lagi tidak pasti.

Mengulas mengenai parti mana yang akan memenangi pilihan raya pada kali ini, Profesor Dato' Dr. Redzuan berkata persaingan pada kali ini sememangnya amat sengit.

“Buat masa sekarang tidak ada satu parti politik pun yang boleh dakwa mereka akan menang. Mengambil contoh apa yang berlaku pada tahun 2008, apa-apapun boleh berlaku sehingga saat-saat akhir kempen dan kedua-dua parti politik perlu menggunakan tempoh berkempen yang masih ada untuk merebut hati pengundi,” tambah beliau.

UMCEDEL mempunyai 16 orang penyelidik yang terdiri daripada pelbagai bidang kepakaran. Sejak ditubuhkan, UMCEDEL telah melakukan kajian secara bersemuka melibatkan lebih 22,000 orang responden.

# Research@UM

## Empowering Communities, Enhancing Visibility



# DR. HUANG

## “Hardwork and dedication, key to a better future”

By Harris Rajahdin



Born into a family of vegetable farmers, Dr. Huang Nay Ming, academician at the Department of Physics, Faculty of Science has never forgotten his roots.

The modest 34 year old scientist has already received acclaim as one of the top young researchers in the country but has always stayed true to his humble beginnings, growing up in a rural village in Marudi, Sarawak.

“It certainly has not been easy for me coming from a poor childhood in Marudi with 8 siblings, but I managed to overcome all the obstacles in my path to reach this far.”

“I still remember wearing slippers and old uniforms which belonged to my brother going to school and finishing homeworks under candle lights. Often,

**Growing up in poverty made me realized the value of education. Despite all the shortcomings, I was determined to succeed in life at a very young age.**

we need to help out in the pepper farm clearing grass and harvesting the pepper in the afternoon.”

At an early age, Huang realized that the only way for him and his family to get out of the clutches of poverty was through education.

“Growing up in poverty made me realized the value of education. Despite all the shortcomings, I was determined

to succeed in life at a very young age.”

“Our life was very difficult at that time and my parents have to work extra hard to support the family.”

“Imagine they had to toil the soil from day till night at their vegetable farm along the Baram river 7 days a week so that we could have food on our table every night. Sometimes they started working in the farm as early as 2

am in the morning, something that I have not heard of I will not forget this for the rest of my life.”

“As I was the youngest child, in a family of eight, I am considered more fortunate to have better opportunity to focus in my study. For that, I will always be indebted to them, my success today is all thanks to my family who have always supported me through everything,” added Huang.

Dr. Huang graduated with First Class Honours in 2002 and was the recipient of the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Book Prize Award. He continued to pursue his

“Recently, his proposal on “Graphene-Inorganic Nanocomposites and Their Applications” has been approved for the HIR-MOHE 3rd cycle application, which enable him to work closely with the top graphene researcher from The University of Texas in Austin.”

-Prof. Dr. Rodney Ruoff



MSc and PhD studies at UKM.

His postgraduate research focused on nanomaterials synthesis and applications. Upon completion of his PhD in 2009, Huang was employed by University of Malaya as Senior Lecturer in the Physics Department, Faculty of Science. He has been a member of the Low Dimensional Materials Research Centre since then.

His current research interest is slanted towards the fabrication of graphene and graphene-based nanocomposites. Huang applied these graphene nanomaterials in the fields of sensors, solar energy conversion and energy storage applications.

Since 2009, his research has been funded by the Ministry of Higher Education, MOHE (ERGS, FRGS, HIR-

MOHE), Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of Malaysia, MOSTI (e-Science fund, NND grant) and the internal grants of University of Malaya such as UMRG, HIR-UM and PPP grants.

For HIR-MOHE grant, he is the co-researcher for two projects entitled “Fundamental of Self-Assembly” and “Synthesis and Applications of Low Dimensional Materials”

Recently, his proposal on “Graphene-Inorganic Nanocomposites and Their Applications” has been approved for the HIR-MOHE 3rd cycle application, which enable him to work closely with the top graphene researcher from The University of Texas in Austin, Prof. Dr. Rodney Ruoff.

In Malaysia, Dr. Huang has pioneered research on graphene

(substance composed on pure carbon) which he started in 2009. He has published over 20 graphene papers in ISI-cited journals since then and is supervising 18 postgraduate students (6 PhD and 12 MSc students).

Up till today, Huang has published 60 ISI-cited journal papers with a total citation of 389 and H-index of 12. In addition, he has filed 4 patents on graphene technology. He is also an active reviewer for more than 20 scientific journals and reviews more than 20 journal articles per year.

His efforts have not gone unnoticed, as he was bestowed the top award of National Young Scientist 2012 by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), the Young Researcher Award 2012 by Malaysian Solid Science & Technology Society (MASS).



# THE FUTURE NOBEL LAUREATE

# Alireza Yaghoubi

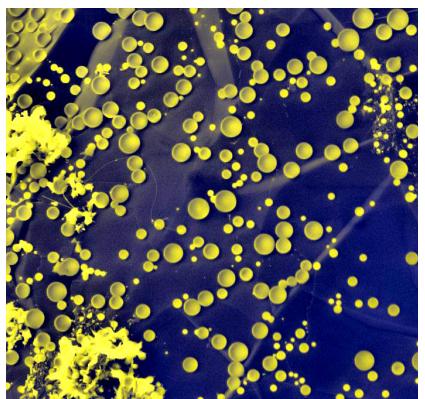
By Mohd Julian Borhanudin

Alireza Yaghoubi, an undergraduate student from the Faculty of Engineering caught the attention of the academia when he published a joint-research paper in the highly regarded *Nature Scientific Reports*. The paper, entitled 'Tunable synthesis and in situ growth of silicon-carbon mesostructures using impermeable plasma' is probably the world first with an undergraduate as its first and corresponding author. This up-and-coming scientist touted by some to be the future Nobel Laureate, share with us his bits.

## 1) Can you tell us about yourself?

I was born in Tehran, Iran in July 1990 and completed my primary education there. When I was 16 we moved to Dubai, UAE where I got my high school diploma in mathematics, and science at Towheed Iranian School. In 2008 I came to Malaysia in hope of studying aerospace engineering. However, while visiting UPM which is apparently the only University in Malaysia which offers a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering, I changed my mind and applied for the mechanical engineering programme at UM instead. I am currently a final year undergraduate at the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Hobbies ... for the past two years I have been spending all my free time on research. Once in a while I play video games too.



**I would like to work on electric propulsion systems based on impermeable plasma. These thrusters will be far more powerful than the usual space rockets and are also more efficient. -Alireza**

As for my family, my father works at one of the IRISL (the national Iranian shipping lines) companies as a Deputy Executive Director. My mother is a housewife and my sister is also a student studying architectural conservation in a University in Tehran.

**2) What motivates you to study in UM?**  
Initially I chose UM merely based on its standing in the international rankings. However in recent years, there have been tremendous improvements both in terms of facilities and academics. With Dr. Ghauth Jasmon taking over as the new Vice-Chancellor, many of the ranking administrative staffs have been replaced by young and energetic personnel. This is even more pronounced in the Engineering Faculty

where the progress in recent years has been very impressive.

## 3) What is the focus of your research?

At the moment, I am working on two projects of my own and contributing to a few more in a wide range of fields. My primary area of research (working together with a team in France) deals with developing new ways to make building blocks at nanoscale. Consider nanomaterials as an essential part of any emerging technology in the near future. Now you can only see the applications of nanotechnology in computers and electronics. Soon, if we manage to produce nanostructures on a considerably larger quantities and in a controlled environment, everything would be more powerful, smaller, and

more energy efficient. That includes the next generation of displays, computers, batteries, drugs, sensors, structural materials like ceramics and many more... you name it.

Another study which I am undertaking is collaboration with Prof. Ramesh Singh about making better scaffolds for tissue engineering. If we are successful, these scaffolds will be used to grow natural bone from stem cell. The lab-grown bones then would replace damaged bones in the body with minimal recovery time. This procedure would eventually substitute for the titanium implants which are currently in use.

