

UMT NEWSLETTER

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- » UMT Receives Visit from Higher Education Minister
- » UMT Organizes International Forum to Discuss Climate Change Impact
- » TROPIMUNDO 2023 Comes to Successful End
- » UMT, Universitas Airlangga Bolster Academic Collaboration through Student Exchange Programme
- » Fifth FTTKI Summer School Unveils Charms of Heritage and Culture

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Malaysia's Higher Education Minister made a working visit to UMT recently to view the university's progress and performance. Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin noted that UMT has emerged as a beacon of success in the university's niche area of Marine Sciences and Aquatic Resources. The minister challenged UMT to further strengthen its research and community outreach by striving to be a leader in Fisheries, Aquaculture, and Oceanography at the national and international arena. The university's strategic plan should reflect the specific key performance indicators that involve helping to improve the coastal community's livelihood and socio-economic status.



UMT also recently hosted the International Forum on Antarctica and Climate Change 2023. Antarctica plays an important role in regulating the global climate and the forum provided a platform where scientists from many countries could discuss the challenges in mitigating climate change and combating the Antarctic ice melt. The keynote address was given by Professor Dr Martin J. Siegert from Imperial College London who is also the holder of the Antarctic Science Chair at UMT. The establishment of the Chair is made possible by the endowment given by the Sultan Mizan Antarctic Research Foundation. UMT is indeed honoured to host the Chair and hopes to play a vital role in Antarctic research to understand the impacts of climate change on this vulnerable region.

As noted by the higher education minister, by focusing on the niche area, the university can become a global leader in the fields of fisheries, aquaculture, maritime, and marine sciences. The commitment to excellence in these fields will enable UMT to make impactful research, disseminate and transfer of knowledge to students and other important stakeholders, and ultimately contribute to the greater good of the society and the growth of the nation.

Professor Dr. Fauziah Hj. Abu Hasan
Executive Editor

CONTENTS

- 1 UMT Receives Visit from Higher Education Minister**
- 2 UMT Organizes International Forum to Discuss Climate Change Impact**
- 3 TROPIMUNDO 2023 Comes to Successful End**
- 4 UMT, Universitas Airlangga Bolster Academic Collaboration through Student Exchange Programme**
- 5 Fifth FTTKI Summer School Unveils Charms of Heritage and Culture**

UMT Receives Visit from Higher Education Minister

Mazlan Abd. Ghaffar, Muhammad Ikhwanuddin Abdullah, Mohd Ihwan Zakariah, Norul Aina Amirah Ab Rahman



UMT has had a special figure at its campus recently. The university received a visit from Dato' Seri Dr. Mohamed Khaled Nordin, the country's Higher Education Minister. It was his third official visit to the university in such capacity.

His first working visit to UMT was on 14 August 2009 and his second on 26 July 2012, when he came to officiate the Institute of Oceanography and Environment (INOS) and the Institute of Tropical Aquaculture and Fisheries (AKUATROP) Complex and to present the letter of declaration with regards to INOS being recognized as one of the country's Higher Institution Centre of Excellence (HICoE).

During the recent visit, UMT Vice Chancellor Prof. Dato' Dr. Mazlan Abd. Ghaffar had the opportunity to provide Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled with updates pertaining to UMT, including the current events taking place at UMT and the university's performance and achievements to date.

In the speech by Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled, UMT was commended for being a university with a unique niche of marine science and aquatic resources and congratulated for its achievements in various areas. He is in full support of UMT's continuous effort to further establish the university's visibility at the global arena.

UMT was also lauded for its success in becoming the pioneer and collaborating partner at the regional level through ASEAN Fisheries Education Network (ASEAN-FEN). UMT will play an important role in helping Malaysia

achieve its goal of internationalizing the education sector to meet the needs of the country's higher education, said Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled.

The ministry has recognized UMT's effort to further enhance the visibility of AKUATROP and INOS and have the two institutes become well-known at the global level, he said.

As per the minister, AKUATROP has played its role excellently in the development of the aquaculture industry and in the production of more "Aquaprenuers", which can further ensure the country's food security.

As part of the visit, UMT took Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled on a tour to AKUATROP's hatchery, where he later witnessed the handing over of Lobster Refugia Plan to a representative from Fisheries Department.

The minister also launched an Internet of Things (IoT) system, which has been installed by the industry through the Indoor Multi-Techno Aquaculture System (IMTAS).

Accompanying Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled to UMT were Dato' Dr. Haji Megat Sany Megat Ahmad Supian, Deputy Secretary General (Policy), Higher Education Ministry; Professor Dr. Azlinda Azman, Higher Education Director General, and principal officers from the ministry.

