Institute of Medical Molecular Biotechnology Newsletter



UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA Institut Bioteknologi Perubatan Molekul

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MAJLIS SANJUNG SARJANA UITM 2022 organized by the Office of Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research & Innovation UiTM was held on 2 June 2022. This inaugural event was to celebrate and appreciate the efforts of UiTM researchers with 11 categories of awards given. Congratulations to the IMMB Director, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Heo Chong Chin, who was selected for PATENTS GRANTED 2021 award and IMMB former director, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Siti Hamimah Sheikh Abdul Kadir for the TOP Q1 AUTHORS -CORRESPONDING/UITM FIRST AUTHOR award. These are some of many recognitions for both of them who have been involved in many international publications in their respective fields.

WEBINAR SHARING SESSION (MyPAIR) MALAYSIA-SPAIN INNOVATING PROGRAMME (MySIP). IMMB Director, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Heo Chong Chin was invited to share his experience & knowledge about this programme. This webinar was organized by Research Management Centre (RMC) under the Office of Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research & Innovation on 10 June 2022 through Webex medium. During this session, he shared the procedures & process on how to apply for the grant from the beginning until the end. Apart from inspiring others, we hope that the achievements and engagements among researchers will be enhanced and internationalized through this kind of research collaboration.





SEMINAR PENGURUSAN SISA MAKMAL was organized on 14 June 2022. En. Shaifull Naim Othman, Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif, Sailcott (M) International Sdn. Bhd. was invited as a speaker. He is specialized in scheduled waste management since 2014. During the talk, he shared his experience and knowledge on the proper management of chemical and biological waste, waste transportation, and safe disposal of scheduled waste and clinical waste. This talk was chaired by Mr. Ammer Azezzy and attended by 82 participants from different departments. This seminar was held in the hope that these participants will properly manage laboratory waste when doing laboratory work later.

IMMB BASIC LECTURE 2022 was conducted on June 15, 2022. The invited speaker was **Prof. Dr. Mohd Zamrin Dimon (Cardiothoracic Surgeon at HUITM)**. In this lecture, he shared with the audience the topic entitled **"Annapurna Base Camp: Misi Mencari A'fiah."** He talked about his amazing adventures and travels, which greatly motivated the audience. At the end of this lecture, he highlighted the things that must be done when organizing a climbing activity like this, including having clear goals, being prepared and determined, having a strategy and teamwork, etc. This talk was moderated by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Heo Chong Chin and was attended by 46 participants.





"HOW TO USE A MICROPLATE READER?" workshop was held on 16 June 2022. Ms. Koe Xue Fen & Ms. Ngan Xue Yi, application scientists from Neoscience Sdn. Bhd. were invited as trainers. During this workshop, both speakers shared their knowledge and experiences in concepts, handling and analysis of Perkin Elmer VICTOR X5 and Victor Nivo S. For better understanding, participants were given the hands-on opportunity on software analysis in this workshop. This training was successfully attended by around 22 users of the microplate reader. As part of this training, one unit microplate reader, Perkin Elmer Victor Nivo S was placed in IMMB for 2 weeks.

ACTIVITIES, INITIATIVES & INVOLVEMENT

PRE CHEMICAL HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT (CHRA) VISIT. This visit took place on 1 June 2022. A total of five staff from **Medi-Ihsan Occupational Safety and Health Sdn Bhd**, led by **Dr. Ahmad Fairuz**, were involved in this visit. The objectives of this visit were: to identify the hazards usage within the workplace; to evaluate the degree of exposure to hazardous chemicals; to evaluate the adequacy of existing control measures; and to recommend further appropriate control measures and actions to prevent or reduce risks.





CHEMICAL STORE SPRING CLEANING DAY. This bi-annual event was conducted on 21 June 2022. Around 15 users were present during this clean-up session. The cleaning process involved the removal of unused or expired chemicals to optimize the storage space. This allows more chemicals to be stored in an organized manner and for easy access. This activity was conducted and supervised by Mrs. Ummu Fatin Maghfirah.

BENCHMARKING VISIT FROM FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES. This visit took place on 1 June 2022. A total of five officers from the Faculty of Health Sciences, led by **Puan Nor Shahida Abd Rahman**, were involved in this visit. The delegate was greeted by IMMB Officers, Puan Norita Salim and En Azhar Ahmad. During this visit, the delegates were presented and exposed to the activities, facilities and research environment at IMMB. Various approaches to the daily operation and management of laboratories had also been shared by both parties to improve the level of management of their respective labs.





BENCHMARKING VISIT TO IMMB CHEMICAL STORE ON 17 JUNE 2022. IMMB had received seven staff from the **VORTEX TEAM** (the KIK team under the **Faculty of Applied Sciences**) as visitors. The visit was led by a senior lecturer from the Faculty of Applied Sciences, **Dr. Siti Aimi Sarah Zainal Abidin**. Among the focuses discussed during the visit were: safety management, chemical management and disposal, SDS and material inventory management and SOP compliance at the workplace. This visit and experience sharing was very useful for both parties as a guide to improving their respective chemical stores.



