We welcome 2019 with our latest 19th edition of “UMT Academic Affairs Quick Update”. Since our beginning in April 2018, we are proud to be associate with almost 1500 new partners from all around the world. Thank you for the feedback!

This New Year we wish you luck, prosperity and good health, and we look forward to more collaborations and continuous strong connection with each and every one of you.
This initiative is a new approach to the teaching of 'building and using a dichotomous key' for Biodiversity students, a skill that is crucial for working in a biodiversity field but was found lacking in our students during their final year. The 2-3 hour activity was carried out in a group of five without given any prior lecture on the topic. The students further applied their understanding in the practical sessions using real plant and animal specimens, and using various published taxonomic keys available. The whole process of the activity was done on a basis of actively learning where students took charge of their own learning through learning-by-doing, peer, collaborative and self-determined learning.

Each group were given a task to classify a set of 12-13 plastic toys of all sorts according to their creativity. While trying to complete the task, they listed the problems they faced, compared and discussed with the whole class facilitated by the lecturer. The importance of having a system to simplify classification process is highlighted, followed by the introduction of "Dichotomous Key" terminology.

Each member of the group were then instructed to read an article of their choice from the internet, share with others and finally managed to build a correct dichotomous key of their toys.

Other groups then tested the efficiency of the key, and improve them if need to. Students' average scores for the evaluation of building and identifying specimens using the key were 74% and 85% respectively. The students understood the concept, exhibit the skills to develop and use dichotomous key, acknowledge various keys for the same set of "species" and remembers lessons learned via Dichotomie le Toys even after more than a year.

Dichotomie le Toys by Associate Professor Dr. Faridah Mohamad (mfaridah@umt.edu.my), School of Marine and Environmental Sciences as the winner of Minister of Education Transformative Teaching Award: without Lecture - (Johan bagi Anugerah Pengajaran Transformatif: Tanpa Syarahan) AKRI 2018 (14 December 2018). Congratulations!
UMT has been successfully certified with MS ISO / IEC 27001: 2013 Information Security Management System (ISMS) for Undergraduate Academic Management scope which encompasses Student Registration Management as well as Management and Maintenance of Registration Information at Data Center, effective from 15 November 2018. UMT received the approval from the auditors of SIRIM QAS International Sdn. Bhd. with zero Non-Conformance Report (NCR).

UMT Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dato ‘Dr. Nor Aieni Mokhtar, as Chairman of the UMT Quality Committee, described the certification as an effort to improve the quality of management and enhance stakeholders’ confidence in UMT. Through this certification, it proves that UMT is capable of being competitive in line with UMT’s Strategic Plan where it supports the achievement of the UMT Strategic Plan 2018-2022 and the UMT ICT Strategic Plan 2019-2023.

The Quality Assurance Division, Center for Academic Planning, Development and Academic Quality (PPPKA) and Information Technology Management Center (PPTM) were assigned as the driving force for both certifications, led by Prof. Ir. Dr. Noor Azuan Abu Osman, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International) to ensure this certification can be achieved within the stipulated time frame. Comprehensive and intensive workshops such as the Risk Management Workshop, ISMS Audit Preparation Course, ISO Reinforcement Workshop, ISO Clinic and MESRA ISO @ PTj Program have been organized collectively and successfully.

This achievement is significant in boosting quality of UMT’s management and services towards higher levels. The University Management also agreed to extend the MS ISO / IEC 27001:2013 scope to all UMT core and critical processes in order to boost UMT’s ratings and branding, locally and internationally.
The National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium (NMMBA) is stipulated for the purpose of providing museum education and research experiences primarily in marine field to the students from Southeast Asian countries by offering students (up to 18) round-trip airfares between the students’ countries and Taiwan. This program also aims to establish relationship and cultural exchange between the countries. The students namely Mr. Ooi Jing Kai and Ms. Tay Chai Sing from the School of Fisheries and Aquaculture Sciences; and Ms. Syamsyahidah Samsol and Ms. Nur Sanim Azlan from the School of Marine and Environmental Sciences were selected to participate in the program for 12 weeks from 2nd July until 21st September 2018. Throughout the international internship training, they exhibited their respective trainings in laboratory practices arranged by their industrial supervisors. They are also thankful to all the staffs, seniors and students at NMMBA who showed a lot of care, in addition to their passionate and generous sharing of knowledge. Briefly, they were introduced to popularize the marine research using creative and accurate display of marine species as in the natural habitats. They also learned to bridge the gaps of research, education and industrial development to enhance the cooperation between academia and commercial enterprises. Every year, NMMBA ensures 3 internships for our university students. We wish that all the selected students will receive great benefits under this program.
UNIKOM “MAGANG” @ UMT

In support of Malaysia’s commitment to the internationalization of higher education, the School of Social and Economic Development (PPPSE), UMT has just received its first batch of inbound students from Universitas Komputer Indonesia (UNIKOM), on 19 September 2018. The short-term three weeks inbound program (also known as “Magang” in Indonesian), represents the attainment of one of several key objectives that have been specified in the Letter of Intent (LoI) signed between UMT-UNIKOM in December 2017. The LoI seeks to foster greater cooperation between both institutions through student exchange and accredited mobility programs, postgraduate studies, exchange of academic staff, joint research and publication activities, as well as hosting joint conferences and seminars.