I am also working with Dr. Raymond Ooi from the Physics Department on the characterization of complex nanostructures using femtosecond laser. There is another ongoing study as a collaborative effort between the Engineering Faculty and the Physics Department on radiation dosimetry. I work with Prof. Rafiq's photonic research group and Prof. Wong's plasma science laboratory to develop very sensitive equipment to measure radiation level using a special type of optical fibre.

Recently we are working with Prof. Chung and Dr. Kiew from the Department of Pharmacology to develop new carriers for targeted delivery of anti-cancer drugs as well.

At the same time with Dr. Jahanshahi the industrial liaison of the Engineering Faculty, we are trying to explore ways to commercialize one of my conceptual designs called AirGo which recently received considerable attention from popular media worldwide.

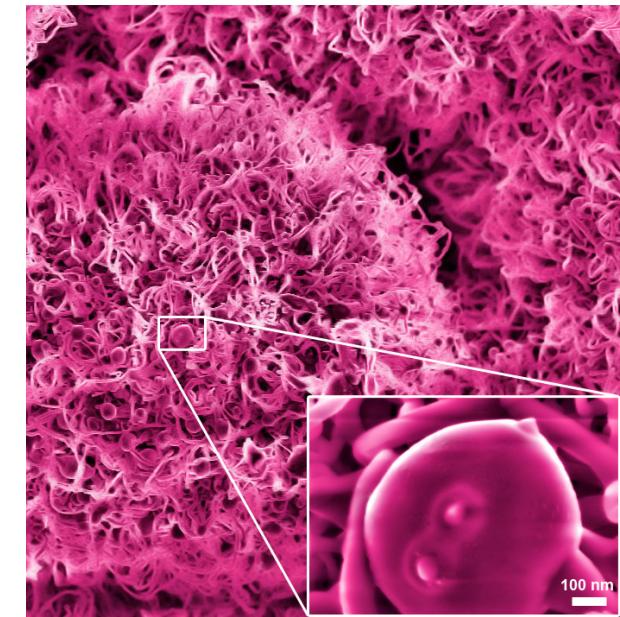
## 4) Tell us more about your collaboration with Dr. Patrice Melinon of Universite de Lyon?

My experiments did not receive that much support from the University. I made my own experimental setup from the scraps I found in the workshop. Later, I shared some of my works with Prof. Mélion who is a world-renowned material scientist and he liked it so much that he asked me to send him some of the samples for further characterization. I had no funding for my project so once again I paid with my own money to ship the samples to France. But hopefully that will

change after the meeting with the Vice-Chancellor and Prof. Lam Sai Kit at High Impact Research.

## 5) What do you think about studying and living in UM from a foreign student perspective?

I do not stay in the residential college but generally I have not faced any problem as a foreigner here. In recent years in terms of giving equal research opportunities, things have significantly



improved at UM. Even before that I think it was quite alright. Nowadays most of the research groups that I actively work with have a large number of foreign students.

## 6) What is your future plan? Are there other areas of science that you want to research on?

I would like to work on electric propulsion systems based on impermeable plasma. These thrusters will be far more powerful than the usual space rockets and are also more efficient. A similar principle may apply to the case of nuclear fusion reactors using which we can finally have a sustainable source of clean energy. Both challenges can be related to my recent work in which we used the same medium that is impermeable plasma to control the formation of materials at nanoscale.

## 7) What is your ultimate dream, personal and professional?

My work is generally concentrated on nanomaterials and their applications in different disciplines. So I would like to

incorporate them into new fields and explore how they can improve various aspects of our life through technology. So in a way my ultimate dream would be to have a world filled with tiny stuff that we can control and make them do what we need them to.

## 8) What are the challenges in your area of study? Do you think the challenge(s) can be addressed in the near future? If so how?

The main challenge for science in general would be the end of semiconductor industry as we know it by 2020. The transistors by then will be smaller and cannot be miniaturized further. Complex transistors made of different materials can offer a solution for faster computers but current manufacturing techniques are too slow and far from being a plausible option for industrial applications. Another catastrophe would be an energy crisis by about 2060 when we run out of oil. There is much scientific research on new energy resources. Nanotechnology indeed plays the biggest role currently both in sustainable energy generation as well as storage.

## 9) How do you see the scientific community in Malaysia? Will they be able to compete globally?

It has an immense potential. The only problem I see is the lack of vision. Most of the PhD students here are very conservative and in fear of failure. They never try to go for unknown avenues in science. To be able to compete globally, the research has to be fundamentally new and ground breaking. Of course there will be failures and rejections at first but that is how one should gain knowledge and perfect the methodology. Many of the researchers are afraid that they might not be able to fulfill their contracts but the administration also has to give more time to people who have shown the potential to do great research. It is not often that a pioneering idea is discovered. It definitely takes some patience, time and of course money.

## 10) Any interesting experience or observation about UM or Malaysia that you may want to share?

I am not much of a social observer. I am just grateful for the people that I know and work with at UM.

# MATLAMAT HIDUP PEGANGAN KECEMERLANGAN

## Mohammad bin Othman lalui liku-liku hidup dengan cekal dan positif

Oleh Mohd Julian Borhanudin

Diam ubi berisi. Mohammad bin Othman, 54 menzhirkan peribahasa ini daripada kelakuan beliau yang "tidak banyak cakap". Dengan tempoh perkhidmatan selama 36 tahun di Universiti Malaya (UM), beliau merupakan seorang yang amat dikenali oleh warga kampus UM. Beliau yang berkhidmat di Bahagian Penjilidan, Perpustakaan Universiti Malaya sebagai Pembantu Pemuliharaan telah mengalami kemuncak perkhidmatan di UM apabila telah dianugerahkan dengan Anugerah Cemerlang Staf Sokongan pada 2012.

Anak kedua daripada sembilan adik-beradik ini dilahirkan di Kampung Kelemak, Alor Gajah, Melaka pada 10 Februari 1959 namun dibesarkan di Kuala Lumpur semenjak zaman kanak-kanak lagi. Bapa beliau, Allahyarham Othman bin Mohd Kary merupakan bekas tentera manakala ibu beliau, Hajah Essah bt. Mohd Sidit merupakan seorang atendan di Hospital Kuala Lumpur. Mohammad bersekolah di Sekolah Kebangsaan Sentul sebelum melanjutkan pelajaran peringkat menengah di Sekolah Kebangsaan Gombak Setia. Keadaan kehidupan yang mendesak telah menyebabkan beliau berhenti sebelum tamat sesi tingkatan tiga. Dalam keadaan serba kekurangan, Mohammad tetap berazam untuk mengambil peperiksaan Sijil Rendah Pelajaran

(bersamaan dengan Penilaian Menengah Rendah) secara sendiri. Usaha beliau belajar sendiri melalui 'Gaya Pos Adabi' membuahkan hasil yang memberangsangkan apabila lulus pangkat 'A'.

Demi membantu keluarga, Mohamad mula bekerja secara sambilan di sebuah kantin dalam Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia pada 1975 dan seterusnya secara tetap di UM pada 1 Disember 1977. Beliau ditawarkan jawatan sebagai atendan (Pembantu Am Rendah) di Fakulti Perubatan.



"Saya rasa amat bersyukur ketika itu kerana walaupun berpendapatan rendah, namun saya mampu membantu menyara keluarga saya."

Mengenang kembali zaman baru bekerja dahulu, Mohammad banyak belajar daripada warga kerja UM yang lebih awal berkhidmat daripadanya. Salah seorang daripada mereka yang telah mendidik Mohammad adalah Kok Kee Seng, mantan Ketua Kerani di Fakulti Perubatan.

"Beliau telah memberikan saya satu falsafah hidup. Beliau berpesan kepada saya, "Hidup mesti ada matlamat, kerjalah bersungguh-sungguh." Itulah yang saya pegang sehingga kini."

