

UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

2023 REPORT



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FOREWORD



Assalamu'alaikum warahmatullah/Salam Sejahtera and warmest greetings.

When talking about sustainability, commonly it can be referred to as any activity that concerns the people, the environment and the related (economic) activities that occur daily, which can be sustained to benefit all in the long run.

In 2015, the United Nations then further defined the concept of sustainability according to different segments or universal goals to be met, all 17 of them, now widely known and referred to as the Sustainable Development Goals or SDGs.

Sustainability however encompasses a much broader concept, and all of which are connected (in one way or another). It is not about solely looking at the world through segments which are separated or disjointed. Taking the path towards sustainability can be seen as a never-ending and ever-widening journey.

In looking at the concept of sustainability of the planet, its people and all activities concerned, it would demand establishing a thorough understanding, a mindset and a commitment. It can be about collecting rainwater, using new energy saving methods, minimising food waste, resolving air and water pollution issues to issues involving infrastructures, consumption and production patterns, and eliminating hunger and poverty.

Strategic thinking would surely be needed too, from the grassroot practitioners to the topmost managers and administrators, all of which would be part of the lengthy journey.

Utilising the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as guidelines, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) has been working towards aligning its activities and programmes with those of the SDGs. In fact, the university has been doing so since 2008, where it was acknowledged by the Malaysian Ministry of Higher Education with the APEX (Accelerated Programme for Excellence) status, and recognising the vision and mission of the university to transform higher education for a sustainable tomorrow.

Defining the commitment towards sustainability through annual ranking exercises is just one way of looking at the achievements. What is more important would be how far we can sustain the quality of such efforts in the long run and with all the desired impact. Both scholars and communities involved in the arts and sciences would need to work much closely together, to overcome challenges and seeking solutions to new and different obstacles each day brings.

The Malaysian Government has also put sustainability at the front of its 6 MADANI pillars in charting a new pathway for the country. As a sustainability-led and research-intensive public university, it is also time for USM to continue on its journey into the future on its own sustainability pathway. Working together with the community and the industry will be one way to ensure that the university will run its course to fulfil the needs of the country. Making the ranks is one thing, ensuring that it leads all the way will be something else all together.

We Lead.

PROFESOR DATO' SERI IR. DR. ABDUL RAHMAN BIN MOHAMED (FASc)
Vice-Chancellor
Universiti Sains Malaysia

PREFACE DVC



Assalamu'alaikum warahmatullah and warmest greetings.

"Think Global, Act Local."

The above is now being commonly used as part of the catchphrase for sustainability. What was meant to relate originally to environmental inclusiveness has now become wider contextually. From small beginnings, any sustainability-related action at the local level could be then shared among communities and even expanded to a much bigger scale or at the global level.

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) has been at the forefront of sustainability since it received the 'APEX' acknowledgement from the Malaysian Ministry of Higher Education in 2008. The university community has since been involved in multiple activities relating to various aspects of sustainability.

Among the more recent initiatives would be the installation of solar panels throughout the campus to reduce utility costs; the continued practice of phasing out single plastic use in place of more sustainable alternatives; involvement in the nationwide programme of planting a million tree shoots, organising programmes on mangrove replanting and beach cleanups at selected locations, Green Office/ Hostel initiative and measures taken to ensure more efficient use of water and electricity all over the campus.

There are 17 Sustainable Development Goals or SDGs which have been set by the United Nations. They could serve as guidelines in implementing sustainability-related programmes or initiatives. The people, the planet and the economy need to be properly organised and regulated in order for all three elements to be in balance with each other.

Recent cases regarding environmental degradation and pollution, evidence of microplastic in many living organisms, increasing occurrences of unpredictable weather and displaced and marginalised communities facing further threat are among the issues that would require sustainable approaches to deal with them.

It is no longer 'business as usual' in coming up with sustainable solutions to these and other issues that would threaten and endanger the planet, mankind and their livelihood. These threats demand new ideas and approaches to mitigate or end them, within the local setting and then progressing to a wider, more global scale when required.

The involvement of the younger generation is essential, as they try to identify, understand, implement and assess their actions to create a more sustainable future. This is what USM is doing in its vision, mission, and actions, as its students and many others could now take the lead in making the world a more liveable place.

PROFESSOR DR. AZLAN BIN AMRAN
Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Industry and Community Network

INTRODUCTION

In an era where global challenges such as climate change, social inequality, and economic instability are increasingly prevalent, the commitment to sustainability has never been more crucial. Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) has consistently demonstrated its dedication to fostering sustainable development through education, research, and community engagement. As a leading institution of higher learning, USM recognizes its pivotal role in driving progress towards achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The USM Sustainability Development Goals (SDG) Report for 2023 highlights our ongoing efforts, achievements, and future plans to contribute to a more sustainable world. This report encapsulates our commitment to integrating sustainability into all aspects of university life, from our academic curriculum and research initiatives to our campus operations and community outreach programmes.