SITE VISIT by Dr. Ravindran Thayan, Head of Virology Unit of Institute Medical Research for (IMR), was held on 29 June 2022. A lot of matters were discussed for research including collaborations, facilities, research lab equipment, research strategies, grants and research focus.



Congratulations to our current PhD student, Mr Radzi Ikhsan Ahmad who is under the supervision of IMMB Internal Advisor, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Thuhairah Hasrah Abd Rahman for successfully presenting an oral presentation virtually at the 19th Annual Scientific Meeting, College of Pathologists, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia (CPathAMM) on 3 June 2022. The title of the presentation was "Apolipoproteins Enhance Dengue Virus Serotype 2 (DENV2) Infectivity on Human Hepatoma Cell Line (Huh-7)".



Congratulations to IMMB Internal Advisor, Dr. Noor Fahitah Abu Hanipah who was awarded as SILVER WINNER at Malaysia Technology Expo (MTE) 2022, which was held virtually on 20-24 June 2022. Her innovation entitled 'Tempero As Mobile Storage Container and Incubator For Medical Use' was under the category of Advanced Healthcare & Life Science. This was a collaboration project between the Faculty of Medicine & the Faculty of Electrical Engineering UiTM since 2020, led by Dr. Noor Fahitah from the Faculty of Medicine UiTM and Puan Naimah Mat Isa and Puan Tuan Notjihan Tuan Yaakob, both from the Faculty of Electric Engineering UiTM.

"If you want to go far in life, learn to be well-mannered and polite towards every single person you come across" - Mufti Menk



"MY WORK IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES: MALAYSIA, POLAND AND SPAIN" IMMB RESEARCH TALK WEDNESDAY, 20 JULY 2022, 12:00 PM - 13:00 PM DR. TANIA IVORRA RESEARCH FELLOW, FACULTY OF MEDICINE UITM

"DISCOVERING PROTEIN-PROTEIN INTERACTION : TECHNOLOGICAL STRATEGIES AND OPPORTUNITIES" IMMB INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES THURSDAY, 27 JULY 2022, 13:00 PM (GMT+8) DR. DUANGNAPA KOVANICH INSTITUTE OF MOLECULAR BIOSCIENCES, MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY SALAYA, NOKHON PATHOM, THAILAND





Title: To be announced soon IMMB RESEARCH TALK WEDNESDAY, 3 AUGUST 2022, 12:00 PM - 13:00 PM DR. KUHAN CHANDRU INSTITUT PERUBAHAN IKLIM, UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA, UKM

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GET TO KNOW OUR STAFF : NORITA SALIM Morita753@uitm.edu.my



Assalamualaikum and good day everyone. My name is Norita binti Salim, and I work in the scientific research department, IMMB as a science officer. I started with no relevant work experience. After nearly 17 years here, I've learned a lot from those around me and have experienced a lot of things. Knowledge sharing has always been a routine in my work involving the latest techniques and technologies employed, as the evolution of research technology happens all the time. The ability to adapt to changes places us at the forefront of our profession. As a scientific officer, I am not only in charge of the research laboratory, but I also teach and consult new students on cell culture and gene expressions using real-time PCR.



The development and execution of courses at IMMB that linked to my line of work improved my communication skills and expanded my network of professional contacts. Throughout my career, I have won Kumpulan Inovatif dan Kreatif (KIK) awards, international-level invention and innovation competitions, and been recognized as an excellent employee. All of these accomplishments resulted from teamwork, as the African saying goes, "If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together."

I am of the opinion that everyone, including myself, is susceptible to some flaws. For me, it is difficult to say NO to individuals. I always say YES to everything, even though I can't do it. In the past, taking on too many duties caused me to get overly anxious. Now, I take some time to assess my personal workload to make sure I have the capacity to commit to extra job duties before I say yes to anything. In summary, I will describe myself in three words: passion, resourcefulness, and loyalty. I'm always eager to do my job to the best of my ability. Meanwhile, resourcefulness indicates that I have numerous possibilities in dealing with certain types of technical challenges, and loyalty underlies everything I do. This is consistent with the vision and mission of UiTM. Last but not least, as part of a team, I will always support my superiors' short, medium, and long-term goals.

BULLETIN 'S EDITORIAL TEAM: EDITORIAL ADVISOR – AP. DR. HEO CHONG CHIN. EDITOR IN CHIEF – MOHD YUSRI. CONTENT EDITOR – ROSLINA ALI-SITI NUR NABILAH. LINE EDITOR – SARAH ZULKIFLI.