Pada 1981, Mohamad mula berkhidmat di Perpustakaan UM sebagai penjilid. Hanya berbekalkan pengalaman bekerja di Fakulti Perubatan sebelum ini, Mohamad sedar yang beliau amat kurang memahami selok-belok pekerjaan dan cuba untuk belajar sedaya-upaya agar mutu perkhidmatan dapat dipertingkatkan.

"Ketika itu saya banyak mendapat bimbingan senior saya, En. Chua yang merupakan generasi warga UM di Singapura. Semasa UM terpisah dua (kini di Singapura dikenali sebagai National University of Singapore), En. Chua berhijrah ke Kuala Lumpur untuk terus berkhidmat di UM."

"Pada awalnya, staf penjilidan cuma terlibat dalam satu proses kerja sahaja tanpa mempelajari proses kerja penjilidan yang menyeluruh. Ini menyebabkan kerugian kerana kemahiran staf amat terbatas. Pada tahun 2005, perkara ini telah diubah di mana setiap staf diberikan peluang untuk menguasai keseluruhan proses kerja penjilidan. Perubahan ini mampu menyediakan staf baru untuk mengambil alih tugas staf yang bersara dengan lebih mudah," tambah beliau.

Menyentuh berkenaan cabaran dan perubahan kerja



**Kami juga beralih daripada penekanan terhadap kuantiti kepada kualiti yang saya kira sebagai cabaran kedua paling sukar. Sebelum ini kami cuma mementingkan jumlah manuskrip yang dapat dijilidkan. Penekanan kepada kualiti telah dapat membezakan mutu manuskrip UM berbanding di luar kerana ia lebih kukuh dan tahan lama.**

-Mohammad

sepanjang tempoh perkhidmatan beliau di Perpustakaan yang telah melangkuai 22 tahun, Mohamad menggariskan dua bentuk cabaran.

"Cabaran yang pertama ialah ketika kami membangunkan proses kerja supaya ia didokumenkan. Saya terlibat bersama mantan Ketua Pustakawan dan beberapa staf lain. Ia amat mencabar kerana mendapat tantangan beberapa staf yang kurang memahami keperluan untuk mendokumentan proses kerja."

"Kami juga beralih daripada penekanan terhadap kuantiti kepada

kualiti yang saya kira sebagai cabaran kedua paling sukar. Sebelum ini kami cuma mementingkan jumlah manuskrip yang dapat dijilidkan. Penekanan kepada kualiti telah dapat membezakan mutu manuskrip UM berbanding di luar kerana ia lebih kukuh dan tahan lama. Kebanyakan syarikat di luar mengejar masa untuk meningkatkan jumlah pengeluaran. Ini telah menjelaskan mutu manuskrip mereka," ujar beliau.

Pada 1987, Mohamad mendirikan rumah tangga bersama buah hatinya, Rosnawati Sakura bt. Getah yang berasal dari kampung yang sama di Melaka.

"Nama Sakura itu memang agak jarang diberi kepada orang Melayu, namun kerana isteri saya sakit ketika lahir, ada pandai sakit yang menasihatkan ibu-bapanya untuk memberi nama sebegini," tambah Mohamad. Kisah percintaan mereka agak unik kerana boleh dikatakan berputus daripada permintaan bakal kakak ipar beliau.

"Isteri saya merupakan jiran bersebelahan rumah yang tinggal bersama kakaknya. Semasa beliau mendapat pekerjaan, kakak beliau meminta supaya saya menghantar dan menjemput beliau untuk bekerja. Untuk mengelakkan prasangka masyarakat ketika itu, saya memutuskan untuk mendirikan rumah tangga bersamanya."

Pasangan ini dikurniakan dengan empat cahaya mata, dua lelaki dan dua perempuan. Nor Amalina, 25, kini bertugas sebagai guru di Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Segambut selepas tamat pengajian di Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris. Muhammad Shafiq, 23, sedang melanjutkan pengajian di Universiti Kuala Lumpur, mengambil jurusan Multimedia. Muhammad Hafiz, 22, berada di Institut Latihan Perindustrian, Selandar manakala anak bongsu mereka, Nor Shahirah, 19, sedang bersekolah di Sekolah Convent Bukit Nanas untuk mengambil peperiksaan Sijil Tinggi Penilaian Menengah.

"Saya menekankan pelajaran sebagai perkara yang penting kepada anak-anak. Walaupun saya sendiri tidak mendapat peluang untuk melanjutkan pelajaran, saya cuba memberikan peluang dan besyukur kerana anak-anak berpeluang untuk melanjutkan pelajaran mereka seberapa tinggi yang boleh."

Kehidupan berkeluarga serta kesibukan bekerja tidak menghalang Mohammad daripada bergiat aktif dalam aktiviti luaran. Beliau merupakan bekas pemain pasukan bolasepak senior dan veteran UM ke kejohanan seperti Sukan Antara Institusi Pengajian Tinggi. Berada di posisi pertahanan, Mohammad telah berjaya merangkul beberapa gelaran secara berpasukan dan individu.

Namun begitu, faktor usia yang semakin bertambah telah memaksa Mohammad untuk mengurangkan penglibatan langsung dalam bidang sukan.

"Saya dinasihatkan oleh doktor agar berhenti sebagai pemain dalam pasukan bolasepak UM. Namun begitu, saya masih terlibat tetapi selaku jurulatih."

Selain daripada sukan, Mohammad juga terlibat sebagai ahli jawatankuasa untuk beberapa persatuan di UM. Antara kejayaan paling manis pernah dikecapi oleh Mohammad adalah apabila kumpulannya dinobatkan juara Kumpulan Inovatif Kreatif peringkat UM pada tahun 2011. Kemenangan ini berikutnya kejayaan kumpulan beliau mencipta peralatan RFIDS06M yang mampu memudahkan kerja merekod, membuat pinjaman dan mengambil stok buku di perpustakaan.

Di antara rahsia kejayaan beliau yang cemerlang dalam bidang pekerjaan, kekeluargaan, kemasayarakatan dan penciptaan, beliau meletakkan tiga tumpang yang menjadi prinsip hidup beliau.

"Sentiasa terima pandangan orang lain, jangan fikirkan perkara yang telah berlalu supaya kita dapat bertumpu kepada masa hadapan dan sentiasa bersikap proaktif – berfikir di luar kotak. Itulah perkara-perkara yang saya pegang selain untuk mempunyai matlamat hidup."



# UM Aims for Zero Waste Campus Through 'Food Waste Anaerobic Digestion Project'

By Harris Rajahdin



'Going green' is the mantra adopted by the University of Malaya (UM) as they seek to provide an integrated waste management model through the conversion of food waste into renewable energy and good quality compost. This ambitious project, 'Food Waste Anaerobic Digestion Project', undertaken by UM and its partner, CHG Sdn Bhd, a provider of organic waste management system aims to reduce food waste disposal in residential colleges and providing a platform for the research and development of the biological treatment of organic waste.

Hence, this collaboration between CHG Sdn Bhd, and UM represents a significant milestone for the development of an integrated waste management system in Malaysia.

Anaerobic digestion is a biological treatment process that converts organic waste into biogas and digestate (biofertilizer). Through the collaboration, CHG has installed the Cowtec® Biogas Production and Composting Machine in UM for a complimentary trial run for 3 months, with its operations fully run by UM. The feedstock for the Cowtec anaerobic digester (AD) are sourced from the separated food waste from several residential colleges in UM that participated in the Green Bag Scheme, a scheme that promotes the separation of food waste in green bag.

Currently, about 200-300kg of food waste from the colleges are separated and treated aerobically at the UM composting centre daily. The monthly composting capacity amounts to 3,500 kg of food waste. With the operation of the Cowtec AD, the food waste treatment capacity has been increased to 5,000 kg per month from December last year.

