

Institute of Medical Molecular Biotechnology Newsletter



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IMMB International Webinar Series 2024: Dr. Yudy Explores Medicolegal System in Indonesia. On 17th October 2024, the IMMB International Webinar Series 2024 featured an insightful session with Dr. Yudy from the **Department of Forensic Medicine & Medicolegal at Cipto Mangunkusumo National General Hospital and the Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta.** Dr. Yudy's presentation, titled "Medicolegal System in Indonesia," attracted 86 participants and was chaired by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Heo Chong Chin.** Dr. Yudy provided a comprehensive overview of forensic pathology in Indonesia, covering its historical development and handling forensic pathology cases. He elaborated on the **Criminal Justice System (KUHP) framework in Indonesia** and discussed the complexities and challenges faced by professionals in clinical forensic medicine. Emphasizing the role of inter-agency collaboration, Dr. Yudy highlighted instances where coordination with various government bodies is essential to manage complex cases effectively.

On 22nd October 2024, the **IMMB International Research Talk** series featured **Dr. Tobi Nagel**, a Fulbright Global Scholar and the **Founder & President of Phages for Global Health**, presenting "**An Important Tool to Help Combat the Antibiotic Resistance Crisis.**" Dr. Nagel explored the use of bacteriophage viruses that specifically target bacteria as a promising solution to the rapidly growing problem of antibiotic resistance. While bacteriophage therapy has a long history, its use was largely overshadowed by the rise of antibiotics. However, with increasing rates of antibiotic-resistant infections, phage therapy is regaining attention as a low-cost, effective alternative that could lessen our dependence on traditional antibiotics. This talk was chaired by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wang Seok Mui** engaged 17 attendees, including students and staff, fostering valuable discussions on the role of phage therapy in addressing modern medical challenges.



Congratulations to **Mrs. Iman Nabilah Abd Rahim!** We are thrilled to announce that Mrs. Iman Nabilah Abd Rahim, a PhD student under the supervision of **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Noor Alicezah Mohd Kasim** and co-supervisor **Prof. Dr. Effat Omar, Prof. Dr. Hapizah Md Nawawi,** and **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suhaila Abdul Muid,** has been awarded the **Best Mini-Oral Presentation at the 13th International Congress on Lipid & Atherosclerosis (ICoLA 2024).** The conference occurred on 26th to 28th September 2024, at the **CONRAD Seoul** in the Republic of Korea. Her remarkable research, titled "**A Novel Therapeutic Agent for Inducing Atherosclerosis Regression: Mechanistic Insights into Saffron Extract,**" showcases her dedication and innovative contributions to the field. Congratulations, Iman, on this well-deserved recognition!

Milestone Moments: PhD Success. We are excited to announce that **Dr. Nur Adilla Zaini**, supervised by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Heo Chong Chin** and co-supervised by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jamal Houssaini, Dr. Lucas Low Van Lun, Dr. Siti Sofo Ismail.** **Dr. Norazirah Mat Nayan**, supervised by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rosfaizah Siran** and co-supervised by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Siti Hamimah Sheikh Abdul Kadir, Dr. Andrean Husin,** and **Dr. Melloney Patrick**, supervised by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suhaila Abd Muid** and co-supervised by **Dr. Wan Najwa Wan Mohd Zohdi, Prof. Dr. Effat Omar,** have completed their viva voce for their PhD studies at the IMMB. This remarkable achievement reflects their dedication and hard work and enhances IMMB's reputation as a premier research facility at the Faculty of Medicine UiTM. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the supervisors and co-supervisors for their invaluable support and guidance, which have been instrumental in nurturing the success of these PhD candidates. Their mentorship serves as an inspiration for other students within the IMMB. As the saying goes, "Success is best when shared," and we celebrate this collective achievement together