Throughout 2023, USM has undertaken numerous projects and initiatives aimed at addressing each of the 17 SDGs. This report provides a comprehensive overview of these efforts, showcasing the tangible impacts we have made locally, nationally, and globally. Our commitment to sustainability is reflected in our interdisciplinary approach, leveraging the expertise of our diverse academic community to tackle complex problems and drive meaningful change.

Key highlights of this year's report include advancements in clean energy research, innovative educational programmes promoting sustainability, and collaborative partnerships with local and international organizations. Notably, our initiatives to eliminate single-use plastics on campus, the Green Office/Green Desa awareness programmes, and our solar energy initiative stand out as significant strides towards fostering a sustainable campus environment. These initiatives not only contribute to the global SDG agenda but also enrich the educational experience of our students, preparing them to be responsible and impactful global citizens.

The No Single-Use Plastic initiative on campus aims to reduce plastic waste, promote recycling, and encourage the use of sustainable alternatives. This initiative has garnered widespread support from students, staff, and faculty, reflecting our collective commitment to environmental stewardship.

Our Green Office/Green Desa awareness programme is another cornerstone of our sustainability efforts. Among its objectives is the integration of sustainability into the university governance system to create an innovative and sustainable environment. This programme promotes eco-friendly practices, resource efficiency, and environmental consciousness within the university community, fostering a culture of sustainability that permeates every aspect of university operations.

Additionally, the solar energy initiative has been a pivotal project this year, underscoring USM's commitment to renewable energy. By installing solar panels across the campus, we aim to significantly reduce our carbon footprint and move towards a more sustainable energy model. This initiative not only demonstrates our leadership in environmental sustainability but also provides a practical learning platform for our students and researchers.

As we reflect on the progress made in 2023, we also recognize the challenges that lie ahead. Thetowards sustainability is ongoing, requiring continuous effort, innovation, and collaboration. USM remains steadfast in its commitment towards advancing the SDGs, and we look forward to building on our achievements to create a more sustainable future for all.


Image Credit: JPPP, USM



End poverty in all its forms everywhere

ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

KAMPRI Programme Assists B40 Students with Communication Skills

The 'Kami Prihatin (KAMPRI)' programme at Universiti Sains Malaysia has benefitted over 500 B40 students since its inception in 2015. Organized by volunteers and the USM Student Development Affairs and Alumni Division, the initiative helps students enhance their self-potential and communication skills. Led by Calvin Choong Hoon Guan, the programme involves certified coaches from various industries who mentor students through in-person and online sessions. The programme also includes English language instruction to prepare students for the business world.

USM and Walailak University Release 5 Million Baby Crabs in Thailand

USM and Walailak University (WU) collaborated on the release of approximately 5 million baby Blue Swimming Crabs into the sea at Nai Thung Fisherman Village. This initiative, part of the USM-WU Mobility Programme, aims to restore crab populations and support local fisheries. The Crab Bank project, led by Dr. Amonsak Sawusdee, has improved crab yields and engaged local communities, supporting sustainable development goals and enhancing local livelihoods.

USM and TERAJU Venturing into Japanese Market

USM and TERAJU launched the SMART Community Programme to promote Sarawak products in Tokyo and Nagoya, Japan. This initiative benefits 233 B40 entrepreneurs in Sarawak by marketing local products like madu kelulut, pepper, gula apong, and Sarawak laksa paste. The programme includes knowledge transfer, technology, and research enhancements. The collaboration with Asia Bridge International and other partners aims to boost the economy and the socioeconomic status of the Bumiputera community.

USM Donates Over RM100,000 to Assist Palestinian Students

USM has donated over RM100,000 to aid 53 Palestinian students affected by the ongoing conflict in Gaza. This initiative aligns with the Ministry of Higher Education's support for Palestinian students. The donation was distributed through the USM Humanitarian Fund, providing RM2,000 to each student. The initiative was led by the Chairman of USM's Board of Governors, Dato' Seri Dr. Awang Adek Hussin, and supported by the USM Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed.

USM's SULUNG Programme Eases Financial Burden for Twins

Twins Hilma Yasarah and Hilma Yasirah Hussain, 19, are excited to pursue their studies together at USM. Their father, Hussain Shariff, expressed relief as the SULUNG Programme helps cover significant expenses, easing his financial worries. The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed, highlighted USM's commitment to supporting B40 students, ensuring their welfare through financial aid, mentoring, and coaching. The twins will study Mechatronic Engineering, aiming to improve their family's economic situation.