In attendance during the minister's visit were Professor Dr. Mohamad Salmi Mohd Sohod, Chairman of UMT Board of Directors; UMT principal officers; student representatives; and agency and industry representatives.

UMT Organizes International Forum to Discuss Climate Change Impact

Dr. Wan Mohd Rauhan Wan Hussin, Deputy Director, National Antarctic Research Centre - UMT

In conjunction with the recent inaugural visit by Prof. Dr. Martin J. Siegert, Chairholder of YPASM-UMT Chair in Antarctic Science, UMT organised the International Forum on Antarctica and Climate Change on campus. Under the overarching theme of “Exploring Polar Science and Climate Resilience”, this one-day event in August brought together experts, researchers, and enthusiasts to delve into the critical issues surrounding the Antarctica and the impact on global climate change.

The morning session at Sultan Mizan Hall commenced with a grand opening ceremony, officiated by by Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Dr. Salleh Bin Mohd Nor, Senior Member of the Board of Trustees of Sultan Mizan Antarctic Research Foundation (YPASM). The ceremony also served as a momentous occasion to honour the recipients of the YPASM Research Grant. The grant is awarded to researchers from various Malaysia public universities to carry out research in Antarctica and Arctic and subsequently help strengthen Malaysia’s contribution to polar research.

Following the opening ceremony, attendees were treated to an enlightening public lecture by the Chairholder. Prof. Siegert, a renowned glaciologist, delved into the profound impact of climate change in Antarctica and its far-reaching consequences. Importantly, he emphasised how these changes resonate beyond the polar regions, affecting the entire world, including tropical regions.

In his lecture, Prof. Siegert shed light on the interconnectedness of the Earth’s climate systems. He highlighted how the melting ice sheets in Antarctica contribute to rising sea levels, which, in turn, threaten coastal communities worldwide. The lecture served as a stark reminder that addressing climate change requires a global effort and a comprehensive understanding of its complex dynamics.

The afternoon session, held at the UMT Convention Centre, featured a stimulating forum with a diverse panel of experts. The panellists included Prof. Dr. Martin Siegert (glaciologist - University of Exeter), Prof. Dr. Andrew McMinn (marine ecologist - Ocean University of China), Prof. Dr. Mohd Fadzil Mohd Akhir (physical oceanographer - Universiti Malaysia Terengganu), and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Siti Aisah Alias (mycologist - Universiti Malaya).

During this interactive session, the experts engaged in comprehensive discussions on a range of topics. These



included the pressing issues of climate change and polar science and exciting opportunities for Malaysians in polar research. Prof. Siegert’s insights on glaciology and its implications for global climate change were particularly eye-opening, underlining the urgency of collective action.

The International Forum on Antarctica and Climate Change at UMT was a pivotal event that not only highlighted the critical importance of Antarctic research but also showcased Malaysia’s potential role in addressing the global climate crisis. With collaborative efforts and continued engagement, we can aspire to a more climate-resilient future for our planet.

TROPIMUNDO 2023 Comes to Successful End

Azida Binti Abdullah, Institute of Oceanography and Environment

The 2023 TROPIMUNDO programme that began in March has recently come to a successful close. This year, the programme had 20 participants who were international students from 13 countries, including Belgium, France, Philippines, Kenya, USA, Russia, Colombia, Argentina, and Spain.

TROPIMUNDO, or Erasmus Joint Master Degree in Tropical Biodiversity and Ecosystems Programme, is an annual programme implemented by UMT through the Institute of Oceanography and Environment (INOS). UMT's involvement in TROPIMUNDO has started since 2015. This year's programme was the ninth edition.

International students' selection to participate in UMT-coordinated TROPIMUNDO year after year speaks volume about the university's good reputation and the high commitment given by its teaching faculty.

TROPIMUNDO is offered to second-year master's students from all over the world who study botany, zoology, and integrated ecosystems. To date, UMT's TROPIMUNDO has had 135 students from 45 countries.

During the recent programme that lasted for six months, students enrolled in seven courses including a Bahasa Melayu course. Registration and other matters involving the programme were coordinated by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Behara Satyanayarana, a lecturer at INOS. Dr. Behara has been the person in charge of UMT's TROPIMUNDO for the past several years.

Through the programme, the students had the opportunity for a unique experience. UMT, a university that focuses on marine science and aquatic resources, is strategically located at the coast of the South China Sea, and the state of Terengganu offers beautiful beaches and islands.

UMT also took the students to several places of importance to the university, such as Chagar Hutang Turtle Research Station on Redang Island, Bidong Island Research Station, Setiu Wetland Research Station, and Mangrove Forest Reserve in Larut Matang, Perak.