ACTIVITIES, INITIATIVES & INVOLVEMENT



Celebrating Excellence at IMMB! We are excited to shine a spotlight on the exceptional accomplishments of **Mr. Azhar Ahmad** and **Mrs. Norita Salim**, senior science officers in IMMB, who received the **Anugerah Tadbir Urus Kesukanan** and **Anugerah Tadbir Urus Kreatif dan Inovatif**. Their unwavering dedication, innovative spirit, and commitment to excellence were celebrated at the **Majlis Apresiasi Staf Fakulti Perubatan** on 14th October 2024. This event recognized their important contributions and the high standards of professionalism and creativity in our organization. At the event, **Mr. Mohd Ameer Azeedy**, an IMMB staff, received the award for the most sporting male staff member. **Congratulations!**



On 29th October 2024, the IMMB conducted a successful **spring-cleaning session** focused on the **-80°C freezers**. In charged by **Mr. Mohd Ameer Azeedy**, over 20 individuals participated, including dedicated **postgraduate students** and **IMMB staff**. Three **-80°C freezer units** were meticulously organized, with all samples from former students either properly sorted or disposed of, creating much-needed space for new users. This essential spring cleaning optimizes storage capacity, supports the longevity of our equipment, and ensures the integrity of active sample inventories. Maintaining these standards is crucial for upcoming research projects and ensures our facilities remain in shape. We thank all participants for their commitment and teamwork in keeping our storage facilities efficient, organized, and prepared for future research endeavors. **Thank you for your hard work.**

On 23rd October 2024, the **Graduate Employability Program (GradReady 2024)**, organized by **MediPA** in collaboration with **IMMB**, brought together 35 postgraduate students eager to develop essential career skills. This one-day event featured hands-on sessions led by industry experts, offering insights into resume writing, interview techniques, and professional communication. The day began with **Dr. Tuan Sarifah Aini Syed Ahmad** from **UiTM Seremban**, who conducted a resume-writing workshop showcasing relevant experiences. **Dr. Low Kheng Oon**, **Senior Scientist at the Malaysia Genome & Vaccine Institute**, shared strategic interview techniques designed to build confidence and handle common questions. Finally, **Mr. Mohammad Nor Affiq**, **Broadcast Journalist at Media Prima Television Network**, provided practical communication tips tailored to professional settings. The interactive format encouraged participants to engage, ask questions, and share their experiences, creating a supportive learning environment. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with attendees highlighting the program's practical, real-world guidance. MediPA and IMMB extend their heartfelt thanks to all attendees, making GradReady 2024 a meaningful step in empowering students for career success.

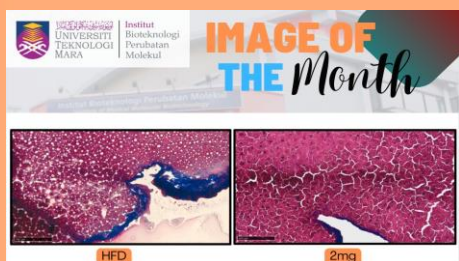


Image courtesy of Arifah Ahmad Damahuri, PhD student under supervision of Dr. Nasibah Azme

The figure shows **Masson's trichrome staining in liver tissues of ApoE knockout mice**. It was used to visualize the collagen deposition, indicated in the blue-stained area. The images were scanned via Hamamatsu Nanozoomer S60. The areas of blue-stained were quantified using Aperio ImageScope. HFD group (untreated ApoE-/- mice fed high-fat diet): high in collagen deposition. 2mg group (2mg of celastrol treated ApoE -/- mice fed high-fat diet): low in collagen deposition. Celastrol was found to have therapeutic properties that modulate the effect of fibrosis in the liver.

Scan Me



"Knowledge has always been power and wealth." Tun Dr. Mahathir



PROGRAM LESTARI ALAM MEDIPA 2024 :

Nature & Sustainability in Action. On 19th October 2024, Program Lestari Alam MediPA 2024 brought together 44 passionate postgraduate students and IMMB staff at Tanjung Tuan Recreational Forest and Pantai Tanjung Biru, Port Dickson. Organized by MediPA, the event was a hands-on commitment to environmental care and sustainability. Highlights included scenic hikes through forest trails, a chance to connect with nature, and a beach cleanup promoting healthier coastlines. Participants gained a sense of accomplishment, leaving inspired to adopt sustainable practices in daily life. MediPA extends gratitude to everyone who joined and made this day memorable. Looking forward to more initiatives for a greener future