USM and Buddhist Tzu-Chi Merits Society Collaborate to Empower B40 Students

USM and the Buddhist Tzu-Chi Merits Society Malaysia have signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) to enhance the academic achievements of B40 students. This collaboration, led by IPPT and PPUSMB, includes personalized tutoring programs aimed at helping students excel in critical subjects. Since its inception in 2019, the initiative has expanded significantly, involving over 300 students and 120 USM volunteers, with financial support of RM20,000 from Tzu-Chi.

TEACHING/LEARNING

PTPTN Allocates RM231,000 to Assist 462 Needy USM Students

The National Higher Education Fund Corporation (PTPTN) allocated RM231,000 to aid 462 students from low-income families at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). Each eligible student received a one-off RM500 assistance through the KPT-PTPTN Prihatin Study Assistance programme. The presentation ceremony, attended by Higher Education Minister Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin, was held at USM's Al-Malik Khalid Mosque. This initiative aims to ease financial burdens and motivate students to excel in their studies.

OPERATION/INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

USM Prioritizes Student Welfare and Well-being

USM held the Program Siswa SULUNG USM ceremony, emphasizing student welfare and well-being. Vice-Chancellor Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed reiterated USM's commitment to providing quality education and ensuring student safety and welfare. Special attention is given to B40 and differently-abled students, with the aim of producing well-rounded graduates. The event also included the presentation of Siswa SULUNG offers and a RM24,000 donation for new student kits by the USM Islamic Center.

USM Urges Community to Be Role Models According to APEX Agenda

During the Maal Hijrah and Maulidur Rasul celebration, Vice-Chancellor Professor Dato' Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed encouraged the USM community to become impactful role models aligned with the APEX University Agenda. He highlighted USM's achievements through its research centers in aiding society and combating poverty. The event also recognized outstanding individuals and projects, emphasizing USM's commitment to community service and support for the B40 group, particularly through innovative initiatives like the Al Malik Square project.

USM Supports B40 Students with Welfare Aid

The Division of Student Development Affairs and Alumni (BHEPA) at USM organized the Majlis Semarak Siswa Madani event to aid B40 students. USM Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed, presented RM10,000 worth of device upgrade assistance to 20 students and RM3,000 in compassionate aid to 6 students. This initiative aims to ease students' financial burdens, enabling them to focus on their studies and improve their families' livelihoods.



End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

RESEARCH/INNOVATION

Sustainable Development Goals and Student Aid

USM has made commendable progress in working towards its sustainable development objectives, focusing on fostering a culture that upholds the values of peace, justice, and strong institutions. Through its strategic initiatives, the university has prioritized the well-being of its students by implementing a comprehensive zero hunger policy. This policy aims to provide crucial assistance to individuals within the university community who are grappling with the escalating expenses of daily living. As a tangible outcome of this proactive approach, a total of 9,168 students and staff members falling within the B40 income group—characterized by low to medium income—have directly benefited from the financial support provided. This exemplifies the university's steadfast commitment to ensuring that all members of its community have access to essential resources, thereby contributing to a more inclusive and supportive educational environment. During this time, the university has published 22 journals and patented 25 inventions and innovations.



ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

Campus Community Celebrates Aidiladha with Gratitude

USM celebrated Hari Raya Aidiladha with a focus on faith and devotion. The event began with the Aidiladha Sunat Prayer, attracting over 1,000 participants, including the USM community, the public, and international students. Ustaz Nukman Ahmad Zakir delivered a sermon on gratitude, while Vice-Chancellor Professor Dato' Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed highlighted the importance of appreciating blessings and sacrifice. A unique feature was the inclusion of a 750 kg sado cow, alongside 20 cows and 20 goats, for the Qurban ritual. The celebration emphasized gratitude, humility, and unity within the USM community.

PERKOM Eases Burden of B40 Students with Food Distribution

The Communication Society (PERKOM) at USM organized a food distribution activity to assist B40 students during Ramadan. Led by PERKOM President, Nurul Syazwina Adlina Mohd Sirat, the initiative provided 50 packs of 'bubur lambuk' to underprivileged students, especially from the School of Communication. The program aimed to support students facing financial difficulties and promote community welfare. Volunteers prepared and distributed the meals, reflecting PERKOM's commitment to charity and societal contribution.

TEACHING/LEARNING

USM Islamic Centre Welcomes New Student Intake, Embracing Madani Concept

The USM Islamic Centre has fervently organized a grand Madani Feast at Masjid Al-Malik Khalid USM to warmly welcome the influx of new students for the highly anticipated Academic Session 2023/2024. This significant event represents a resolute commitment to embracing the Madani concept and wholeheartedly fulfilling Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 1 and 2, No Poverty and Zero Hunger. With a strong sense of purpose, the Islamic Centre is meticulously planning to provide a diverse range of both vegetarian and non-vegetarian menus, ensuring that the dietary needs of all 3,000 new students at the USM Main Campus are thoughtfully catered to. Moreover, the Islamic Centre is unwaveringly determined to establish a dedicated Student Kitchen or host a weekly feast, with the unyielding goal of providing free meals for 300 to 400 USM students. This unwavering commitment to meeting the nutritional needs of the student body demonstrates the Islamic Centre's profound dedication to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for all students, ensuring that no student goes without a nutritious meal.

