



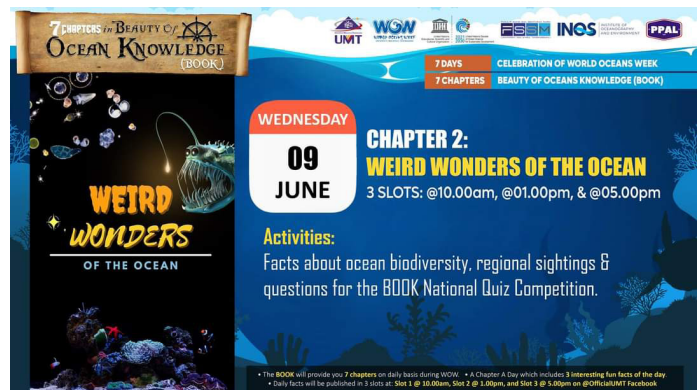
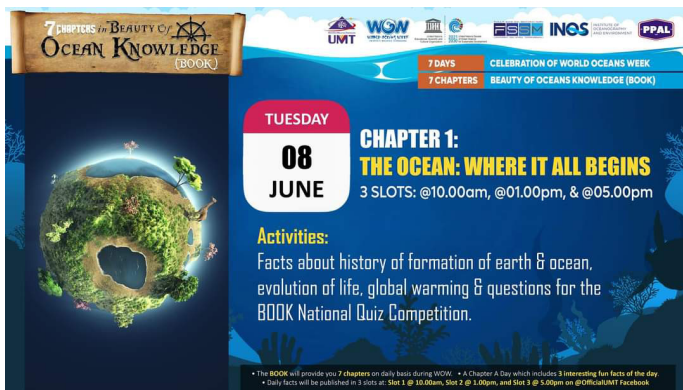
UMT NEWSLETTER

Ocean of Discovery for Global Sustainability

www.umt.edu.my

Volume 1 Issue 4, July 2021

UMT's WOW2021 worldwide community engagement a big success



An online ocean-literacy programme recently organised by UMT has to be considered very successful when it managed to draw more than 2000 attendees, with some from overseas countries including Brunei, Indonesia, Australia, and the United Kingdom.

Part of the success may be credited to the unique approach used to present the programme, Seven Chapters of BOOK (Beauty of Oceans Knowledge). Seven Chapters of BOOK was held in conjunction with this year's celebration of UMT's World Oceans Week (WOW). WOW is UMT's extended version of the United Nations' World Oceans Day that is celebrated every year on 8 June. Since 2013, UMT has considered WOW one of its annual events. WOW is usually filled with activities relating to ocean literacy.

The objective of Seven Chapters of BOOK was to increase the knowledge of the oceans among the public, especially school students, with the hope that they will become more appreciative of the oceans and subsequently contribute towards their conservation.

The programme ran for a week, from 8-14 June, and was available for viewing on UMT's official Facebook site (Facebook @officialUMT). One of the seven Chapters was covered each day, with a presentation in the morning, afternoon, and evening slots.

Each chapter highlighted the different aspects of the oceans. Chapter 1 presented the history of the oceans, Chapter 2 the different species of ocean dwellers, Chapter 3 facts about the coral reefs, Chapter 4 the ocean threats, Chapter 5 the ocean-human connection, Chapter 6 the role of UMT's Reference and Repository Centre, and Chapter 7 UMT's contributions towards ocean conservation.

Information was presented in various forms, including short videos, Tik Tok videos, and infographic posters that were easy to understand. The materials were prepared by UMT's very own lecturers, researchers, and students. For extra motivation, there were quizzes at the end of the presentations.



continued on next page

continued from last page



To make presentations more engaging, a unique approach was used. Several named animated characters were introduced, carrying the role of storytellers. The two main characters were Cik Cu and Abu Fateh.

At the end of the programme, UMT organised the National Quiz Competition on BOOK, with questions based on the facts shared during presentations of Chapters 1-6 of BOOK. There were three categories—primary school, secondary school, and open (18 years and older).