While undergoing the programme at UMT, the students carried out field research on mangroves, turtles, and coral reefs. This is part of UMT's effort to maintain and conserve the marine biodiversity.



In the last week of the programme, UMT held a special ceremony for the students. At INOS's Farley, the students were treated to lunch. UMT Vice Chancellor Prof. Dato' Dr. Mazlan Abd Ghaffar was in attendance, and he presented the certificates of participation to the 20 students.

Also present was Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and International) Prof. Ts. Dr. Mohd Zamri Ibrahim.

The success of TROPIMUNDO 2023 was made possible by the direct support from Postgraduate Management Centre, International Centre, Security Division, Office of Legal Advisor, University Health Centre, and Sultanah Nur Zahirah Library and the indirect support from other centres and institutes at UMT.

UMT feels honoured for the trust given by international students and it has made the university more committed to providing the best of courses for the coming series of the TROPIMUNDO programme.

UMT, Universitas Airlangga Bolster Academic Collaboration through Student Exchange Programme

Prof. Dr. Khatijah Omar, Tuan Mohd Najwa Fuad Tuan Man

In an endeavour to foster academic cooperation and cultural exchange, UMT's Institute of Tropical Biodiversity and Sustainable Development (IBTPL) has recently conducted a student exchange programme with Universitas Airlangga (UNAIR), Surabaya, Indonesia. The programme that took place between 31 July – 14 August brought 37 students and five staff members from UNAIR to UMT.

The immersive 14-day event features a rich mixture of activities designed to engage and educate. It consisted of three credit hours of teaching and learning to enhance pedagogical skills, four sessions to foster interaction and collaboration with the local community, four session to bridge the gap between academia and industry, six sessions to instill a sense of responsibility towards society, and a session to develop understanding of university-government partnership, where participants visited Terengganu Museum and explored the cultural and historical richness of the region.

One of the reasons for the programme's resounding success lay in IBTPL's ability to obtain cooperation from various faculties. Translating the programme's objectives into reality was made possible by the collaborative efforts from Faculty Business, Economics, and Social Development, Faculty of Maritime Engineering and Information Technology, Faculty of Fisheries and Food Sciences, and Faculty of Marine and Environmental Sciences.

As a reciprocal move by UMT, the university is preparing to send 50 of its students to UNAIR in mid-November this year.

This initiative is able to yield many benefits not only for UMT but also for the wider community. The programme may serve as one of the catalysts for UMT's academic growth and global prominence. As inbound student data flourish and international collaborations thrive, UMT's standing on the global stage is poised to ascend further.

This student exchange programme reflects both institutions' commitment to the ideals of the World Universities Association for Community Development (WUACD). Founded on 30 November, 2018, WUACD embodies a profound vision of uniting universities from diverse nationalities and academic backgrounds to enhance community well-being.



The association strives to confront the pressing global challenges pertaining to poverty, healthcare, inequality, climate change, environmental sustainability, security, and social justice. All of these efforts are intricately aligned with the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

WUACD presently boasts a membership of 34 universities from 15 countries including Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Egypt, Indonesia, Malaysia, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Libya, Pakistan, and the United States. In Malaysia, the association is membered by five public universities including UMT and two private universities, which have been helping the nation strengthen its involvement in these transformative initiatives.

Fifth FTKKI Summer School Unveils Charms of Heritage and Culture

Dr Wiwied Virgiyanti, Dr Azwani Alias, Dr Ilyani Abdullah

The FTKKI Summer School 2023, organized by the Faculty of Ocean Engineering Technology and Informatics (FTKKI), recently concluded its fifth iteration. Since its inception in 2018, this programme has consistently impacted global participants by immersing them in the state of Terengganu's captivating heritage and culture.

The programme that ran between July – August this year aimed to familiarize participants with multimedia project production techniques like storyboarding and video editing while they explored mathematical concepts intertwined with Terengganu's local heritage. Participants then used this knowledge to create a video illustrating the link between mathematical principles and the region's heritage and culture.

Seventeen participants from three international institutions joined the programme. Ten participants hailed from Universitas Komputer Indonesia (UNIKOM), two from Universitas Ahmad Dahlan (UAD), and five from Dr. M.G.R. Educational and Research Institute University, India. This dynamic group converged at UMT for a 14-day journey featuring lectures, field trips, excursions, hands-on projects, and cultural performances. The programme's success was fuelled by a dedicated team, including Student Buddies, diligent committees, and esteemed instructors, offering invaluable mentorship.

Educational lectures bridged mathematics and culture, covering subjects like Mathematics and Society, Geometry in Heritage and Culture, Data Analysis in Culture, and Mathematics in Business. Multimedia lectures that complemented the programme addressed Storyboarding, Animation, Video Editing, and the innovative realm of Augmented Reality.