SUKYA 2023 Gives Orphans a Taste of University Life

The 12th National Orphans Sports Festival (SUKYA) was held at USM from 25 to 30 August 2023. Approximately 3,500 orphans experienced university life through campus tours, art exhibitions, and sports events. USM Vice-Chancellor Professor Dato' Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed highlighted USM's commitment to education and well-being. The festival aimed to inspire and provide valuable experiences for the participants.

OPERATION/INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

MRFoodBank@HEPA Maidaturrahman Launches at USM

USM launched MRFoodBank@HEPA Maidaturrahman, an initiative aimed at supporting B40 students with food aid. The project, a collaboration between the Division of Student Development Affairs and Alumni (BHEPA) and the Islamic Centre, has been well-received. The Vice-Chancellor thanked the Islamic Centre and urged more food bank initiatives. Students expressed gratitude for the aid, which helps alleviate financial burdens, especially towards the semester's end. Additional donations included prayer garments from EPF for B40 and disabled students.

USM Students Assist Homeless in 'Salvation for Homeless' Initiative

USM students, in collaboration with Perkumpulan Anak-Anak Melaka (PURNAMA) and Perkumpulan Mahasiswa/i Anak Negeri Sembilan (PEMANIS), organized the "Salvation for Homeless" mission at Terminal Bas Kompleks Tun Abdul Razak (KOMTAR). The project, led by Ahmad Irshad Rostani, aimed to provide food and essential kits to the homeless, fostering communication skills and volunteerism among students. The event received support from Professor Madya Dr. Mohamad Hafiz Mohamad Kasim, Director of the USM Co-curricular Program Center.

MPDIK and Pusat Islam Aid Asnaf Students with 'Ready to Eat' Kits

In conjunction with Maal Hijrah 1445, USM organized the 'Gobok Rezeki' program, distributing 'ready to eat' kits to 99 underprivileged Asnaf students. The kits, valued at around RM100 each, included various snacks and drinks to alleviate students' burdens during exam periods. This initiative was a collaboration between Majlis Penghuni Desasiswa Indah Kembara (MPDIK), BHEPA, Pusat Islam USM, Pusat Zakat Pulau Pinang, and Tabung Haji.



Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

RESEARCH/INNOVATION

USM Partners with Absolute Antibody to Offer Antibodies for Neglected Tropical Diseases

USM has partnered with Absolute Antibody to advance research and innovation in neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) like dengue, chikungunya, Zika, and malaria. Together, they focus on developing and distributing specialized recombinant antibodies crucial for consistent, specific, and reproducible scientific research. These antibodies aim to enhance research capabilities and therapeutic development for diseases predominant in tropical and subtropical regions, often overlooked in global health initiatives. The availability of these high-quality antibodies is expected to facilitate advanced studies into NTD mechanisms, diagnostics, and treatments, potentially leading to improved diagnostic tools and therapies. The collaboration also includes training programs to educate researchers and healthcare professionals on using these antibodies. This joint effort solidifies USM's research and fosters global collaboration, combining expertise from different regions to address NTDs more effectively. It emphasizes international cooperation in tackling global health challenges and highlights USM's commitment to impactful research and public health improvement.

USM Academic Introduces Innovative Method to Repel Aedes Mosquitoes

A team led by a researcher from Universiti Sains Malaysia has developed an innovative method for repelling Aedes mosquitoes, which transmit diseases such as dengue, Zika, and chikungunya. The method involves using BioGel bait, made from local plant extracts, to attract and kill Aedes mosquitoes at every life stage, including in their breeding grounds. Additionally, 'Anti-Aedes' plants like Calamansi Lime, Basil, and Mint have been introduced to naturally repel Aedes mosquitoes. These strategies aim to provide safer, more effective ways to protect communities from mosquito-borne diseases, potentially improving global health outcomes. The BioGel bait is priced at RM10.00 for a month's usage, offering a cost-effective solution. This research innovation highlights Universiti Sains Malaysia's commitment to addressing public health challenges with practical and low-cost solutions. Overall, these developments emphasize the crucial role of academic research in solving real-world problems and contributing to public well-being.

USM, Nicko Jeep Manufacture Ink MoA to Promote Research Collaboration on Health Science

USM and Nicko Jeep Manufacture have entered into a strategic partnership through a MoA to promote research collaboration in health science. This alliance aims to combine the strengths of both institutions to advance research and development in areas such as medical devices, healthcare technologies, and biomedical research. The collaboration focuses on creating innovative solutions and technologies that can address pressing health challenges. This partnership is expected to enhance research capabilities, leading to significant advancements in health science and the development of new technologies and improved healthcare solutions. For USM, the agreement reflects the university's ongoing commitment to conducting impactful research that addresses real-world issues. For Nicko Jeep Manufacture, the collaboration offers an opportunity to engage in cutting-edge research, potentially leading to the development of new products and solutions for the healthcare market. This partnership is a significant step towards fostering innovation and improving healthcare outcomes through collaborative research efforts.