Attendees comprising people of various ages including school children said they came away with more knowledge of the oceans, and they felt motivated to be part of those who care about conserving the oceans.

They also thanked UMT for its initiative, and they were impressed with the approach taken by UMT to ensure that information regarding the oceans was conveyed in fun and engaging ways.

Promotion was done using various social media platforms. A special segment was arranged by a local television station, during which Professor Mazlan Abd Ghafar, UMT's Acting Vice Chancellor, talked about World Oceans Day celebration and activities planned by UMT.

Due to its success, Seven Chapters of BOOK may very well be the blueprint for an ocean-literacy programme during next year's WOW and those in the following years.

7 CHAPTERS IN BEAUTY OF OCEAN KNOWLEDGE (BOOK)

7 DAYS CELEBRATION OF WORLD OCEANS WEEK
7 CHAPTERS BEAUTY OF OCEANS KNOWLEDGE (BOOK)

FRIDAY
11 JUNE

CHAPTER 4: OCEAN THREATS
3 SLOTS: @10.00am, @01.00pm, & @05.00pm

Activities:
Facts about ocean processes, coastal erosion, ocean gyres, microplastics pollution & questions for the daily quiz and BOOK International Quiz Competition.

* The BOOK will provide you 7 chapters on daily basis during WOW. * A Chapter A Day which includes 3 interesting fun facts of the day
* Daily facts will be published in 3 slots at: Slot 1 @ 10.00am, Slot 2 @ 1.00pm, and Slot 3 @ 5.00pm on @OfficialUMT Facebook

7 CHAPTERS IN BEAUTY OF OCEAN KNOWLEDGE (BOOK)

7 DAYS CELEBRATION OF WORLD OCEANS WEEK
7 CHAPTERS BEAUTY OF OCEANS KNOWLEDGE (BOOK)

SATURDAY
12 JUNE

CHAPTER 5: THE OCEAN & HUMAN
3 SLOTS: @10.00am, @01.00pm, & @05.00pm

Summary of The Chapter:
Fun facts about human activities related to the ocean, fossil fuel & deep sea mining & questions for the daily quiz and BOOK International Quiz Competition.

* The BOOK will provide you 7 chapters on daily basis during WOW. * A Chapter A Day which includes 3 interesting fun facts of the day
* Daily facts will be published in 3 slots at: Slot 1 @ 10.00am, Slot 2 @ 1.00pm, and Slot 3 @ 5.00pm on @OfficialUMT Facebook

7 CHAPTERS IN BEAUTY OF OCEAN KNOWLEDGE (BOOK)

7 DAYS CELEBRATION OF WORLD OCEANS WEEK
7 CHAPTERS BEAUTY OF OCEANS KNOWLEDGE (BOOK)

SUNDAY
13 JUNE

CHAPTER 6: NATURAL HISTORY REPOSITORIES
3 SLOTS: @10.00am, @01.00pm, & @05.00pm

Activities:
Facts about South China Sea Repository & Reference Centre (RRC) UMT, its importance, processing ocean specimens, usage of specimens & questions for the daily quiz and BOOK International Quiz Competition.

* The BOOK will provide you 7 chapters on daily basis during WOW. * A Chapter A Day which includes 3 interesting fun facts of the day
* Daily facts will be published in 3 slots at: Slot 1 @ 10.00am, Slot 2 @ 1.00pm, and Slot 3 @ 5.00pm on @OfficialUMT Facebook

7 CHAPTERS IN BEAUTY OF OCEAN KNOWLEDGE (BOOK)

WON Ocean RHB UMT

08.30AM - 01.30PM
14 JUNE 2021 (MON) | 09.00AM - 04.00PM

WORLD OCEANS WEEK 2021
@UNIVERSITIMALAYSIA TERENGGANU

IT'S BOOK QUIZ TIME!
INTERNATIONAL LEVEL QUIZ COMPETITION

CATEGORIES:
PRIMARY SCHOOL - 10 WINNERS
SECONDARY SCHOOL - 10 WINNERS
OPEN (AGE >18Y) - 3 WINNERS **RM300**

QUIZ INFO
• Quiz questions will be based only from CHAPTER 1 UNTIL CHAPTER 6 in the BEAUTY OF OCEANS KNOWLEDGE (BOOK).
• 7 chapters of the BOOK will be posted daily in @OfficialUMT Facebook.
• Quiz questions (Via Google form in UMT Facebook) will be available on 14 June 2021 from 08.30AM - 01.30PM.
• Winners will be announced at 05.00PM (14th June)