The machine offers further benefits of renewable energy with the production of biogas and digestate (fertilizer). Besides that, the carbon emitted from the treatment of food waste is lower since there is no direct release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

This idea, to convert waste into renewable energy was borne out of the Zero Waste Campaign initiated in 2010, led by Associate Prof. Dr. Sumiani Yusoff (Principal Coordinator), Jaron Keng (Project Supervisor), Ng Chee Guan (Project Researcher) and other student volunteers. ZWC forms the integrated waste management unit under UM Cares, the environmental secretariat of UM.

The ZWC team was originally from VeeCYCLE, a student group from the Faculty of Engineering that had developed an effective waste and recycling collection system in the faculty in 2009. After a two year effort, they developed an in-house composting centre in UM which began operations on September 2011.

Since then until December 2012, the Zero Waste Campaign composting project has managed to compost 32,703 kg of food waste, equivalent to more than RM7,000 saving in the reduction of waste disposal cost for UM equivalent to a saving of more than 10 tons of carbon emitted.

Now, ZWC team has further improved the food waste treatment capacity with the best available technology of anaerobic digestion with one unit of "100kg/day Cowtec Biogas Production and Composting machine" funded by CHG Sdn Bhd, and MBT Co. Ltd., the technology inventor from Thailand.

**ABOUT ZERO WASTE CAMPAIGN:** Zero Waste Campaign (ZWC) is a campaign to spearhead the development of an integrated waste management model in the UM campus and ultimately achieve zero waste campus. The objectives of the campaign are:

- 1) To develop policy and innovation system to divert organic waste (from disposal in landfill) for nutrient (composting) and energy recovery (anaerobic digestion).
- 2) To streamline recycling activities and strategize efforts to increase recycling rate.
- 3) To create awareness and inculcate best practices of waste separation at source among the campus communities.
- 4) Serve as a long term campaign to achieve integrated waste management model and ultimately a zero waste campus.
- 5) Initiate projects, research projects and schemes such as Green Bag Scheme, in-house composting centre, anaerobic digestion project, recycling collection system, composting emission study, etc

# Community Farming with University of Malaya

By Dr Juliana Othman

**I**t was early on a Saturday morning and the ladies of Taman Medan Cahaya Phase 2, Petaling Jaya were on standby, *cangkul* (hoes) and spades in hand, waiting for instructions from Shalan Jum'at. Dressed in the bright green UMCROPS t-shirts provided by University of Malaya (UM), they had staked out parking space next to their apartment block, loaded a table full of food and were surveying their plot of farmland.

This was the revival of UM's community project with the people of Taman Medan Cahaya Phase 2, Petaling Jaya first started in 2012. Led by UM's Community and Industry Relations Centre (CIRa), this is one of UM's community engagement initiatives for its neighbours. Working in collaboration with the UM Environmental Secretariat (UMCARES), the university began the project a year ago by connecting the community with a professional organic farmer who laid the groundwork for a farming project in the apartment grounds. He also taught them some basic composting skills.

Within a year the ladies of Taman Medan had transformed what was a barren, rocky plot of unused land into rows of chilli, turmeric, lemongrass and tapioca. It was a good start to the innovative idea, bringing together local women to till the soil in

their spare time, alleviating some of their household expenditure as they could eat or sell their harvests. "I've sold the turmeric leaves already," said Kak Ani, "if they buy more, I give them a discount – sometimes I can get RM15 a day from that, no problem."

**These are the first steps in empowering the community to help themselves out of financial difficulty and hard times. Next on the plans is an excursion for the ladies to visit UM's experimental organic farm at the Faculty of Science – to inspire them with more ideas and to keep the excitement going.**

It might sound small, but every cent makes a difference to this group of residents. This year, UM returns to the area to rejuvenate the project.

While there are some plots being cared for, not all of the rows are equally tended to and some parts seem overgrown and a little disorganised. With the help of UMCARES' resident

farmer and community liaison Shalan Jum'at, CIRa now intends to take the engagement a step further.

The focus this year is to help the ladies come together in a more organised fashion. Instead of tending to individual rows of plants (2 or 3 per household), they are now working together on structured plots. This taps on the *gotong-royong* concept to encourage teamwork and social cohesion as they all chip in to look after multiple rows and square plots of crops with a view to selling the harvest for their shared benefit. This would then build a fund that they can tap on for tools, compost and seeds; Community Farming – Malaysian style.

Beginning with 31 chilli plants and 15 bags of compost donated by UMCARES' Zero Waste Campaign, the women (and some of their children and spouses) briskly dug into the soil, undeterred by both hot sun and light rain. They too could see that working together could generate more gains and were keen to start getting real returns from their effort. "Actually we enjoy this because it's exercise for us – we get to sweat," says a smiling elderly lady in between swings of the *cangkul*, "I come every morning and evening".

These are the first steps in empowering the community to help themselves out of financial difficulty and hard times. Next on the plans is an excursion for the ladies to visit UM's experimental organic farm at the Faculty of Science – to inspire them with more ideas and to keep the excitement going. Community engagement is not a one-off event. It is a great way for the UM community to engage with its neighbours, and just the beginning of myriad ways that the university can contribute to those who live on the fringes of its campus.



# IUMW Conference on International Higher Education (CIHE) 2013

By Harris Rajahdin

The International University of Malaya – Wales (IUMW), a newly established private university by the University of Malaya (UM) hosted the Conference on International Higher Education 2013 which was organised by the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) (which celebrated its 100th anniversary) in association with the University of Wales and UM in recognition of their new joint initiative - IUMW on 18 till 19 March 2013.

Aptly themed, 'Rising to the challenges of researching and teaching in higher education', the 2-day conference brought together local and foreign experts in a discussion on their experiences and insights into the new ways of furthering research and teaching in higher education.

The programme also featured former Director of the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment at the University of Oxford, United Kingdom, Sir David King presenting the Association of Commonwealth Universities Centenary Lecture.

"This conference is IUMW's contribution towards providing a platform for the exchange of ideas in research and education, complementing UM's efforts



in enhancing the quality of research which translates directly to our nation's development," said UM Vice-Chancellor, Tan Sri Dr. Gauth Jasmon.

"With the establishment of the International University of Malaya – Wales, IUMW hopes to cater to the growing private education sector, striving to offer the best quality education without the exorbitant costs incurred by other private universities or colleges," he added.

The main speakers were Sir David King, Director of Cambridge Kaspakas and Chancellor for University of Liverpool. Other prominent speakers included Tan Sri Dr. Gauth Jasmon, UM Vice-Chancellor and Prof. Medwin Hughes, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wales, Prof. Dato' Hassan Said, Vice-Chancellor of Taylor's University, Dr. Jeanne Keay, Prof. Simon Haslett and Prof. Brigid Heywood (who presented her paper from New Zealand via Skype).

# LECTURES BY NOBEL LAUREATE PROFESSOR BARRY MARSHALL

By Mohd Julian Borhanudin

Professor Barry Marshall, Honorary Clinical Professor and Co-Director of The Marshall Centre for Infectious Diseases Research and Training, The University of Western Australia delivered two lectures from 18 to 19 March 2013. The first lecture, Helicobacter pylori and Gastric Cancer was held at Clinical Auditorium, Faculty of Medicine, while the second lecture, Helicobacter Research was held at Seminar Room, Level 1, HIR Building, UM.



Prof. Barry Marshall has managed a Helicobacter pylori research group almost since his discovery of Helicobacter pylori with Robin Warren in 1982. Prof. Marshall has received many honours for his work on Helicobacter pylori, most notably, the Nobel Prize for Medicine or Physiology in 2005, The William Beaumont Prize in 2006 (American

Gastroenterology Association), the Albert Lasker Award in 1995 (Albert & Mary Lasker Foundation), and the Dr. A. H. Heineken Prize for Medicine in 1998 (The Alfred Heineken Foundation, Amsterdam).

In 2007, Prof. Marshall was awarded the honour of Western Australian of the year and The Companion in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AC). Prof. Marshall holds professional memberships with the Australian Academy of Science, the British Royal Society, the Institute of Medicine (USA), the American Gastroenterological Association, the Australian Gastroenterological Society and the Australian Medical Association.