Stemcell Technologies and Next Gene Scientific Seminar Organised by Breast Cancer Translational Research Program, IPPT

The Breast Cancer Translational Research Program (BCTRP@IPPT) at USM organized a seminar on June 6, 2023, in partnership with STEMCELL Technologies and Next Gene Scientific. The seminar aimed to showcase advanced tools and solutions by STEMCELL Technologies and facilitated discussions for potential future collaborations. These discussions are expected to enhance technical support and collaborative research at IPPT, potentially driving innovation in biomedical research and contributing to the advancement of life sciences. The event highlighted the significance of partnerships in fostering cutting-edge research and creating new solutions for complex health challenges. This collaborative effort emphasized the importance of combining resources and expertise to push the boundaries of scientific research and address critical gaps in the field. The seminar provided a platform for professionals to exchange knowledge, explore innovative approaches, and pave the way for future breakthroughs in the field of life sciences.





IPPT USM Signed Memorandum of Agreement with Gano Excel Industries Sdn. Ltd. Strengthen Collaboration with Industry in Treating and Preventing Breast Cancer Using Ganoderma Lucidium

USM is dedicated to expanding collaborations with various partners to drive future initiatives. Through strategic partnerships with industry experts, the university aims to achieve excellence not only in academics but also in research focused on finding a cure for and preventing breast cancer. Following the signing of the MoA between Gano Excel Industries Sdn. Bhd. and the Advanced Medical and Dental Institute (IPPT) at USM, Gano Excel Industries Sdn. Bhd. has allocated a research grant of RM 325,000.00 for a clinical trial study on the "Effectiveness of Ganoderma Lucidum (Gano Plus) on Stage II and Stage III breast cancer patients." This clinical trial will utilize the company's Ganoderma Lucidum product and will be carried out on breast cancer patients at the Universiti Sains Malaysia Medical Centre Bertam (PPUSMB). This collaboration aims to drive advancements in research and healthcare, potentially leading to new treatments for breast cancer.

ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

'TOBACCO-FREE USM', Aim of PPSF 'World No Tobacco Day 2023 Carnival'

USM organized the 'World No Tobacco Day 2023 Carnival' to commemorate the annual 'World No Tobacco Day'. The event, hosted by Sekretariat Green Lung, aimed to raise awareness about tobacco-related health risks, promote smoking cessation, and advocate for effective tobacco control policies. The theme was 'Commit to Quit,' emphasizing the importance of quitting tobacco. Activities included the Festive Neon Run 2023 and a forum titled 'Knowing That Tobacco Kills: Milestone in Tobacco Control.' Since 2013, USM has been working towards becoming a 'Tobacco-Free USM' through educational initiatives, prevention efforts, and counseling services.



Awareness Among Senior Citizens: USM Hospital's KRIS Programme Discloses Mental Health Problems

Instances of mental health issues in Malaysian society are on the rise, affecting not only the young but also the elderly. Recognizing the gravity of this issue, the Department of Psychiatry at Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia (HUSM), with financial support from the Ministry of Higher Education (KPT) KPT Prihatin, Komuniti Sejahtera (KRIS) Programme, collaborated with the Malaysian Government Retired Association Tumpat Branch to launch a Mental Health Literacy Programme for Senior Citizens at An-Nur Mosque Hall, Kota Kubang Labu.

KKKK Programme Translates Practical Learning with the Community Kota Bharu, Kelantan

The Community and Family Case Study Program (KKKK) at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) is being strengthened as a bridge that connects USM with the community. KKKK is a key part of the Medical Doctor course at the School of Medical Sciences (PPSP), and it involves practical implementation with the local community, including the handing over of adopted children to their adoptive families at the Badang District Adoption Office compound. A total of 155 medical students spent five days living with a foster family as part of the program. This experience allowed them to communicate directly and to plan and execute successful health promotion and disease prevention programs with the local community. Additionally, the students were trained to understand and respect religious, cultural, and social backgrounds while creating patient management plans. This instilled a sense of responsibility, preparing them to take on leadership roles in the health team and the community in the future.

Empowering Women's Health: UNITA Nurses Collaborate with LPPKN for Successful Women's Well-Being Seminar

The Women's Cancer Unit (UNITA) nurses from USM Medical Centre Bertam (PPUSMB) and Lembaga Penduduk dan Pembangunan Keluarga Negara (LPPKN) organized a successful Women's Well-Being and Lifestyle Seminar at LPPKN Bertam. The seminar highlighted the collaboration between government agencies and healthcare professionals in promoting women's health and welfare. The dedicated UNITA nurses carefully selected informative topics on breast examination expertise, women's health, and cancer awareness, enhancing the content and discussions. The seminar aligned with Mother's Day, promoting women's health, well-being, and lifestyle choices, with a particular focus on issues relevant to mothers.