HOW TO WIN?
1. Follow us on UMT Facebook @OfficialUMT
2. Read/Watch all 'Chapters in BOOK' from 8 June - 14 June 2021
* New info daily, 1 day 1 chapter (7 chapters), 1 chapter contains 3 slots, 10am, 1pm, & 5pm

PRIZES WORTH UP TO RM1000
& E-CERTIFICATES FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

* Scan QR Code and Like Us on FB

UMT researchers produce top-ranked Engineering papers



In the latest report published by the Essential Science Indicators of Clarivate Web of Science (Engineering), which analyzed data between 2017 and 2021, UMT ranks first in percentage of Top Papers among universities in Malaysia and second in Citations per Paper.

UMT's percentage of 8.58 percent for Top Papers is the highest, while its citation score of 11.23 per paper is second in rank, slightly below the leading score of 13.73.

UMT was established as a university that focuses on marine science and aquatic resources. However, it does not limit studies within its niche areas only. UMT also focuses on research in various subfields of engineering, including hydrogen storage, pyrolysis, wind energy, and water treatment. Articles on these studies have been published in field-specific journals that are of high impact.

Essential Science Indicators (ESI) is an analytical tool that identifies top-performing research in Web of Science Core Collection. ESI surveys more than 11,000 journals from around the world to rank authors, institutions, countries, and journals in 22 broad fields based on publication and citation performance.

Inclusion in ESI is dependent upon meeting certain citation thresholds. Only the most highly cited individuals, institutions, journals, countries, and papers are included in ESI.

Top Papers are those from the full list of papers included in ESI that meet additional citation threshold specific to the field and year. Citation per Paper reflects the number of articles that has cited the paper in question. In UMT's case, each paper has been cited on average by 11.23 articles written by other authors.

The ESI of Clarivate Web of Science (Engineering) report ranks engineering publications from eighteen Malaysian universities.

High-impact articles included in the report have been produced by UMT researchers from several institutes and faculties.

Researchers from the Faculty of Ocean Engineering and Informatic have been the biggest contributors of high-impact publications, with 48 percent. Researchers from the Institute of Tropical Aquaculture and Fisheries came in second in contributions, with 43 percent.

A total of 11 articles have been published in Renewable & Sustainable Energy Reviews with an impact factor of 12.11, eight articles in Chemical Engineering Journal with an impact factor of 10.65, and 14 articles in Journal of Hazardous Materials with an impact factor of 9.04. More than 40% of the articles have been published in journals with an impact factor higher than 5.

Acceptance of these papers by high-impact journals shows that the studies they reported have been ground-breaking and at par with those by researchers from all parts of the world.

The remarkable achievement will surely motivate UMT researchers to continue producing excellent publications.

UMT and IOSEA Marine Turtle Mou collaboration makes ambitious 20th anniversary celebrations come true



UMT had the honour of being closely involved in the recent celebrations of the 20th Anniversary of the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU, to which Malaysia is one of the 35 signatories.

UMT helped stream a day-long series of online events that took place around the IOSEA region on 19 June.

The IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU, or Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia, was established 20 years ago.

Housed under the United Nation’s Convention of Migratory Species (CMS) office, the MOU was established with the objective of bringing all parties with vested interest in sea turtles together and creating a platform for sharing knowledge, skills, technology, and field experiences among people who are involved in sea turtle conservation.

“It continues to make concerted efforts in sea turtle conservation that has now become a recognized field, fulfilling an important role in meeting our global commitment to protect biodiversity,” said Dr Jarina Mohd Jani, one of the IOSEA Advisory Committee members, also UMT’s senior lecturer.

Currently attached to the Faculty of Science and Marine Environment, Dr Jarina studies the interactions between nature and society, including human-sea turtle interactions.

