

Institute of Medical Molecular Biotechnology Newsletter



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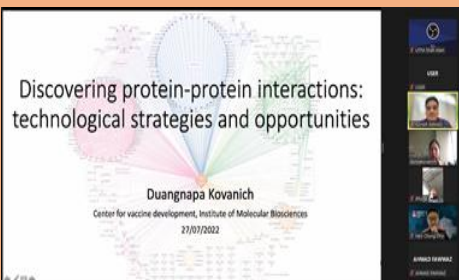
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MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MoA) EXCHANGE CEREMONY. This ceremony was attended by a total of 28 distinguished guests from UiTM, led by the VC, **Professor Datuk Ts. Dr Hajah Roziah Mohd Janor**, **Mr. Alex Foo** from **Spanish Embassy** and honorable representatives from **Berjaya EnviroParks**, **Entomo Agroindustrial**, **MOHE**, **MIGHT**, **JSPN** and **DBKL**. Through this collaboration, a research project titled **“Innovative, Ecological, Low Cost Solution for Organic Waste and Waste Water Treatment”** will be carried out by the project leader, **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Heo Chong Chin**, **Dr Tania Ivorra**, **Dr. Abby Jones** and PhD student, **Nur Aliah Natasha Azmi** with an allocation of **RM350,200.00** by **DANA PENYELIDIKAN PADANAN ANTARABANGSA (MYPAIR)**. We hope that this collaboration and understanding between UiTM, Berjaya EnviroParks and Entomo Agroindustrial can open the way and opportunities for collaboration, and transfer of expertise, technology and skills, especially in research. This will directly and indirectly impact all levels of UiTM and further encourage research activities and the exploration of international collaborations in the future.



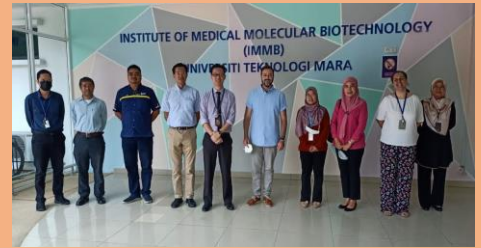
IMMB BENCHMARK VISIT TO UKM MEDICAL MOLECULAR BIOLOGY INSTITUTE (UMBI). This visit was held on 5 July 2022. A total of 13 staff led by IMMB Director, **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Heo Chong Chin**, **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jamal Hussaini** and **Dr. Azdayanti Muslim** as IMMB Niche Members, were involved in this visit. This visit was also attended by Deputy Dean Research & Innovation, Faculty of Medicine UiTM, **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Thuhairah Hasrah Abdul Rahman**. We were greeted by **UMBI Director, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nor Azian Abdul Murad** and **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Low Teck Yew**, the **Senior Research Fellow** of UMBI who is also **IMMB External Advisor**. During this visit, we were presented and exposed to the research activities, laboratory operations, facilities, and research environment at UMBI. This visit and experience sharing was very useful as a guide to improving IMMB as a research platform and service provider for the Faculty of Medicine UiTM.



IMMB INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES 04/2022 was conducted on 27 July 2022. The invited speaker was **Dr. Duangnapa Kovanich** from **Mahidol University, Thailand**. She shared with the audience her research interests and current research entitled **“Discovering Protein-Protein Interactions: Technological strategies and opportunities.”** Her research interest is to understand disease processes through the application of modern tools of molecular and cell analysis. This includes molecular mechanisms and pathways involved. This talk was successfully attended by 35 participants.

ACTIVITIES, INITIATIVES & INVOLVEMENT

SITE VISIT FROM BERJAYA ENVIROPARKS & ENTOMO AGROINDUSTRIAL-SPAIN. IMMB is proud to receive representatives from **Berjaya Enviroparks**, **Mr. Peter Wong**, and from **Entomo Agroindustrial** from Spain, **Mr. Juan Antonio Cortés** on 13 July 2022. Both parties are part of the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) Exchange between UiTM, Berjaya Enviroparks and Entomo Agroindustrial. The visit to the IMMB laboratory facilities was led by the Director of IMMB, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Heo Chong Chin.



IMMB BASIC LECTURE 2022 was conducted on 6 July 2022, with **Dr. Lim Fei Tieng** from **HiTech Instruments Sdn. Bhd.** as an invited speaker. In this session, she shared her expertise on the topic entitled **“Use of TEM in Medical Research.”** This is an important topic, especially for students who are working with microscopes and microscopic images in their research. In this session, she shared the types of electron microscopes, the differences of each type, and the advantages, especially TEM microscopes. This talk was chaired by Mr. Tuan Muhd Hafidz and was attended by 25 participants.

IMMB RESEARCH TALK 2022 was conducted on 20 July 2022. The invited speaker was **Dr. Tania Ivorra**, **Research Fellow, Faculty of Medicine UiTM**. In this talk, she shared with the audience the topic entitled **“My Work in Different Countries: Malaysia, Poland and Spain.”** Throughout this talk, she shared her journey and experiences working in three different countries. She encouraged the audience to travel to foreign countries to experience different and enjoyable experiences because travel broadens the mind. This talk was chaired by Mrs. Salina Othman and was attended by 25 participants.