IPPT & PPUSMB, USM Expand Strategic Cooperation with Regional University Partners in Indonesia

The Advanced Medical and Dental Institute (IPPT) at USM has recently signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Dr. Soetomo District Hospital in Surabaya, Indonesia, and a Research Cooperation Agreement with the Faculty of Medicine at Airlangga University (UNAIR). This extends the previous MoA signed on November 16, 2020. The collaboration involves regular "Joint Webinar Series" for knowledge sharing between researchers from IPPT and UNAIR. Additionally, a 2-week training program for Clinical Pathologists at UNAIR's Clinical Diagnostic Laboratory, PPUSMB, has been ongoing since January 2023. This program provides exposure and experience in transfusion medicine expertise and diagnostic molecular techniques in immunology and haematology. As a result of this collaboration, USM has agreed to sponsor 15 postgraduate students in Transfusion Medicine for a transplant training program at Dr. Soetomo District Hospital and UNAIR for a week under the Mobility Matching Fund initiative.

TEACHING/LEARNING

COVID-19 Book: A Reference Source for the Community USM, Kubang Kerian, Kelantan

Over three years have passed since the COVID-19 pandemic began, causing significant changes in life norms. The Health Campus of Universiti Sains Malaysia and the Center for Medical Sciences Studies (PPSP) have published a book titled "COVID-19: Impact on Health and New Norms of Life." The book aims to provide the community with information on the virus's nature, prevention methods, treatment options, and public health strategies. It is essential to educate the public, debunk myths, and encourage safe practices to reduce the risk of the virus spreading further. The University of Southern Maine is demonstrating its dedication to public health education and its role as a pioneer in community outreach during the pandemic.

USM Awarded UNESCO Chair in Human Genetics on Thalassaemia

USM has proudly received the UNESCO Chair in Human Genetics on Thalassaemia, recognizing its dedication to advancing research and education in human genetics. This achievement highlights USM's significant contributions to understanding and managing thalassaemia, a hereditary blood disorder. The UNESCO Chair at USM will enhance the university's role in promoting international cooperation and knowledge sharing in human genetics. With over 850 institutions worldwide, the UNESCO Chair Programme fosters global collaboration and educational advancement through shared knowledge. USM now stands alongside other leading Malaysian universities, such as University of Malaya (UM) and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), in participating in the programme. The virtual ceremony celebrating this honor was organized by the Human Genome Centre in collaboration with the Malaysian Node of the Human Variome Project (MyHVP). This recognition marks a significant milestone for USM in its ongoing efforts to advance public health and genetic research globally.

USM-B. Braun Medical Industries Seal MoU to Upgrade Skillset and Knowledge of B. Braun Personnel

USM and B. Braun Medical Industries have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance educational and training programs for B. Braun employees. The collaboration focuses on professional development in the healthcare industry to ensure that B. Braun's workforce remains up-to-date with the latest medical and pharmaceutical knowledge. The MoU highlights the importance of continuous learning and professional growth in a rapidly evolving field. It outlines the creation of tailored academic programs, including the Professional Certificate in Applied Operations and Management for Operators and the Professional Advanced Certificate in Applied Operations and Management for Line Leaders. These programs are part of B. Braun's People Development Programme, aimed at upgrading the skills and knowledge of their production operators and line leaders, and will be designed by USM to offer a comprehensive educational approach. This partnership not only benefits B. Braun's personnel but also strengthens USM's role in developing highly skilled professionals in the healthcare industry, demonstrating the potential of academic-industry collaboration to drive progress and innovation.

USM PEaRLS 2023, a Joint Higher-Ed Initiative to Transform Pharmaceutical Education in the Region

USM School of Pharmaceutical Sciences (PPSF) recently orchestrated the Pharmaceutical Education and Research Summit (PEaRLS 2023), a pivotal event with a focus on revolutionizing pharmaceutical education. The summit convened experts, educators, and industry leaders to deliberate on the future of pharmacy education in Malaysia and beyond. In collaboration with the Management and Science University (MSU) and the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), the conference also engaged with nine international universities from Indonesia and India, highlighting a steadfast commitment to excellence in pharmacy education within the region. Emphasizing the importance of adapting education to the rapidly changing

healthcare landscape and the imperative need for innovative teaching methods, the summit underscored the urgency to equip future pharmacists with the requisite skills to meet the demands of modern healthcare.