To commemorate this important milestone, the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU Secretariat lined up a series of events, commencing with the celebrations of World Sea Turtle Day and the 20th Anniversary of the MOU on 16 and 19 June.

Apart from an official launch from the home base of the late Dr Archie Carr (the grand-master of sea turtle conservation) in Florida, USA, on 16 June, the actual World Sea Turtle Day, a “sunrise to sunset”

UTC	Sub-Region	Country/Territory	Local Time
02:00	SEA+	Australia	12:00
03:00	NIO	Bangladesh	08:00
04:00	NIO	Maldives	09:00
05:00	SEA+	Indonesia	12:00
06:00	SEA+	Philippines	14:00
07:00	WIO	Tanzania + Mozambique	09:00 / 10:00
08:00	WIO	Comoros + Madagascar + Kenya	11:00
09:00	WIO	South Africa	11:00
10:00	NWIO	Oman	14:00
11:00	WIO	Reunion	16:00 (France 13:00)
12:00 (2hrs)	SEA+	Malaysia	20:00-22:00
14:00	NIO	Pakistan	20:00
15:00	WIO	Seychelles	19:00
16:00	NIO	India	21:30
17:00	NWIO	Iran	21:30
18:00	WIO	Chagos Archipelago	24:00 (UK 19:00)
18:30	n/a	Germany	20:30

“Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU”

relay of different events coming from 20 signatory countries as far as South Africa in the West and Australia in the east was also lined up on 19 June.

“The main objective was to show the diversity of the IOSEA world, but also the uniqueness of sea turtle-related interactions in different countries that may not be widely known in other parts of the IOSEA region,” Dr Jarina said.

The IOSEA Advisory Committee’s decision to have UMT stream the events was based on Dr Jarina’s recommendation.

“Although it was a much bigger challenge compared to its previous global events, the team, consisting of the corporate office and IT centre staff, took it in their stride,” Dr Jarina said.

When the marathon celebration finally ended with the official closing by the Secretariat in Bonn at 3 am Malaysia time on 20 June, the team had successfully streamed all 20 events.

“They were tired, but jubilant to have done well,” Dr Jarina said.

These events are now available on the CMS YouTube channel (<https://bit.ly/3jwG87U>) and can be accessed anytime.

UMT finally listed in QS World University Rankings



UMT has finally been listed in the QS World University Rankings, one of the most widely read university rankings in the world. In its 2022 edition, the annual Quacquarelli Symonds publication ranks the university at 1001-1200.

This has been the best achievement throughout the young age of UMT, first established as a full-fledged university in 2001. It goes to show that UMT has begun to be recognized at world's stage in a relatively short span of time.

The QS World University Rankings comprises three parts—the global overall rankings, the subject rankings, which name the world's top universities for the study of 51 different subjects and five composite faculty areas, as well as five independent regional tables, namely Asia, Latin America, Emerging Europe and Central Asia, the Arab Region, and the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa).

Approved by the International Ranking Expert Group (IREG), the ranking is widely used by many of the world's top peer universities, industry and government agencies as well as prospective staff and students.

The QS World University Rankings evaluates universities according to six metrics it believes effectively capture university performance.

Academic Reputation is obtained through surveys conducted among 130,000 academics. Meanwhile, Employer Reputation is measured based on surveys among 75,000 employers.

Faculty/Student Ratio indicates the number of students and the number of lecturers in a given

university. Citations per Faculty measures the number of citations on publications produced by lecturers.

International Faculty Ratio measures the number of international lecturers in relation to local lecturers. International Student Ratio measures the number of international students in relation to the local students.

With the latest achievement, UMT is seen to have been acknowledged by international academics and industries. The evaluation for the ranking is heavily based on the opinions of these two parties.

The achievement also shows that the strategies outlined in UMT's 2018-2022 Strategic Plan (PSUMT) have been successful, especially the strategy on internationalization. PSUMT is the university's main reference, containing comprehensive strategies for achieving and maintaining excellence as a university that focuses on marine science and aquatic resources.

