ICPE-8: THE EVOLUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION (ICPE) SERIES

The biannual ICPE series is organised by the Council of Deans of Graduate Studies (Majlis Dekan Pengajian Siswazah –MDPS) of Malaysian Public Universities on a rotational basis with the financial support from the Ministry of Higher Education. Taking place on 3rd and 4th December 2018, the 8th series of this international conference was co-hosted by the Postgraduate Management Centre (PPS), Universiti Malaysia Terengganu and Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin (UniSZA) Graduate School.

Lead by three (3) main research tracks, Engineering and Technology, Applied Science, and Social Science, the ICPE-8 brought together 90 representatives from the industry, academia, and young scientists at international level, thus enabling a wide exchange of research. This international conference has successfully met its purposes which were to inculcate research culture amongst local and foreign postgraduates in communicating research findings, sharing experiences, and giving constructive and expert feedback for the advancement of scientific research, as well as to create local and international networking opportunities through research presentations and discussions.

Befitting the conference theme of “Postgraduate Education and Research towards IR4.0,” the conference was officially opened in a technologically sophisticated manner. Officiated by Prof. Dr. Zaidatun Tasir, Chairman of Council of Deans of Graduate Studies, who is also the Dean of School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, the conference was officially opened when Prof. Dr. Zaidatun launched an Augmented Reality video of ICPE-8 through her smartphone!

The conference was enlivened by three (3) exciting keynote speeches by well-known researchers, Prof. Dr. Abdul Latif Ahmad, Director of Nexus Engineering, Universiti Sains Malaysia (Effect and Impact of IR4.0 towards Research and Innovation at University), Prof. Dr. Jonel P. Saludes, Associate Vice President for Research at University of San Agustin, The Philippines (GI2020: A Philippine University’s Response to IR4.0 towards Advanced Technologies and Capacitated Human Resources), and Prof. Dr. Zaidatun Tasir, Chairman of Council of Deans of Graduate Studies (Career Pathways for Doctoral Students).
A series of serious discussions on postgraduate research were continued through 63 oral presentations and 28 e-poster presentations.

Each presentation was evaluated by appointed judges among UMT lecturers in various research fields. Dr Haroon Rashid from University of Malaya with his paper entitled *Effects of Substrate Temperature on The Properties of Molybdenum Disulfide Thin Films for Photovoltaic Applications* bagged the Best Presenter and Best Oral Presenter for Applied Science, and taking home a special prize from the organiser.

Other categories were Best Oral Presenter for Engineering and Technology, Best Oral Presenter for Social Science, Best Poster Presenter for Engineering and Technology, Best Poster Presenter for Applied Science and Best Poster Presenter for Social Science.

The 9th series of ICPE will be held in the year of 2020 in another selected Malaysian public university. See you at ICPE-9!
Master of Science in Tropical Fisheries is a coursework programme offered by Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) with international linkage with six Asian countries i.e., Sam Ratulangi University (Indonesia), Kagoshima University (Japan), University of the Philippines Visayas (the Philippines) and Kasetsart University (Thailand), Nha Trang University (Vietnam) and Bogor Agricultural University (Indonesia). Beginning in 2015, this programme aims to develop professionals that could help improve aquatic environments sustainability and community livelihood. This is a 1.5 years (3 semesters) programme conducted in English. It is one of the postgraduate programmes under the international collaboration framework of Postgraduate (Master) Programme on Tropical Fisheries with International Linkage. Under this programme, fisheries postgraduate students from all the 7 universities can take certain subjects offered under this linkage at other member universities with no additional fees. Upon fulfilment of all requirements, the students will receive the Master’s degree from their parent university as well as a Certificate of Completion from the Governing Council of this international linkage.

Since 2015, 3 cohorts of students have taken part in this international linkage programme by taking subjects with transferable credit hours at Kagoshima University. All UMT students in this programme were given scholarship by the Japan Student Services Organisation (JASSO) to support their expenses in Kagoshima.

Admission is open for Malaysian and international students every year. Further information can be found on the School of Fisheries and Aquaculture Sciences' website (http://fisha.umt.edu.my/).
Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Universitas Airlangga (UNAIR) in 2010 for collaborative research, academic expertise exchange and student internships. The Faculty of Fisheries and Marine (FPK), UNAIR has invited Dr Nurul Ulfah Karim from the School of Fisheries and Aquaculture Sciences (PPSPA), UMT to be a guest lecturer from 26th to 31st August 2018. Her arrival was warmly welcomed and cheered by FPK led by the Dean, Prof Dr Mirni Lamid.

Dr. Ulfah is an expert in fisheries post-harvest. She shared her knowledge in two lectures entitled “Introduction to the fishery products industry” and “Toxicant in fish and shellfish”. Two practical classes were also conducted for the second year and third year students of Bachelor of Industrial Technology of Fisheries Product. In addition, she also delivered a talk to the FPK lecturers and graduate students on research proposal writing in pursuit of a doctorate or master degree, while promoting UMT’s postgraduate programmes.

Located on the northern coast of East Java province, Surabaya, also known as Suroboyo in Javanese, produces shrimp, sea cucumber, mackerel, tuna and bamboo clams. The aquaculture industries also contribute to the fisheries economy mostly in cultivation of milkfish and tilapia. Meanwhile, the fish processing industry is dominated by women. They produce smoked fish, salted fish, cracker and shrimp paste. Dr Ulfah had the opportunity to learn from the Indonesian locals about fish smoking and their marketing strategies for local and international markets.

The visit was successful and fruitful. In return, PPSPA welcomed junior lecturer, Mr Eka Saputra from UNAIR for research attachment in October 2018.
UMT POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS TRAINED OVERSEAS ON MARINE CULTIVATION TECHNOLOGIES

Two postgraduate students, Ms Alia Syafiqah and Ms Wan Nurhafizah from the School of Fisheries and Aquaculture Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT) were trained in Qingdao, China on marine cultivation technologies in the Southeast Asia Marine Cultivation Technology Training Workshop from 10th to 29th September 2018. The workshop was organized by Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute (YSFRI), Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences (CAFS) in collaborations with the Laboratory for Marine Fisheries Science and Food Production Processes (QNLM), China Society of Fisheries Mariculture Chapter, and Specialty Committee of Mariculture, China Rural Special Technology Association. The workshop was sponsored by the Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology of China under the Foreign Assistance Program for developing countries.

27 representatives from 7 Southeast Asia countries including Malaysia (7), Indonesia (6), Vietnam (5), Bangladesh (5), Philippines (2), Brunei (1) and Cambodia (1) have participated in the workshop. The training aimed to help Southeast Asian countries raise their levels of marine cultivation technology, increase cultivation efficiency and income, and promote sustainable development of modern marine cultivation industry.