

Institute of Medical Molecular Biotechnology Newsletter



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Issue 51 | January 2024 | <https://immb.uitm.edu.my/>

IMMB 2024 STATS	INTERNAL & EXTERNAL ADVISORY MEETING 2	RESEARCH TALK & BASIC LECTURE 10	TOWNHALL WITH STUDENT & SUPERVISOR 2	SEMINAR HALA TUJU & PERANCANGAN STRATEGIK IMMB 1	COMMUNITY PROGRAM JUNIOR SCIENTIST DAY & BUBUR LAMBUK 1
4	TECHNICAL & SAFETY TALK 12	4	APPRECIATION & EID FEAST 2	MOU & MOA 2	VISIT TO IMMB 19
INTERNATIONAL VISITING SCIENTIST & PROFESSOR	11	RAMADAN TALK	ONE-TO-ONE TRAINING 3	6	WORKSHOP & DEMONSTRATION
	INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES	16	JOURNAL CLUB		



IMMB Welcomes International Visiting Professor. IMMB had the privilege of hosting **Prof. Dr. Hyo-Bang Moon**, a distinguished professor from the **Department of Marine Science and Convergence Engineering, Hanyang University, Seoul, Korea**, from **13th to 17th January 2025**. His visit was part of IMMB's ongoing initiative to foster international academic collaboration and enhance research excellence. Throughout his stay, Prof. Dr. Moon engaged in discussions with researchers, postgraduate students, and medical students from the Faculty of Medicine, UiTM, facilitating valuable knowledge-sharing and academic discourse. Such visits serve as a platform for **knowledge exchange**, providing researchers and students with exposure to **cutting-edge technologies, innovative research methodologies, and global trends in biomedical sciences**. Additionally, they strengthen **international research collaborations**, expand opportunities for joint research projects, and accelerate the exchange of ideas that could lead to groundbreaking discoveries. The interaction with international experts also serves as a source of inspiration for students and academic staff, enriching their learning experiences and paving the way for **academic exchange programs and international research opportunities**.



IMMB INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES
#WS 01/2025 (HYBMM)

OCCURRENCE AND EXPOSURE OF LEGACY AND NOVEL PLASTICIZERS IN INDOOR DUST FROM KOREA AND MALAYSIA: FINDINGS FROM AN ELECTIVE PROGRAM ACTIVITY

Wednesday
15 January 2025
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
(Malaysian Time)

VENUE
IMMB Level 1
Meeting Room 1
Faculty of Medicine
UiTM Sarawak, Kuching

ONLINE PARTICIPATION

PROF. DR. HYO-BANG MOON
Professor at the Department of Marine Science and Convergence Engineering, Hanyang University, Seoul, Korea

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The **IMMB International Webinar Series 2025** took place on the **15th and 16th of January 2025**, featuring **Prof. Dr. Hyo-Bang Moon**, a renowned professor from the **Department of Marine Science and Convergence Engineering, Hanyang University, Seoul, Korea**. On **15th January**, Prof. Dr. Moon delivered a compelling talk titled **"Occurrence and Exposure of Legacy and Novel Plasticizers in Indoor Dust from Korea and Malaysia: Findings from an Elective Program Activity."** He shared his expertise on the widespread presence of plasticizers—chemicals extensively used in consumer products—and their impact on indoor environments. The session provided valuable insights into **everyday exposure to plasticizers**, the different types encountered, and their potential effects. The talk was moderated by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Wang Seok Mui** and facilitated an engaging discussion on this pressing environmental issue.



On **16th January**, Prof. Dr. Moon led another insightful session titled **"Practical Keys to Success in Academic Publishing: Lessons from a Journal Editor."** He provided practical guidance on publishing research papers from an editor's perspective and offered key strategies for academic success. Moderated by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Heo Chong Chin**, this hybrid session attracted over **900 participants**, sparking lively discussions and valuable exchanges on academic publishing best practices.

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"The only way to do great work is to love what you do" - Steve Jobs

ACTIVITIES, INITIATIVES & INVOLVEMENT

IMMB Research Talk: IRT 01/2025. The first IMMB Research Talk of 2025 took place on **9th January**, featuring **AP. Dr. Chong Chun Wie**, Deputy Head of School-Research, School of Pharmacy, Monash University Malaysia. An expert in **environmental microbial ecology and the human gut microbiome**, Dr. Chong delivered an insightful presentation titled "Influences of Ethnicity, Diets, and Lifestyles on the Gut Microbiota of Co-inhabiting Multi-Ethnic Communities: Malaysia and Singapore Perspectives." The talk explored gut microbiota variations among **Chinese, Indian, and Malay populations** in Malaysia and Singapore—two neighboring countries with similar ethnic compositions but differing economic statuses. The study also incorporated findings from Malaysia's indigenous Jakun community, offering a broader perspective on how ethnicity, diet, and lifestyle influence gut health. The session, attended by 24 participants and chaired by Ms. Siti Aisyah Mokhtar, sparked engaging discussions, emphasizing the significance of microbial ecology in diverse populations.