# UM Stamps its Mark at MTE 2013

By Harris Rajahdin



## ANTARTICA Malaysia's Journey to the Ice

By Harris Rajahdin

biggest accomplishments of the NARC and a celebration of the 10th anniversary of its establishment.

He said that the Malaysian Antarctica Research Programme (MARP) is one of the most successful programmes that Malaysia has undertaken and it is a fitting legacy of Tun Mahathir's vision on Antarctica.

Dr. Azizan said that the personal accounts of many young Malaysian scientists and students who have been to Antarctica to undertake research have been included in the book to emphasize the fact that young people can achieve a lot if given the opportunity and space.

'ANTARCTICA: Malaysia's Journey to the Ice' gave an elaborate account of the icy continent, its geology, climate, flora and fauna, and the scientific research stations as well as the work of the multinational group of scientists and researchers who focused their efforts there.

It also relates the aspiration of Malaysia to persuade the international community to regard and accept Antarctica as a common heritage of mankind and utilize the conducive atmosphere it offers for research that will benefit humanity.

The Vice-Chancellor of UM, Tan Sri Dr. Gauth Jasmon, hailed the efforts of the National Antarctica Research Centre (NARC) and Malaysian National News Agency (Bernama) in documenting their research on the vast uncharted region of Antarctica through the publication of the coffee table book, "ANTARTICA: Malaysia's Journey to the Ice".

Dr. Gauth said that UM, as a premier research university, is committed to moving the country higher in the global value chain and to creating new knowledge and valuable new findings necessary to enable Malaysia to become a developed nation.

"This has facilitated research collaboration with polar countries that are active in Antarctic and Arctic research", he said.

Former Prime Minister Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad launched the coffee table book 'ANTARCTICA: Malaysia's Journey to the Ice' at a simple but meaningful ceremony at UM's Research Management & Innovation Complex (UMRC).

Prof. Dato' Dr. Azizan Abu Samah, Director of the NARC and Chief Editor of the book, described the publication as one of the

Lin's team. Prof. Thong is the Director, Centre of Research Services from the Institute of Research Management & Monitoring (IPPP). The achievement marked a 100% success rate for UM's contingent who managed to bring home a medal for 11 of the inventions submitted.



The three day event attracted 10,000 trade visitors, including policy makers, and top Malaysian researchers and industry players with an array of expertise.

Organising Chairman Dr. Wan Manshol Bin Wan Zin, said MTE 2013 served as a platform for innovators, inventors and designers to showcase their innovations, inventions and products to the public and the trade across a wide category as agriculture, life sciences, engineering and information technologies and aesthetic designs for the home.

# UM and Taylor's University team up for the Inaugural Conference on Student Affairs Governance

By Mohd Julian Borhanudin

**R**ecognising the need for dialogue in the field of student affairs governance locally, the University of Malaya (UM) and Taylor's University jointly organised the first national conference on Student Affairs Governance held in a hotel in Petaling Jaya on last 25 - 28 February 2013.

The four-day conference, launched by Datuk Ab. Rahim Md. Noor on 26 February 2013, discussed issues central to today's youth, including social media, volunteerism, entrepreneurship and the role of student affairs. Themed 'Student Affairs Governance: Issues, Challenges & Opportunities', the conference served as a viable platform for educators and administrators to brainstorm and set the pace for future practices in terms of student affairs governance and opportunities giving consideration to the most up-to-date and relevant developments at both national and international levels.



Datuk Ab. Rahim commended the University of Malaya and Taylor's University for successfully organising the event, saying that partnerships between public and private educational institutions can bring about positive collaborations and should be practiced more.

"This event is testament to how by working together, these two education pioneers have been able to reach out to well-known and respected personalities in the respective fields and come up with formidable expert panels," he added.

Among the speakers for the conference were Tan Sri Dato' Seri Utama Arshad Ayub, Chairman of the UM Board of Directors; Tan Sri Datuk (Dr.) Rafiah Salim, Tan Sri Razali Ismail, Dato' Loy Teik Ngan, Group CEO of Taylor's Education Group; and Dr. Maria Paquita D. Bonnet, President of APSSA. The topic covered seven key areas,

namely Social Consciousness and Institutional Framework, Managing Social Media, AUKU: Implications and Challenges in the Context of Students Development, International Students: Managing Integration and Security Issues, Students Employability: The Role of Student Affairs, Cultivating a Culture of Entrepreneurship and Cultivating a Culture of Volunteerism.

"The rapid advancement of information technology and easy reach to the public especially the students as well as the emphasis on internationalization of universities has changed the landscape for student affairs governance. This inaugural conference is a wonderful platform for administrators, stakeholders, academicians and industrial players to congregate and exchange experiences and ideas on the best approach to manage and optimizes the challenges. I thank those involve and excitingly waits for the next conference," conveyed Prof. Datuk Dr. Rohana Yusof, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Student

Affairs & Alumni, UM.

Taylor's University Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Dato' Dr. Hassan Said, a panelist himself, commented that one of the aims of the conference was to identify the areas of administrative reform for student affairs departments at all higher education institutions within the country.

"Education institutions should embrace and move with advancements in technology, even in their core practices. We should also place more emphasis on the development of soft skills in our graduates as employers these days look for a well-rounded graduate and not just an academically-sound graduate," he said.

The event was supported by the Ministry of Higher Education and Asia Pacific Student Services Association. Sponsors for the conference are gradmalaysia, GRADUAN and i-graduate.

**T**he Faculty of Law, University of Malaya (UM) in collaboration with the Prince of Songkla University of Thailand (PSU) jointly invited Her Royal Highness Princess Bajarakitiyabha Mahidol to give a lecture on "Benefits and Application of the Bangkok Rules of Female Offenders" on 8 January 2013 at UM.

On the occasion, the Ministry of Justice of Thailand also organised an exhibition on "Implementation of Bangkok Rules in Thailand" and the Royal Projects of HRH Princess Bajarakitiyabha in providing assistance to the female inmates.

The major purpose of HRH Princess Bajarakitiyabha's visit to Malaysia was to enhance the close bilateral relations and cooperation between Thailand and Malaysia. It will significantly contribute to the increase of University to University collaboration between the two countries especially between the PSU and UM.

HRH Princess Bajarakitiyabha emphasized on the cooperation to counter

transnational organized crimes in her speech.

Moreover, she pointed out that the exchange of

information and experiences

on how to provide good care for female inmates was

the key areas that can be

developed bilaterally.

She pointed out the

positive development of

Malaysia-Thailand bilateral

relationship stating, "I

understand that Malaysia and

Thailand are in the process

of commencing negotiation

on the transfer of prisoners.

According to Rule 53 of the

Bangkok Rules, the transfer

of non-resident foreign

national women prisoners to

their home country should

be considered as soon

as possible.

Therefore, progress in this area will certainly complement efforts on the implementation front, which will even extend to men prisoners."

# Thai Princess Addresses Issues on Female Offenders

By Mohd Julian Borhanudin



HRH Princess Bajarakitiyabha on the exhibition of the Royal Projects.

positive development of Malaysia-Thailand bilateral relationship stating, "I understand that Malaysia and Thailand are in the process of commencing negotiation on the transfer of prisoners. According to Rule 53 of the Bangkok Rules, the transfer of non-resident foreign

national women prisoners to their home country should be considered as soon as possible.

Therefore, progress in this area will certainly complement efforts on the implementation front, which will even extend to men prisoners."

## MUQADDAS III Opening up a new understanding of science and technology in Al-Qur'an

By Harris Rajahdin



**T**he marriage between Islam and science has opened up a new world towards gaining a deeper understanding of the Holy Book, Al-Qur'an ul Karim. Researchers from the Muslim world now find themselves armed with all the tools at their disposal to delve further into the revelations of the Al-Qur'an, not only from the theological aspects but also encompassing all forms of science and modern technology.

Thus, there is now a greater wealth of knowledge and information emerging from all corners of the globe which was evident at the gathering of more than 220 researchers from local and abroad at the 3rd Annual International Qur'anic Conference 2013 (MUQADDAS III).

