

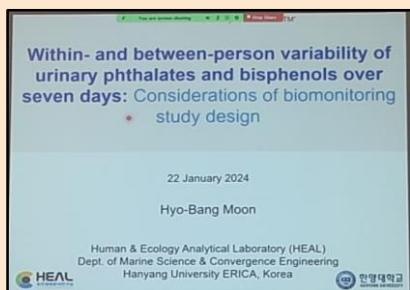
Institute of Medical Molecular Biotechnology Newsletter



UNIVERSITI
TEKNOLOGI
MARA

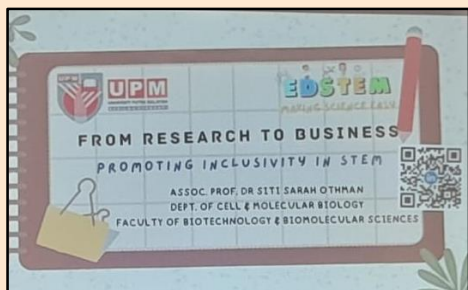
Institut
Bioteknologi
Perubatan
Molekul

Issue 40 | February 2024 | <https://immb.uitm.edu.my/>



The **IMMB INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES 01/2024**, held on 22nd January 2024, featured Prof. Dr. Hyo-Bang Moon from the **Department of Marine Sciences and Convergence Engineering** at **Hanyang University**, Ansan, Korea, as the invited speaker. Specializing in biomonitoring studies, Prof. Dr. Moon discussed the application of urine samples as trackers of LMW phthalates research with a presentation titled **“Within- and between-person variability of urinary phthalates and bisphenols over seven days: Considerations of biomonitoring study design.”** The webinar, moderated by Mr. Azhar Ahmad, was attended by 20 physical participants and 103 online participants, which included students and lecturers from UiTM.

IMMB RESEARCH TALK 2024 on 24th January 2024 also featured Prof. Dr. Hyo-Bang Moon. He discussed **“Feasibility of Biomonitoring Species for Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in The Environment.”** The lecture, chaired by Mr. Amir Muhaimin Akmal Shukri, who is our PhD student and the president of the **Medical Postgraduate Students Association (MediPA)**, attracted 30 participants. Prof. Moon's research primarily focuses on how Persistent Organic Pollutants remain in ecosystems and how we can monitor their levels, ultimately contributing to the development of effective strategies for environmental protection.



IMMB RESEARCH TALK 2024 on 18th January 2024, featured Assoc. Prof. Dr. Siti Sarah Othman from the **Faculty of Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences, University Putra Malaysia (UPM)**. She discussed on how to promote STEM education as a business with the title **“From Research to Business: Promoting Inclusivity in STEM.”** The lecture, chaired by Mr. Azhar Ahmad, attracted 25 participants. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sarah shared her experiences in starting a company, creating a product, and marketing it around Malaysia.

On 22nd January 2024, the **IMMB INTERNSHIP SHARING SESSION** was held before the interns completed their internships at IMMB. All of them shared their research experiences and findings on the projects they had done during their time there. **Nurul Atiqah binti Burhanddin** shared her project titled **“Insect Succession and Decomposition Stages on Fresh and Frozen-Thawed Fish Carcasses,”** where she examined the effect of freezing on the rate of carrion decomposition. **Nurul Shafiza binti Mohd Nidzam** shared her project entitled **“Black Soldier Fly and Rat Carcass Decomposition”** explaining how she observed Black Soldier Fly being used as a decomposition agent. **Fazreen Hazirah binti Zulkiflee** shared her experience with the title **“My 15 Weeks Experience.”** She discussed her experience working on projects in IMMB and how she had to abandon her project due to weather constraints and how she could change her methodology in the future.



VISIT FROM THE KELAB KESIHATAN, FACULTY OF ENGINEERING, UTeM MELAKA on 9th January 2024, IMMB is proud to receive 75 students from the Health Club for a visit to IMMB. Joining the visit were four lecturers from the **Faculty of Engineering, UTeM**, who were warmly welcomed taken on a tour by the officers and staff of IMMB. During this visit, various topics were discussed in depth including opportunities for further education, research collaboration, lifestyle of postgraduate students, maintenance of facilities, and technical supports in research work.

ACTIVITIES, INITIATIVES & INVOLVEMENT

MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY VISIT, will be scheduled on 5th March 2024. The preparation continued with an online meeting between the two parties. **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Heo Chong Chin** took the lead in coordinating this meeting, which served as the first formal discussion between the two parties regarding the visit. During this meeting, IMMB had the opportunity to provide insights into the purpose of the visit, the planned activities, and the current status of preparations. This allowed both parties to ensure that the visit would be productive and beneficial for all involved. Furthermore, Mahidol University expressed their intention to extend invitations to relevant faculty members who share common interests and expertise with our visiting delegation. This initiative aims to facilitate discussions and explore potential collaborations in research and learning between the two institutions.