IMMB Delegation Visits Air Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) Malaysia. On **13th December 2024**, IMMB representatives **Mr. Azhar bin Ahmad**, **Mr. Yusri bin Idrus**, and **Mr. Hazrul Nizam bin Hisham Hasmi** visited the **Air Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) Malaysia** to discuss IMMB's upcoming event, **Global Classroom: Forensic Science**. The primary objective of this delegation was to seek **guidelines and approval** from AAIB to facilitate a participant visit as part of the program. AAIB was selected as one of the visit locations due to its **expertise and experience in air crash investigations**, which align with forensic science principles. During the visit, the **IMMB representatives** met with **AAIB inspectors Lt. Colonel Mohd Sani bin Shafie and Colonel Juma'in bin Saadon**, who provided a comprehensive briefing on AAIB's core functions and investigative processes. The delegation also had the opportunity to tour **AAIB's specialized laboratories**, where air incident investigations are conducted. This visit served as a valuable platform for knowledge exchange and strengthened collaborative efforts between **IMMB and AAIB** to promote forensic science education.

IMMB Journal Club 2025 Kicks Off with an Insightful Presentation on Human Identification. The **IMMB Journal Club 2025** commenced on **January 8th, 2025**, featuring an enlightening presentation by **Nur Damia Iwani binti Zulkiflee**. She delivered an engaging talk titled **Morphological Analysis of Frontal Sinus for Human Identification Amongst Malaysians: A Skull Radiograph and Computed Tomography Study**. During her presentation, she provided an in-depth overview of her study, which focuses on the distribution of **frontal sinus patterns** among adult Malaysians. The frontal sinus was chosen due to its **unique anatomical features**, which vary across populations, making it a valuable tool for human identification. The study examined **three major Malaysian ethnic groups**, analyzing frontal sinus patterns based on their presence or absence, symmetry (right or left dominance), unilateral or bilateral absence, and lobulation characteristics. The session, expertly chaired by Mr. Muhaimin Shukri, attracted an impressive 668 online participants and gave attendees valuable insights into the potential of frontal sinus morphology in forensic and anthropological research. Stay tuned for more thought-provoking sessions in the IMMB Journal Club 2025!



We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the **MediPA 2023/24 Committee**, led by **Mr. Amir Muhaimin bin Akmal Shukri**, for their unwavering dedication and hard work in enhancing the postgraduate experience at the Faculty of Medicine. Throughout their tenure, they successfully organized impactful initiatives such as **GradReady 2024, Program Lestari Alam MediPA 2024, Program Ihya ramadan Medipa-IMMB, Career Forum, and The Medipa Health Talk 2024 On Colorectal**

Cancer. Their efforts have significantly elevated MediPA's presence within the medical community, fostering professional growth and camaraderie among members. We sincerely thank them for their commitment and wish them the very best in their future endeavours.

A warm congratulations to the newly appointed **MediPA 2024/25 Committee**, led by **Ms. Anis Syahirah binti Mohd Shafie**. We welcome them and look forward to their leadership in continuing MediPA's mission of supporting and empowering the medical postgraduate community. With their dedication, we are confident that they will build upon the strong foundation laid by their predecessors, driving MediPA to greater heights. May their journey be filled with success, collaboration, and meaningful contributions to the association.



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IMAGE OF THE Month



Figure A



Figure B



Figure C

Image courtesy of Lailatul Nadhirah binti Asri, PhD student under the supervision of Dr. Wan Norafikah binti Othman

The two *Aedes* species shown in the figures are recognized as the primary vectors for the transmission of dengue fever. The **white band** (red arrows) on the thorax distinguishes them. The *Aedes albopictus* (Figure A) has a single band, while the *Aedes aegypti* (figure B) has a diverted white band. The male *Aedes albopictus* also has **plumose antennae**, as shown in Figure C.

UPCOMING EVENT

Join us at ICMBB2025!

The 8th International Conference on Molecular Biology & Biotechnology, hosted by the Faculty of Medicine, UiTM and the Malaysian Society of Molecular Biology & Biotechnology (MSMBB), is happening this June!

- Date: 25-26 June 2025
- Venue: UiTM Sungai Buloh Campus, Selangor, Malaysia
- Theme: Revolutionizing Molecular Biology & Biotechnology with AI: Transforming Data for Impactful Innovation
- Key Highlights:
 - Abstract Submission Deadline: 15 April 2025
 - Oral & Poster Presentations on cutting-edge research in Agriculture, Medicine, Environment, and more
 - Cash prizes for Best Presenters
 - Early Bird Registration (until 28 March 2025)
 - Submit abstracts: <https://themsmbboffice.wixsite.com/8thicmbb2025>

➤ Let's innovate together!



2024
end year
recap