Organised by the Centre of Qur'anic Research (CQR) and the Department of Al-Qur'an and Al-Hadith, Academy of Islamic Studies, the conference brought forth the latest research methods used in the field of Qur'an and its sciences, laws and patterns in the Qur'an and its miraculous nature ('Ijaz) and academic contributions of academic centres and institutions geared to the service and preservation of the Qur'an.

According to Dr. Nazeen Jomhari, co-collaborator of the Fakih Al-Quran Typography the MUQADDAS provided the perfect platform for academicians from all around the Muslim world to share their ideas on advancing the study of science and technology through Al-Qur'an.

# Feseni UM 2013

Oleh Mohd Julian Borhanudin

**S**eksyen Kesenian, Hal Ehwal Pelajar Universiti Malaya menganjurkan Festival Seni Universiti Malaya 2013 yang berlangsung pada 6 hingga 23 Mac 2013. Malam kemuncak festival tersebut yang dikenali sebagai Malam Juara-juara Festival Seni Universiti Malaya 2013 telah berlangsung di Dewan Tunku Canselor, Universiti Malaya.

Berikut adalah Laporan Keputusan Acara-Acara Festival Seni 2013

Kategori	Pemenang
Tarian Kreatif	Koreografi Terbaik: KK9 Kostum Terbaik: KK1
Tarian Tradisional Kebangsaan	Tempat Pertama : KK9 Koreografi Terbaik : KK9 Kostum Terbaik : KK1(B) Tempat Pertama : KK9
Nasyid	Penyanyi Solo Terbaik : KK1 - Rashidah Abd Rahim Tempat Pertama : KK1
Dikir Barat	Tok Joghoh Terbaik : KK7 Tukang Karut Terbaik : KK7 Muzik Terbaik : KK7 Tempat Pertama : KK7
Kompong Selawat	Tempat Pertama : KK9
Koir	Tempat Pertama : KK1
Tarian Tradisional Cina	Tempat Pertama : KK7
Tarian Tradisional India	Tempat Pertama : KK5
Boria	Sketsa Terbaik : KK9 Kapten Terbaik : KK1 Karangan Lirik Terbaik : KK9 Tempat Pertama : KK9
Nyanyian Bahasa Malaysia	Tempat Pertama : Nur Fazrina - KK1
Nyanyian Bahasa Inggeris	Tempat Pertama : Nur Fazrina - KK1
Muzik Akustik	Penyanyi Terbaik : KK6 Pemain Alat Muzik Terbaik : KK6 - Cello Anugerah Khas Juri : KK9(B) Tempat Pertama : KK9(B)
Manifestasi Puisi	Tempat Pertama : KK3
Pop Band	Pemain Keyboard Terbaik : KK9 (B) Pemain Gitar Utama Terbaik : KK1(B) Pemain Gitar Bass Terbaik : KK1(B) Pemain Drum Terbaik : KK9(A) Penyanyi Terbaik : KK1 Anugerah Khas Juri : KK6 Tempat Pertama : KK1
Nyanyian Irama Melayu	Tempat Pertama : Abdul Rahman - KK7
Keputusan Keseluruhan FESENI'13	Anugerah Khas Integrasi Kaum : KK9 Tempat Pertama : KK1



*Nota: KK – Kolej Kediaman
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**S**elain berkhidmat kepada masyarakat, skuad sukarelawan UM turut menabur bakti kepada alam sekitar menerusi aktiviti menanam pokok di Taman Rimba Kerinch sempena Program Kursus Asas Kesukarelawan 2 pada.

Program yang membabitkan 80 mahasiswa itu dilangsungkan sejurus perasmian Sahabat Taman Rimba Bukit Kerinch oleh Menteri Wilayah Persekutuan dan Kesejahteraan Bandar, Datuk Raja Nong Chik Raja Zainal Abidin.

Penyelaras program, Nur Afiq Asnawi Abu Bakar, pelajar tahun dua Pengajian Sejarah, "Penganjuran kursus ini memberikan kami peluang mengamalkan apa yang kami

## Skuad Sukarelawan Tidak Lupa Berbakti kepada Alam Sekitar

Oleh Harris Rajahdin



mesra bersama warga tua rumah Clavaryland, Sungai Pelek, Sepang dan Banghures di Kampung Ulu Bangkong, Cuchuh dan Ulu Tetris, Sepang.

**N**asyid merupakan satu bentuk nyanyian yang biasanya bercorak keagamaan Islam dan mengandungi kata-kata nasihat, kisah para nabi, memuji Allah, dan yang seumpamanya. Pada awalnya nasyid membawa alunan bercorak padang pasir, tetapi kini kumpulan nasyid semasa telah membawa pelbagai rentak bercorak baru untuk para pendengar. Pembaharuan ini menjadikan lagu-lagu nasyid lebih menarik dan bersifat lebih daya saing dalam bidang seni.

Perkembangan nasyid diwarnai dengan penganjuran pelbagai pertandingan nasyid yang melibatkan pelbagai institusi dan peringkat. IPTA dan IPTS di Malaysia dilihat begitu cenderung menganjurkan pertandingan nasyid, sehingga tertubuhnya pasukan nasyid CG yang kini bergiat aktif membawa nama Universiti Malaya (UM) dalam pertandingan-pertandingan nasyid yang dianjurkan di peringkat antara universiti.

CG adalah sebuah kumpulan nasyid yang pada awalnya ditubuhkan pada tahun 2003 di Kolej Kediaman Raja Dr. Nazrin Shah yang merujuk kepada singkatan perkataan 'sidji', berasal daripada bahasa rumpun Jawa yang membawa maksud 'satu'.

Hasil daripada sesi latihan yang berfokus dan konsisten, tahun 2012 telah menjanjikan kenangan yang

## Pelajar UM Dominasi Pentas Festival Nasyid Kebangsaan 2012

Oleh Harris Rajahdin



masing-masing berjaya mendapat tempat ketiga bagi kategori tradisi dan moden. Pencapaian ini telah meletakkan nama UM di antara yang teratas dalam pentas nasyid di peringkat kebangsaan.

Apa yang lebih menarik, CG tampil lebih yakin dengan karya lagu-lagu baru hasil ciptaan ahli keluarga CG sendiri. Lagu 'Muhasabah' hasil ciptaan Saudara Andy Mirza yang juga merupakan pelajar UM berjaya membawa Kumpulan Zinnirah merangkul Juara FNK 2012.



Para pelajar terhibur dengan persembahan artis-artis jemputan KLFM

**K**LFM, Stesen Radio paling hangat di Lembah Klang, dengan kerjasama Pejabat Hubungan Antarabangsa & Korporat Universiti Malaya (ICR) telah menghangatkan suasana di UM Foodcourt Village bersama empat artis terkenal tempatan dalam program 'Teh Tarik Satu' pada 22 Mac lepas. Artis-artis seperti – Tasha Mansyah & Syed Syamim, Amylea, Amran Ismail dan kumpulan Hyperact yang menyampaikan dua persembahan bukan sahaja telah menghidupkan suasana malam kampus, malahan turut bermesra bersama pelajar-pelajar UM.

Program bermula dengan perasmian UM Foodcourt Village oleh YBhg. Prof. Datuk Dr. Rohana Yusof, Timbalan Naib Canselor Hal Ehwal Pelajar (HEP), dengan diiringi oleh YBhg. Dato' Sharifuddin Dato' Musa, Pengarah Urusan Federal Malay

## Teh Tarik Satu

Tarik Sampai Berbuih-Buih, Program Kerjasama KL FM Rancakkan UM Foodcourt Village

Oleh Mohd Julian Borhanudin

Holdings Sdn. Bhd. Dalam ucapan perasmian beliau, Datuk Dr. Rohana menyentuh tentang keperluan pelajar UM untuk mempunyai lebih banyak pilihan dari segi makanan dan UM Foodcourt Village merupakan antara pendekatan HEP untuk memenuhi keperluan tersebut.