With UMT becoming more visible at the global level, there is increased likelihood of successfully attracting more international students, especially those from developed countries. These students are known to look at universities' ranking as one of factors to consider before making their decision.

In addition, there will be more opportunities for research collaborations with researchers from well-established overseas universities, which will help improve UMT's international networking. Opportunities are also present for partnerships with overseas industries, and that will increase UMT's visibility in the global arena even further.

Study by UMT researcher reveals new insights about least-known cat species



A study on the Chinese mountain cat by a group of international experts including a UMT researcher has revealed new insights about the phylogeny of one of the least-known wild cat species in the world.

Using 270 individual samples, the molecular genetic study found that the Chinese mountain cat is a unique subspecies of the wide-ranging wildcats found throughout Europe, Africa, and much of western and central Asia.

In addition, the study found that the Asian wild cat is also a subspecies of the wild cat, and the African wildcat from southwestern Asia and north Africa, a closely related subspecies, is the clear predecessor of world's domestic cats.

The group of which UMT researcher Dr Nobuyuki Yamaguchi is a member is part of an international collaboration that seeks to highlight the natural history of the Chinese mountain cat and the importance of its conservation. The group is led by the Laboratory of Genomic Diversity at Peking University in Beijing, and, in addition to Dr Nobuyuki, is also supported by researchers at Nova Southeastern University in Florida, USA.

Dr Nobuyuki is an Associate Professor currently attached to UMT's Institute of Tropical Biodiversity and Sustainable Development. His research interests include biodiversity and conservation, ecology, evolutionary biology, wildlife conservation, and zoology.

"The genomic data has resolved a taxonomic classification uncertainty, revealed the timing of evolutionary divergence, and pinpointed the prospects for survival of the world's least-known wild cats," Dr Nobuyuki said.

The Chinese mountain cat, *Felis silvestris bieti*, is found only in the Tibetan plateau of China. It has a distinctive appearance of sand coloured fur, with faint dark striped and thick tail, and light-blue pupils.



In its range there are two closely related small felines: the Asian wildcat and feral domestic cats. The Asian wildcat has distinguishing spotted coat pattern across a wide range extending from the Caspian Sea in the east through western India and southern Mongolia to parts of western China. "Approximately 600 million domestic cats are found across the world," Dr Nobuyuki said.

The study, applying the molecular clock hypotheses, found the estimated date of evolutionary split between the Chinese mountain cat and the Asian wildcat to be 1.5 million years ago (MYA) while the genetic distance from both to the closest *Felis* species relative, the black footed cat, to be twice that, which is 3.0 MYA.

The Chinese mountain cat faces threats from modern agricultural practices, interbreeding with domestic cats, and climate change that may expand the range of neighbouring wildcats into the mountain cat's core homeland.

The study has been published in the *Science Advances* (<https://advances.sciencemag.org/content/7/26/eabg0221>).

"This study will help zoologists to understand the elusive Chinese mountain cat, as well as conservationists to identify threats and decide the best ways to conserve this special cat in its native range," Dr Nobuyuki said.

UMT trains its students to be proactive

UMT CAREER EXPERT
"Towards your career"

YURAN PENYERTAAN RM2 SAHAJA

MODERATOR
MIA MOHAMAD IKHMAL BIN MOHD ANUA

PANEL
COACH NIK FAIZ
CEO & Malaysia's 1st Certified Professional Career Coach (PARW-CC)
100 Most Inspirational LinkedIn Icon Malaysia 2020
Author Best Seller 'MUDAH DAPAT KERJA'

Program I-Talk :
SELF MARKETING

SCAN ME

SABTU | 8.00 MLM - 10.00 MLM | 29th MEI 2021

CISCO WEBEX

Sebarang Pertanyaan Hubungi
010-3171353 HAFIZAH
017-4052513 IMAN

E-SIJIL
MERIT MYSTAR
CITRA (KOMUNIKASI)

TOGETHER WE FIGHT COVID-19 | BERSAMA KITA LAWAN COVID-19

careerpathclubumt

UMT CAREER EXPERT
"Towards your career"

PROGRAM
I-TALK : SELF MARKETING
BERSAMA COACH NIK FAIZ

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US

TOGETHER WE FIGHT COVID-19 | BERSAMA KITA LAWAN COVID-19

careerpathclubumt

One of the student clubs was given an opportunity to organize an event recently to train its members on organizational skills. The event lasted only a few hours, but its positive impacts on both the members and student attendees may last their lifetime.