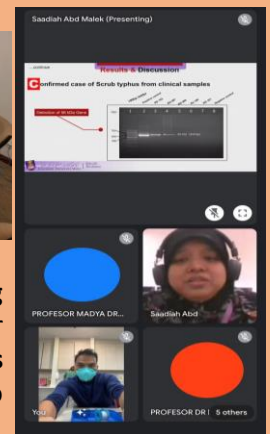


FC-BIOS TALK- AUTOCLAVE SAFETY & OPERATION GUIDELINES was held on 7 July 2022. **Mr Jason Koh** (Application & Technical Support) and **Mr. Krubananden** (Assistant Service Manager) from **FC BIOS Sdn. Bhd.** were invited as trainers. This training involved theory and hands-on sessions. The main objective was to give an understanding of the correct method for liquid, solid and waste sterilization, as well as guidelines for effective sterilization. This training was successfully attended by 22 new users of the autoclave.

DISCUSSION WITH INNOVEAM SDN. BHD. A session with **Mr. Zaihasra MS**, the **Business Development Executive (New Media & Education)** from **INNOVEAM SDN BHD**, was held on 19 July 2022. Innoveam offered the latest ICT technologies through analysis, simulation and visualization of 3D datasets to provide convenience for students and academicians, especially during the organization of workshops and classes.



MSc student, **Sa'adiyah Binti Abdul Malek**, who is under the supervision of **Assoc. Prof. Dr Wang Seok Mui** successfully defended her Master of Science (Medicine) (MD 780) on 5 July 2022. Her research title is **“Molecular Typing of Scrub, Murine and Spotted Fever Rickettsial Typhus Among Adults Admitted To Teluk Intan Hospital”**. This session was attended by a total of two examiners who are experts in the field of Biomedical Science and Microbiology.



WELCOME TO DR. ABBY JONES. She is a **POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER** under the supervision of **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Heo Chong Chin**. She graduated with a Bachelor's (Double major in Forensic and Investigative Sciences and Entomology) from Texas A&M University in 2018 and with a PhD (Major in Biological Sciences) from Mississippi State University in 2022. Her fields of interest include forensic science, entomology, ecology and mass mortality.

“It always seems impossible until it’s done.” – Nelson Mandela

FAREWELL

FAREWELL TO THE DEDICATED AND SUPPORTIVE IMMB MEMBERS. IMMB would like to acknowledge and say a big Thank You to Mr. Abu Thalhah Bin Haji Abdul Aziz (2009-2022) and Mrs. Ummu Fatin Maghfirah binti Mohd (2020-2022) for their dedication and contribution as IMMB staff. We wish them all the best in their next venture and continue to succeed in their new career



Upcoming Events

**"SEMINAR ASAS PENGENDALIAN BAHAN KIMIA"
IMMB BASIC LECTURE
WEDNESDAY, 17 AUGUST 2022, 12:00 PM - 13:00 PM
CHM. HAJATUN RABANI BINTI AHMAD RAZIF
REGISTERED CHEMIST,
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING STUDIES, UITM SHAH ALAM**

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.

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER : DR. CHUA YUNG AN



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My name is Chua Yung An, currently working as a Post-doctoral Researcher at Institute of Pathology, Laboratory and Forensic Medicine (I-PPerForM), Universiti Teknologi MARA, under the supervision of Prof Datin Dr Hapizah Nawawi. I am a PhD Scholar, graduated from Universiti Sains Malaysia in 2016. My fields of interest include the genetics of lipid disorders, pharmacology, separation science and natural products. I am trained in next-generation sequencing (NGS), polymerase chain reaction (PCR), high-performance liquid chromatography, liquid-liquid and solid phase extraction for both biological samples and natural products.

Over the span of six years of my tenure in I-PPerForM, I have published >20 full papers in indexed journals and presented >40 abstracts in various national and international scientific conferences. I was the recipient of the Ten Countries Familial Hypercholesterolaemia (FH) Exchange Program Scholarship (2017), awarded by the Asian-Pacific Society of Atherosclerosis and Vascular Diseases (APSAVD) and the Ten Countries Study Group.

Under the FH Exchange Program, I underwent attachment at the University of Western Australia and Fiona Stanley Hospital in Perth, Australia, and successfully brought back the technical skills for the investigation of FH variant pathogenicity in Malaysia. I am one of the pioneer scientists in describing the genetic makeup of FH patients in Malaysia by employing targeted NGS method. My patron professor and I are the first to report the prevalence of FH in Malaysia.

My team members and I have won 2 innovation gold awards for the invention of a web-based screening tool for FH (2019), and one silver award for the formulation of a rapid PCR kit for the detection of FH variants in Malaysia (2022). I am actively involved in organising events, patient recruitment and biosample analysis for the Malaysian Health & Wellbeing Assessment (MyHEBAT) study group, a national health screening programme focusing on reporting the coronary risk factors among the Malaysian population. I appreciate passionate and sincere working ethics. I strongly believe that tough jobs can be accomplished by working together, and everybody believes in the objectives. Keep pulling things together and be nice to each other, and we shall achieve great feats.