Medan selera itu juga merupakan tempat untuk para pelajar menceburkan diri dalam bidang perniagaan serta peluang untuk mendirikan premis perniagaan di UM Foodcourt Village dengan bimbingan dari Federal Malay Holdings Sdn. Bhd.

Selain berhibur dan menjamu selera, hadirin turut menderma kepada perjuangan negara melalui Tabung Pahlawan yang digerakkan oleh Majlis Persatuan Pelajar yang diwakili oleh Saudara Izhar Mustaqin Madissa.

Program 'Teh Tarik Satu' diudarkan secara langsung kepada para pendengar KL FM di sekitar Lembah Klang.

# UM Champions of World Debate Tournament

Oleh Harris Rajahdin

The University of Malaya was crowned as the champion of the International Varsity Mandarin Debate Invitational Tournament (DeBian) 2013 after defeating East China Normal University in the grand final held last March in a hotel in Penang.

The tournament was organized by Moral Uplifting Society of Penang, Malaysia in collaboration with the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). A total of 32 teams from 9 regions around the world participated in the event, including Macau, Hong Kong, Australia, England, Taiwan, China and Singapore.

The team made it to the grand final after 6 heated matches. In 4 of the matches, Chan Shao Kang from the UM team was acclaimed as the best speaker.

The UM team, represented by Chan Shao Kang, Lim Sin Yee, Lim Pit Feng, Wong Ming Hie and Lee Hong Shi, undergraduates from the Law Faculty, was acknowledged as the winner with a vote of 17-16 by the judges.

Compared to other teams who were represented by Masters and PhD scholars, UM fielded the youngest set up, comprising only first year and second year students.

The debaters started their training about 90 days before the tournament and were forced to sacrifice most of the revision for their examination. They were guided by over 30 coaches, former UM graduates and UM Mandarin debaters.

The UM Mandarin debate team was commended by the judges as being “very offensive” and “strategy-based”. The ability to rebutt the opponent’s point effectively and efficiently was stated as the



reason why UM managed to win over the other teams. Nevertheless, there was still room for improvement in the presentation of points and contents.

With the motto of the tournament being “Olympic of the Debate Arena, Activating Dreams”, various issues were debated throughout the tournament, such as the Syria Civil War, the Jasmine Revolution in the Arab Countries, the Future of BRICS, the Death of Socrates, and so on.

The remarkable event was organized as a platform for debaters from all over the world to exchange ideas and hone debating skills.

Ketertiban bacaan dan alunan taranum menjadi kunci kejayaan mahasiswa tahun ketiga, Muhamad Nasir Mohamad Salleh merangkul gelaran juara qari tilawah Al-Qur'an pada Majlis Tilawah Al-Qur'an Majlis Kebudayaan Universiti-Universiti Awam Malaysia (MAKUM) ketiga yang berlangsung di Dewan Sultan Iskandar, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) pada 8-10 Mac 2013.

Pelajar Jabatan Fiqh dan Usuluddin berusia 23 tahun itu berjaya menarik perhatian juri dan hadirin untuk membawa pulang hadiah utama dan RM500 di pertandingan tersebut.

“Dalam tilawah qari terdapat empat komponen yang akan dinilai, tajwid, taranum, fasaha dan suara. Sesetengah peserta hebat dalam dua atau tiga aspek. Saya fikir kejayaan saya adalah disebabkan oleh keseimbangan kekuatan yang dimiliki dari segi tajwid dan taranum (bacaan berlagu),”

## Berkongsi Juara Qari Tilawah Al-Qur'an MAKUM

Oleh Harris Rajahdin



kata pelajar Akademi Pengajian Islam (APIUM) dari Nilam Puri, Kelantan itu.

Turut membanggakan UM, mahasiswa Jabatan Dakwah dan Pembangunan Insan juga dari APIUM,

“Ia adalah kali pertama saya bertanding dan saya tidak yakin dapat meraih hadiah. Sebelum ini, saya tidak menyertai pertandingan tetapi sekadar memasuki pameran,” katanya yang membawa pulang RM100 atas usahanya itu.

Meskipun tidak meraih hadiah utama, Zulfikar Aman, 24, tetap berpuas hati membawa pulang anugerah khas juri dalam kategori thuluth (lulisan khat).

“Anugerah ini adalah pengiktirafan terhadap keunikian yang saya tampilkan berbanding peserta lain. Saya sudah menceburan bidang penulisan khat ini sejak dari bangku sekolah lagi di Tawau dan pernah mewakili Kelantan ketika di Nilam Puri,” katanya.



# 20

## Amalan Sopan menggunakan Telefon Bimbit

oleh Wan Mazni binti W. Mohd. Woojdy

seduna. Hakikatnya tanpa kawalan rasional, gajet ini boleh memudaratkan penggunaannya.

Di era ledakan teknologi ini, manusia seumpama semakin melupakan adab sopan atau etiket sosial. Adab sopan dan budi bahasa terpuji memberi gambaran tentang peribadi dan disiplin diri kita. Buat permulaan, 20 amalan sopan yang telah disusun boleh dijadikan panduan dalam menggunakan telefon bimbit sebagai amalan budaya kerja profesional yang beretika.

Telefon bimbit sudah menjadi gajet yang ‘melekat’ kuat pada kita. Pantang masa terluang jari kita cepat mencapai telefon bimbit untuk dimain-mainkan. Payah untuk dilepaskan. Seringkali kita memperlakukan telefon bimbit itu lebih penting dari orang yang berada bersama kita.

Gajet ini diakui satu keperluan. 1001 benda boleh dilakukan dengannya. Banyak pilihan dari segi jenama, model, warna, saiz dan harga. Kita semua mampu memilikinya. Budaya ketagihan telefon bimbit ini merebak pesat

Merbahaya menggunakan telefon bimbit semasa memandu. Tumpukan kepada pemanduan. Gunakan ‘hands-free device’ untuk keselamatan.

Elak membuat panggilan atau sms semasa sedang memberi ceramah atau syarah atau mempengerusikan mesyuarat. Kurang sopan. Mereka yang hadir bersama akan merasakan kurang dihormati.

Elak membuat panggilan atau sms semasa mesyuarat kerana menunjukkan sikap kurang hormat dan bosan terhadap orang yang bercakap. Tukar kepada mod senyap atau getaran (vibrate).

Jangan menjawab panggilan semasa di dalam tandas! (kelakar tapi biasa berlaku). Mahupun dalam lif, perpustakaan, panggung wayang, muzium, restoran, perkuburan, teater, ruang menunggu di klinik, tempat sembahyang, auditorium atau tempat tertutup seperti bilik kecemasan di hospital atau dalam bas. Tukar kepada mod senyap atau getaran (vibrate).

Jika terpaksa menerima panggilan penting yang tidak boleh ditangguh, beritahu rakan-rakan yang bersama anda lebih awal dan minta izin bila tiba masanya untuk menjawab panggilan. Maklumkan kepada pemanggil anda bersama rekan-rakan dan berbual dalam kadar ringkas.

Jangan melakukan berbilang tugas seperti membuat panggilan ketika membeli-belah, berurusur di bank atau ATM, beratur dalam barisan, dan sebagainya.

Bersopan semasa berbicara di tempat awam. Bercakap yang penting dan ringkas. Jangan emosional. Jaga bahasa.

Jangan memaksa orang lain mendengar perbualan anda di dalam bas, teksi, atau di meja makan. Bertimbangrasa. Berdiri sejauh 5 meter jauh sedikit bila perlu bercakap.

Jangan sengaja biarkan telefon bimbit berdering lama seolah-olah mahu menunjukkan betapa ‘cool’ nada deringnya.

Sumber rujukan:

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# ANDA Protokol dan Etiket Sosial

Oleh Mohd Khairi Md Jaafar & Nuraini Jais

**U**niversiti Malaya sebagai peneraju kepada Institusi Pengajian Tinggi di Malaysia sentiasa berusaha mewujudkan budaya positif serta profesional dalam kalangan warganya. Pelbagai inisiatif diperkenalkan bagi membentuk warga Universiti Malaya yang berketerampilan, berdisiplin, berhemah serta berwibawa.