The Career Path Club (CPC), a student club set up by UMT to guide students in their career decision, held an online sharing session for UMT students. CPC invited a well-known career coach to give some tips on how to increase students' employability once they hit the job market after graduation.

The coach was Nik Faiz Iskandar Nik Zahari, more popularly known as Coach Nik Faiz. A full-time certified career consultant and motivator, Coach Nik Faiz has been in the business for more than 12 years, and has conducted more than 1000 training programmes. He has also written several books.

During the two-hour event, called I-Talk: Self Marketing, Coach Nik Faiz touched on a few topics, including employment issues in Malaysia in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, increased job-hunting competition because of the pandemic, criteria of effective self-marketing, and students' preparation in increasing their employability.

The event, attended by more than 200 students mostly in their final year, was successfully managed by CPC from start to finish, with full support extended by UMT's Centre for Entrepreneurship and Career

(CEC). CEC is a unit under UMT's Student Affairs and Alumni Office. First established in 2010, the centre is responsible for several activities, which include producing successful entrepreneurs from among UMT students through structured and holistic programmes, serving as a consultation centre, and conducting research on entrepreneurship at both the national and international levels.

CEC Director Dr Mohd Shaari Abd Rahman in his closing remarks after the event congratulated CPC on a job well done and the student attendees on their proactiveness to get a head start towards their career building. He also said that more career development activities will be organized for UMT students, and will involve collaborations with industry experts.

Students had positive things to say about the sharing session. One of them, Nur Adilah Yaakub, said that the event was very helpful. "It has given me some ideas on how to self-market myself better as preparation for my future career," she said.

Meanwhile, Umai Salmah Andik, event director, was delighted that the event was a success. She hopes that this CPC's effort will be able to help students later, in their attempt to begin their career in the evermore competitive job market out there. "The Covid-19 pandemic has negatively affected the economy and many employees have lost their jobs while at the same time the number of graduates keeps increasing," she said.



UMT KEMENTERIAN PENGAJIAN TINGGI

Pelancaran
DIRECTORY OF EXPERTS
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA TERENGGANU

DIRECTORY of EXPERTS

SCAN HERE FOR THE BOOK'S DETAILS

UMT's Directory of Experts (UMT-DoE) is published to facilitate a more convenient exchange of expertise information. The directory contains details about UMT researchers and experts from various fields including fundamental, applied, and social science. It provides ample information to other researchers, organizations, or industries, enabling them to envision possible collaborations with UMT researchers and experts.



UMT NEWSLETTER

Vol 1 Issue 4, July 2021

Executive Editor

Professor Dr. Fauziah Abu Hasan

Editor

Wan Zulkifli Wan Kassim

Content Advisors

Associate Professor Dr. Yuzliza Mohd Yusoff
Dr. Azza Jauhar Ahmad Tajuddin
Sayed Mohd Tamimuddin Sayed Ibrahim
Shafie Umardi @ Kamarol Bahrin
Wan Ab Hafiz Wan Ibrahim

Coordinators

Aini Zahida Din
Amirul Salam Hasan
Rozita Alias @ Abdul Latiff
Shamsul Hafizi Saleh

Designer

Azlin Abdullah

Photographers

Tengku Iskandar Zulfahmi Tengku Mohamad
Mohd Sharwan Abd Ghani
Mohd Shukry Tahar
Nur Hafiza Ellias

Contributors

Assoc. Prof. Chm. Dr. Khairul Anuar Mat Amin
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nobuyuki Yamaguchi
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Roshaiza Taha
Dr. Jarina Mohd Jani
Shafie Umardi @ Kamarol Bahrin
Suhaili Safei

Corporate Communication Office
Universiti Malaysia Terengganu
email : pro@umt.edu.my