The UNIKOM delegation comprises Prof. Dr. Hj. Umi Narimawati, Dra., SE., M.Si (Academic) and Prof. Dr. Hj. Aelina Surya Sumarna, Dra. (Student Affairs and Cooperation), as well as eleven students from Information Systems, Management, Law and Communication faculties. The delegation is received by Yg. Bhg. Prof. Dato’ Dr. Nor Aieni binti Haji Mokhtar (Vice Chancellor), Prof. Ir. Dr. Noor Azuan Abu Osman (Academic and International), Profesor Ts. Dr. Che Mohd Ruzaidi bin Ghazali (Student Affairs and Alumni), Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ruhani Mat Min (PPPSE’s Acting Dean), as well as PPPSE’s Student Mobility organizing committee, in a welcoming and handing over ceremony that has been held at Dewan Senat. In her welcoming speech, Yg. Bhg. Prof. Dato’ Dr. Nor Aieni touched on the importance of the “Magang” as a means of fostering even greater collaborations that will be beneficial to both institutions in the future; a sentiment that is reciprocated by Prof. Dr. Hj. Umi Narimawati.

Feedback from all of the students is positive in nature. All of the activities have provided them with new insights and knowledge that they would not have gained if they had not participated in the “Magang” at UMT. They have made new friends through the POSESO’s student club activities, and have also forged a very close friendship with the buddies after spending three weeks together. They found the lecturers to be kind, knowledgeable and helpful. The lectures on environmental sustainability, politics and race relations in Malaysia have enabled them to reflect on their own experiences in their home country. They are satisfied and happy with the amenities provided by UMT throughout the duration of their stay. They also love Terengganu food, especially keropok lekor and laksa bersarang, that are not available in Bandung.

They would definitely recommend more students from UNIKOM (and other universities from Indonesia) to participate in “Magang” at UMT because not only have all of the activities been enjoyable and informative, but most importantly they believe the experience gained is invaluable and unique; enabling them to bring back beautiful memories that will stay with them forever.

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Three PPPSE’s students have been assigned as buddies to the UNIKOM students during the duration of their stay. The “Magang” activities arranged for them consisted of: (i) attending lectures on environmental sustainability, politics and race relations in Malaysia; (ii) participating in beach activities organised by the POSESO’s student club; (iii) going to Tasik Kenyir to experience for themselves the uniqueness of the lake aboard the Research Vessel Discovery, and learning about different herbs and their traditional medicinal attributes; (iv) visiting the Setiu Wetlands State Park where they were briefed by Tuan Haji Muhamad Razali Salam on the numerous species of mangrove trees. They also planted 14 mangrove saplings to commemorate their visit; (v) a week’s attachment at the Institute of Tropical Aquaculture (Akuatrop UMT), where they gained hands-on experience in conducting research at a research institute, and; (vi) sight-seeing and shopping in Kuala Terengganu.

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The Kuala Lumpur Engineering Science Fair (KLESF) is an initiative with various programmes and activities that aim to promote interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) among primary and secondary school students. The KLESF committee held its annual event for the fifth year and was better and bigger, with more fun and interactive STEM activities open for all ages. Since, the involvement of STEM is important in socio-economic wellbeing and sustainable development, KLESF is implemented as a platform for the public awareness, both parents and students to familiarise themselves with science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The KLESF 2018 was held at MINES International Exhibition and Convention Centre (MIECC), Seri Kembangan, Selangor. The fair took place on 2-4 November 2018 starting from 9.00am until 6.00pm. A total of 47 University Malaysia Terengganu STEM Foundation students grabbed this golden opportunity to participate in this event in order to promote a chance for secondary school students, mainly SPM leavers, to join the foundation studies in STEM that includes many benefits and advantages since it is an aggregation of 4 main stream subjects.

During the three-day event, UMT STEM foundation students opened 4 booths, each represented most of the important elements in STEM. To engage the participants in KLESF, young and talented UMT STEM students used their bright ideas on how to make the 4 academics fields to be fun and interactive. Science booth got the best attention because of their cool and awesome science experiments. Technology booth exposed participants on binary code by creating bracelets based on names translated to codes. Engineering booth stood proud with their UMT cargo ship replica. Finally, mathematics booth introduced Golden Beauty Ratio that helps them to get to know beauty standards using numbers.

Besides interactive exhibitions, UMT STEM students handled a fun and creative hands-on workshop; Creative Gym Workshop. The main objective of the workshop was to enable the participants to implement brainstorming techniques, how we interpret ideas and evaluate relevant ideas. For instance, 30 circles challenge, fold, draw & write activity and prototype project making. These activities showed that brainstorming techniques are very important especially for students who are still in their learning phase where communication skills in a team are necessary to freshen up their perspectives on new ideas.

The 2018 KLESF saw a big involvement from UMT STEM foundation students who shared the STEM interest to the public as it is important among young people nowadays since, today's development depends on the advancement of technology.
UI GREENMETRIC RANKING 2018
UMT Ranked 370th
The World’s Most Sustainable University

This certificate is awarded to
Universiti Malaysia Terengganu
as The 370th World's Most Sustainable University
Jakarta, 19 Desember 2018

UI GreenMetric World University Rankings is the first and only university rankings in the world that measure each participating university's commitment in developing an 'environmentally friendly' infrastructure. The rankings look at 6 indicators of each university (setting and infrastructure, energy and climate change, waste, water, transportation and education). This year 719 universities from 81 countries took part, which is an increase from last year with 619 universities from 76 countries.