Pada kali ini, ruangan Anda - Protokol dan Etiket Sosial akan menyentuh berkenaan tip-tip penting berkaitan penampilan dan adab anda di pejabat.

## Penampilan

Penampilan merupakan elemen yang mencerminkan personaliti, sikap, imej peribadi kepada seseorang individu. Penampilan merupakan faktor utama yang mengangkat profesionalisme individu serta organisasi. Ia juga memberi persepsi positif dan keyakinan kepada individu yang berurusan dengan organisasi berkenaan.



Sesuai	Tidak Sesuai
Suit lengkap	Kemeja & tali leher
Baju melayu lengkap	Kebaya labuh
Baju kurung	Batik lengan panjang
	Rambut dye & tidak kemas

## Tip untuk pekerja lelaki

1. Lounge Suit disesuaikan dengan kemeja berlengan panjang satu warna.
2. Elak mengenakan tali leher berbelang apabila memakai kemeja berbelang.
3. Tali leher mencecah bahagian kepala tali pinggang (tidak terlalu pendek/tidak terlalu panjang).
4. Sesuaikan warna stokin dengan warna seluar.
5. Elak memakai baju kemeja yang bercorak seperti corak berkotak, batik dan berbunga.
6. Rambut mestilah pendek dan disisir kemas.
7. Rapikan janggut dan misai.
8. Sentiasa patuhi kod pakaian yang ditetapkan oleh jabatan seperti kot makmal, jaket staf teknikal dan lain-lain.

## Tip untuk pekerja wanita

1. Jika anda memakai pakaian yang berwarna-warni, elakkan melebihi empat warna.
2. Sentiasa memastikan pakaian yang dikenakan sopan, kemas dan rapi.
3. Sesuaikan warna tudung dengan pakaian.
4. Rambut mestilah disisir atau disanggul dengan kemas.
5. Elak daripada memakai aksesori atau make-up yang keterlaluan.
6. Elak mengenakan kombinasi elemen pakaian seperti memakai kebaya bersama seluar dan seumpamanya.
7. Kasut mestilah bertumit.
8. Sentiasa patuhi kod pakaian yang ditetapkan oleh jabatan seperti kot makmal, jaket staf teknikal dan lain-lain.

## GURINDAM ILMU PANDUAN HIDUP

*Kalau ilmu tidak ditimba,  
Hidup melarat tidak kemana.*

*Kalau ilmu sentiasa dicari,  
Hidup bermakna mulia peribadi.*

*Kalau ilmu tidak diguna,  
Akan berkarat bak besi lama,*

*Kalau ilmu diguna selalu,  
Berlian berharga segenap penjurur.*

*Kalau ilmu tidak dipakai,  
Akan lupus bak pasir berderai.*

*Kalau ilmu diguna sentiasa,  
Gemerlap di minda perkasa di jiwa.*

*Kalau ilmu dijadikan panduan,  
Tidak tersesat pedoman haluan.*

*Kalau ilmu disalah guna,  
Pincanglah maruah merosakkan bangsa.*

*Kalau ilmu disebar meluas,  
Ke hujung dunia beruntung jelas.*

*Kalau ilmu dipendam sendiri,  
Kemajuan terbantut warganya rugi.*

*Kalau ilmu dikongsi orang,  
Di situlah jaya masyarakat cemerlang.*

*Kalau ilmu lokek disimpan  
Di dunia kerugian akhirat keciciran.*

Nukilan: ZULKIFLI BIN MOHD TOP  
Fakulti Pendidikan Universiti Malaya

## LUAR KOTAK

*Cuba fikir luar kotak  
Jangan jadi katak  
Yang jadikan tempurung sebagai teratak  
Otak dalam tengkorak  
bukan untuk statik tanpa dikocak  
Jangan tunggu tempurung retak  
baru nak bergerak  
kenapa tempurung retak?  
Sebab kena pijak  
Katak takut mati katak  
Terpaksa keluar bersesak  
Lari berselerak  
Bila jumpa kotak  
Dijadikannya pula teratak petak  
Sembunyi ingat orang tak nampak  
Hujan mula turun ikut rentak  
Terataknya basah namun katak  
masih dalam kotak  
Buat-buat tak nampak, buat-buat pekak  
Sebab malas cari teratak baru yang lagi gempak  
maka terperangkaplah katak  
matinya mati katak  
Apa nasib katak jika keluar dari kotak?*



Nukilan : UMMI AIMAN BINTI MARIPAT,  
AKADEMI PENGAJIAN ISLAM

# UNIVERSITY — OF — MALAYA

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## 1949 TO 1985

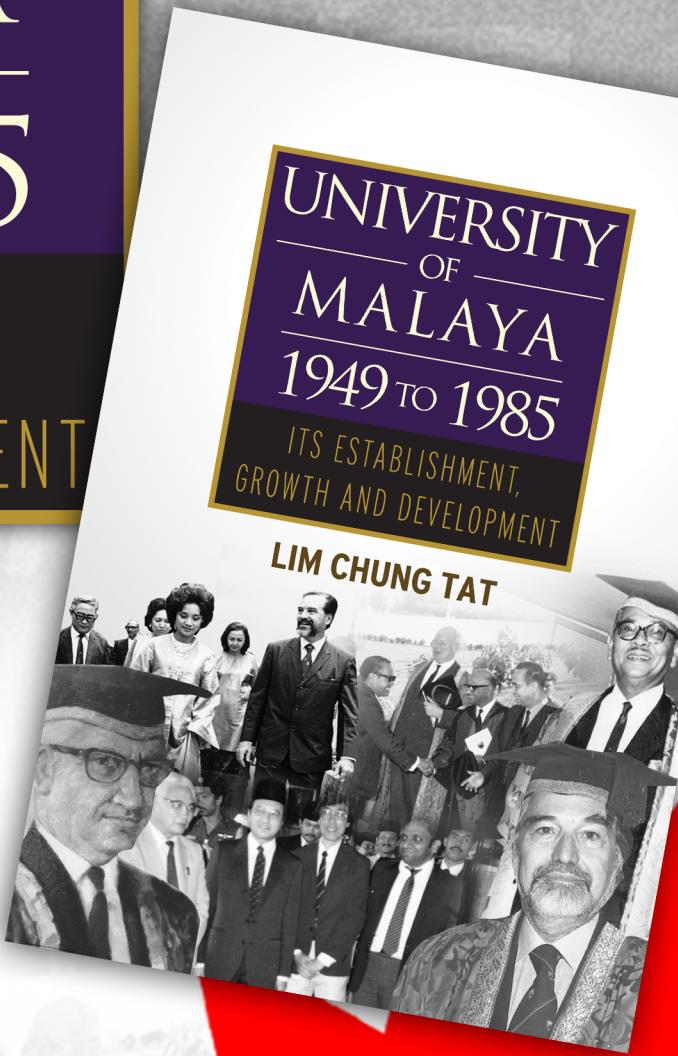
ITS ESTABLISHMENT,  
GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

The history of the University of Malaya dates back to 1905 when the Straits Settlement and Federated Malay States Medical School, later renamed the King Edward VII College of Medicine, was officially opened by Sir John Anderson, the then Governor of Singapore.

It later became the University of Malaya in 1949 after merging with the Raffles College. The former University of Malaya comprised two equal and autonomous Divisions from 15<sup>th</sup> January 1959 to the end of 1961. It later became two separate national universities on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1962 when the Division in Kuala Lumpur became the University of Malaya and the Division in Singapore became the University of Singapore.

This book, covering the period from 1949 to 1985, is written with great attention to details which are presented in chronological order. It is also the first ever book by a former Registrar of any university in Malaysia.

The author is a graduate of the University of Malaya, served as its Registrar from 1967 to 1985 and witnessed many of the events and happenings of the period.



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