A field trip explored traditional architecture, cuisine, costume, music, and games, and included visits to the Terengganu Cultural Village, Crystal Mosque, Duyong Island's boat-making hub, and the Longuet Library overseen by Christine Rohani Longuet. Participants engaged in traditional practices like fish cracker making at Keropok AZ, traditional cuisine, and batik painting at Lambo Sari. This experiential journey laid the foundation for participants to create multimedia projects.

A memorable day trip to Chagar Hutang on Pulau Redang provided an intimate encounter with Terengganu's breathtaking natural beauty, allowing participants to engage with marine creatures like green turtles



and hawksbill turtles. Following intensive multimedia project development, participants explored the vibrant Pasar Payang market and Chinatown, gaining insights into local life.

The program concluded with a closing speech by Prof. Ts. Dr Mohd Zamri Ibrahim, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International), during the FTKKI Summer School 2023: Digitalized Heritage and Culture Closing Ceremony. "I am profoundly impressed by this programme's ability to establish a connection between Mathematics, heritage, and culture. It is truly fascinating and holds potential for broader expansion into other domains to highlight the significance of Mathematics," Prof. Mohd Zamri said.

A poignant montage video captured cultural performances, certificate distribution, keepsakes to university representatives and the announcement of the best project winners. Vanya Jasmine Shaf, Fikri Syachrial Abdillah, and Mahalatchumi D won the best project award for exploring mathematical nuances in traditional architecture.

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2. SOCIAL AND POLICY STUDIES
3. COUNSELLING & PSYCHOLOGY
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IMPORTANT DATES:

- Abstract Deadline :15 July 2023
 Abstract Acceptance Notification :15 August 2023
 Full Paper Deadline :15 September 2023
 Camera-ready Paper Deadline :31 October 2023
 Conference Date :14-15 November 2023

CONFERENCE FEE:

PRESENTER (FACE TO FACE)		PARTICIPANT (FACE TO FACE)		ONLINE	
LOCAL	RM 450	LOCAL	RM 100	LOCAL	RM250
INTERNATIONAL	USD200	INTERNATIONAL	USD50	INTERNATIONAL	USD150
STUDENT (LOCAL)	RM300	STUDENT (LOCAL)	RM50	STUDENT (LOCAL)	RM150
STUDENT (INTERNATIONAL)	USD 150	STUDENT (INTERNATIONAL)	USD 25	STUDENT (INTERNATIONAL)	USD100

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:



PROF. DR. IR. AI KOMARIAH
(UNIVERSITAS WINAYA MUKTI)



PROF. DR. IR. BOB FOSTER
(UNIVERSITAS INFORMATIKA AND BISNIS INDONESIA)



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Topic

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- Coastal and Ocean Engineering
- Maritime and Naval Technology
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Track 2: Engineering Physics and Instrumentations Sub-Track:



- Energy Technology
- Renewable Technology
- Materials Science and Engineering
- Manufacturing Technology

Track 3: Computer Science and Engineering Sub-Track:



- Software Engineering
- Intelligent Systems

Track 4: Environmental Technology and Engineering Sub-Track:



- Water Quality
- Air Quality
- Water Resources and Hydrology
- Waste Management

Track 5: Engineering Mathematics and Applications Sub-Track:



- Computational Mathematics
- Marine Data Analytics
- Financial Mathematics

Important Date

Abstract Submission
15 July 2023

Fullpaper Submission
31 October 2023



Abstract Acceptance Notification
30 July 2023

Payment Dateline
31 October 2023

Fees

REGISTRATION FEE	INTERNATIONAL	LOCAL
Oral (Physical) + Abstract	USD 150	RM 450
Oral (Online) + Abstract (For International Presenter Only)	USD 70	-
Publication	USD 250	RM 1000
Participant	USD 60	RM 250

Publication

Accepted full paper will be published in Journal of Advanced Research in Applied Sciences and Engineering Technology [*subjected to a reviewing process]



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- Advancement in Agro and Food Technology (Biotechnology, Nanotechnology, Precision Farming, Mobile Application, IoT, Sensors, Drones, Blockchain, 3D Printing, etc)
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Fees

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Local (Delegation)	RM550
Local (Student)	RM350
International	USD190
International (Online)	USD90
PARTICIPANT ONLY	
Local	RM350
International	USD125

Venue

Universiti Malaysia Terengganu,
Terengganu, *Malaysia*

Deadlines

- Abstract Submission: 15th Sep 2023
-31st Aug 2023-
- Notification of Acceptance: 22nd Sep 2023
-7th Sep 2023-
- Registration: 30th Sep 2023
-15th Sep 2023-
- Full Paper Submission: 15th Nov 2023

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