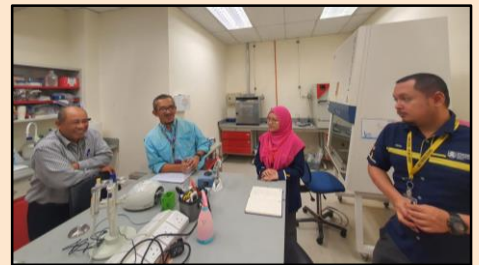
Majlis Eksekutif Universiti (MEU) Bil 01/2024 on the 29th January 2024. **Mr. Azhar Ahmad**, Senior Science Officer of IMMB, was invited to present an update on the development of the **UiTM LABORATORY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**. This system is the initial effort of IMMB to streamline and digitize laboratory record-keeping processes. The decision to develop this system followed extensive discussions with the **Infostructure Department** and science officers from different departments of UiTM. During this meeting, Mr. Azhar also presented the key features of this system, including inventory management, booking management, and maintenance record storage. These features are crucial for tracking the equipment in the laboratory. The development of the Laboratory Management System reflects UiTM's commitment to enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of laboratory operations to better resource management and productivity in laboratory activities.

PHD VIVA VOCE. Congratulations to **Nur Fatimah Ronny Sham**, who is under the supervision of **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Johari Ibrahim** and co-supervised by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Narimah Abdul Hamid Hasani**, for successfully passing her PhD VIVA VOCE (MD 990) on 4th January 2024. Her PhD research title is "**Investigation of The Pathway involved in Acquired EMT6 Radioresistant Cells To Gamma-Ray Irradiation: In Vitro And In Vivo Studies.**" During her PhD journey, she successfully published a total of 6 papers with 3 as a main author and 3 as a co-author.



MSc VIVA VOCE. Congratulations to **Mohammad Daniel Shafiq Hassan**, who was under the supervision of **Dr. Norhafiza Razali** and co-Supervised by **Dr. Noor Fahitah Abu Hanipah** and **Prof. Dr. Renu Agarwal**, for successfully passing his MSc VIVA VOCE (MD 780) on 8th January 2024. The title of his MSc research is "**The Effects of Trans-Resveratrol on Transforming Growth Factor- β 2 Signalling Pathways via JNK and p38 on Fibronectin Deposition in Steroid-Treated Human Trabecular Meshwork Cells.**"

VISIT ON LABORATORY BIOSAFETY LEVEL 2 (BSL2). On 24th January 2024, members of the **UiTM Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC UiTM)** visited IMMB laboratory facilities involving in controlled use activities of Living Modified Organisms (LMO). The visit was led by **Hj Shaharin Sharif** and **Ts. Suhaihisam Mohd Saufi** to assess the laboratory's readiness to meet the requirements and comply with the terms and conditions outlined in the Biosafety Regulations 2007 and the Biosafety (Consent and Notification) Regulations 2010.



FORENSIC ENTOMOLOGY WORKSHOP WITH THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE (NUS). On 10th January 2024, a **pre-departure briefing** for the workshop was held online via Zoom. The briefing between NUS, IMMB, and the students provided some insights into the activities, including fieldwork and visits throughout the workshop. This workshop marks the second iteration since its inaugural session in February 2023. The organization of this workshop also serves as an effort to strengthen international cooperation between UiTM and NUS, as stated in the MoA signed in 2023. Approximately 37 NUS students will participate in the workshop, which will be conducted by lecturers and facilitators from the Faculty of Medicine, UiTM.

"Every second is a fresh beginning." – T.S. Eliot



Welcome to
Malaysia

23 JAN '24



Meeting with the
top management of
Faculty of Medicine

24 JAN '24



Meeting with undergraduate
students and Prof. Dr. Effat

26 JAN '24



Research discussion with
postgraduate students.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE VISITING PROFESSOR

*Prof. Dr.
Hyo Bang Moon*

This visit was proudly organised
by the IMMB

24 JAN '24



Meeting with the Vice-Chancellor,
Prof. Datuk Dr. Shahrin Sahib @
Sahibuddin

26 JAN '24



Research presentation by
postgraduate students.



Research presentation by
postgraduate students.

*Till we meet
again...*

Get information on our upcoming:

International Webinar | Journal Club | Research Talk | Basic Lecture | Services |
Newsletter | Online Course | Workshop and everything else that you need to know about
IMMB on our media social platforms.

**BULLETIN 'S EDITORIAL TEAM: EDITORIAL ADVISOR - AP. DR. HEO CHONG CHIN.
EDITOR IN CHIEF - MOHD YUSRI IDORUS. CONTENT EDITOR - SITI NUR NABILAH HUSSIN.
COPY EDITOR - HAZRUL NIZAM HISHAM HASMI.**