OPERATION/INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

Strengthen OKK's Credibility for More Efficient Disaster Management

The frequent fire incidents in hospital premises in our nation have prompted the Occupational Safety and Health Committee (JKKP) of USM and JKKP, School of Medical Sciences (PPSP) to consider collaborating with the Malaysian Fire and Rescue Department (JBPM) in Kelantan State to strengthen the credibility of the Fire Safety Organization (OKK). USM Hospital and PPSP took the lead in organizing the 2023 Fire Safety Course to raise awareness about various aspects of fire safety and the appropriate actions to take in emergency situations. USM management expects this team to be the first responders to any fire disasters that may occur in their respective locations. All course participants have been directly absorbed into the OKK Team.

USM Hospital Offers Counseling Services to USM Citizens and the Community

Armed with the desire to cultivate counseling as a support system in the community in addition to dignifying the counseling profession in Malaysia, HUSM created a centralised counseling service space. 'Minda Madani Masyarakat Harmoni' is the theme chosen in conjunction with the celebration of National Counseling Month 2023, which is closely related to the efforts made by the HUSM Management, which is to introduce an official facility that provides professional counseling services to USM residents and the surrounding community.

USM Hospital Targets Zero 'Medico Legal' Cases

HUSM, an experienced University Teaching Hospital, is highly committed to addressing and managing cases of negligence in medical practice, also known as 'medico legal' cases. The hospital recently held a seminar at the HUSM Administration Block Auditorium focusing on this issue. During the seminar, HUSM emphasized the importance of aiming for 'zero tolerance medico legal' to reduce medico legal cases in the future. The management of HUSM also highlighted the implementation of risk management as a key strategy for improving hospital management. As part of risk management, the hospital is focused on identifying and managing 'medico legal' risks to minimize their impact on the organization.

Vice-Chancellor Tours USM-KLE Campus Together with MARA

During the tour of the USM-KLE campus from January 15 to January 21, 2023, the Vice-Chancellor of USM, accompanied by representatives from Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA), emphasized the ongoing collaboration between USM and MARA, focusing on enhancing educational opportunities and improving campus facilities. The inspection of existing infrastructure aimed to ensure it meets the standards required for high-quality education, with discussions centered on future development projects to expand and upgrade the campus. A key focus was the review of academic programs to align them with industry needs and global standards, and update curricula to equip students with cutting-edge knowledge and skills. The visit also highlighted the role of the USM-KLE campus in local community development, with plans for community outreach programs reviewed to enhance the university's engagement with the local population. This tour signifies a strong commitment to continuous improvement and collaboration, with the partnership aiming to support underrepresented students and foster an educational ecosystem that adapts to evolving demands and needs.

Abu Dhabi University and USM Forge Strategic Partnership to Advance the Health Sciences Field

Abu Dhabi University's College of Health Sciences recently signed a strategic Memorandum of Understanding with the School of Health Sciences at USM to enhance research, educational programs, and training in the field of health sciences. The MoU aims to facilitate student, staff, and faculty exchanges and promote high-quality teaching and learning through knowledge and experience transfer. It will also facilitate joint research and publications, establish joint academic and research programs, organize workshops and training programs, and exchange publications to enhance students' skills and employability prospects.

OSH Day 2023

The Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Unit at the Health Campus of USM hosted an OSH DAY event with the theme "A Safe and Healthy Work Environment is a Basic Right." The primary objective of the event was to raise awareness and promote best practices in OSH within the workplace. This event was open to all staff and students of the Health Campus, USM. The day featured a range of engaging activities including an OSH Quiz designed to test knowledge on safety protocols, an OSH TikTok Challenge aimed at encouraging creativity in promoting safety awareness, a "Spot The Hazard" activity to identify workplace risks, KKP Exhibition and Talk to provide insights into safety standards, and an OSH Corner@PTJ featuring informative resources and materials. This comprehensive range of activities was organized to ensure that participants gained a holistic understanding of Occupational Safety and Health principles in an interactive and engaging manner.

SPICES: USM'S Unique Medical Science Interactive Gallery Launched by VC at Health Campus

SPICES, the Medical Science Interactive Gallery at USM, located at the School of Medical Sciences (PPSP) on the Health Campus, is one of the most ambitious and largest ArtScience projects in Malaysia. Spearheaded by medical professionals and designed by artists, SPICES was carefully curated and developed at a cost of RM2.4 million to accommodate over 200 human specimens. These specimens will serve as teaching and learning aids for medical students and other students in related fields. This interactive gallery, the first of its kind in Malaysia to blend the concepts of science and art, is equipped with three-dimensional (3D), virtual reality (VR), and augmented reality (AR) teaching and learning methods. Additionally, it features QR code scanners for visitors to access displays, interactive panels, and audio systems. All of these elements will surely provide an immersive and extraordinary experience for users.





Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

RESEARCH/INNOVATION

RCE Penang@USM Shines Bright with Dual Win at International RCE Awards 2023

RCE Penang at USM earned dual recognition at the International RCE Awards 2023. Their flagship project, led by Associate Professor Dr. Japareng Lalung, focused on palm oil sustainability, showcasing innovative research under SDG 8. Additionally, an "Honourable Mention" was awarded for the project on empowering preschool teachers in systems thinking, led by Associate Professor Dr. Aswati Hamzah. This project, emphasizing SDG 4, integrates research and transformative learning to enhance early childhood education. Both projects reflect USM's commitment to research, innovation, and sustainable development.

Innovative Language Education Research at USM Earns Prestigious TIRF Grant

Mohd Iqbal Ahamat, a doctoral student from School of Educational Studies, received a prestigious grant from The International Research Foundation for English Language Education (TIRF). His research focuses on developing English language materials aligned with the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) for primary schools in Malaysia. This achievement highlights his contributions to language education and underscores USM's commitment to research excellence. The TIRF grant supports innovative research in English language education globally.

USM and B. Braun Medical Industries Partner to Advance Research and Enhance Workforce Expertise

USM and B. Braun Medical Industries (BMI) have signed an MoU to enhance the skills and knowledge of BMI personnel. This collaboration focuses on developing professional certificate programs in Applied Operations and Management tailored for BMI's People Development Programme. The initiative aims to equip production operators and line leaders with advanced skills, contributing to their career development and operational efficiency. USM's expertise in research and holistic education underpins this partnership, fostering innovation and lifelong learning.

ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

USM and QSR Brands (M) Holdings Form Strategic Partnership to Elevate Micro-Credentials

USM and QSR Brands (M) Holdings previously forged a strategic partnership to expand their micro-credentials program from a Bachelor's to a Master's level. This collaboration aimed to enhance management education by incorporating industry needs and offering advanced learning opportunities for professionals. The expanded program provided a more comprehensive curriculum, combining theoretical knowledge with practical skills. The partnership underscored USM's commitment to community and industry engagement, addressing the demand for specialized education and supporting career growth by aligning academic offerings with industry requirements.

DroneCubator@USM Introduces Northern Zone Students to Drone Technology Through STEM and TVET

DroneCubator@USM has engaged students from Malaysia's northern region by introducing them to drone technology, emphasizing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and TVET (Technical and Vocational Education and Training) principles. This initiative aims to bridge the gap between education and industry by providing hands-on experience with cutting-edge drone technology. Through interactive sessions and practical training, the program enhances students' understanding of modern technological applications and vocational skills. This community engagement effort reflects USM's commitment to fostering industry-relevant skills and preparing students for careers in technology and engineering fields. By aligning educational experiences with industry needs, DroneCubator@USM supports both academic and professional development, strengthening ties between the academic community and technological sectors.

KUSISDARI USM Hosts 15th Series Program on ICT Knowledge Transfer and Skill Development with Orang Asli Community

KUSISDARI at USM recently conducted its 15th series program focused on ICT knowledge transfer and skill development for the Orang Asli community. This initiative aimed to enhance digital literacy and technical capabilities among indigenous participants through hands-on training and information sessions. By fostering a collaborative environment between the university and the local community, the program addresses the digital divide and empowers the Orang Asli with valuable ICT skills. This engagement reflects USM's commitment to community development and highlights the university's role in bridging educational and technological gaps, ultimately supporting the community's integration into the digital age and strengthening university-community ties.

TEACHING/LEARNING

USM Partners with MARA-Stemgreentech to Advance STEM Education and Green Technology at MRSM Pulau Pinang

USM, in collaboration with MARA-STEMGreentech, has enhanced STEM education and green technology at MRSM Pulau Pinang. The initiative aims to empower educators and students by integrating advanced STEM concepts and sustainable practices into the curriculum. Through workshops and training sessions, the program provides practical insights and hands-on experience in green technology, promoting a deeper understanding of environmental sustainability. This collaboration underscores USM's commitment to improving educational outcomes and equipping students with the skills needed for future technological and environmental challenges. By focusing on both STEM and green technology, the program supports the development of well-rounded learners prepared to address contemporary issues in science and sustainability.

USM IPPT Rolls Out Continuous Education Courses in Biomedical Sciences

USM's Advanced Medical and Dental Institute (AMDI) has introduced a continuous education program in biomedical sciences. This initiative aims to offer advanced training and learning opportunities for professionals in the field, focusing on the latest developments and trends. The program is designed to enhance participants' skills and knowledge, ensuring they stay current with advancements in biomedical sciences. Through specialized courses, AMDI supports ongoing professional development and aims to contribute to the growth and expertise of practitioners in both medical and dental disciplines. This launch reflects AMDI's commitment to promoting lifelong learning and excellence in the biomedical and dental sectors.

USM PPK Aero Hosts AI Study Program to Advance Academic Excellence and Global Engagement

USM's PPK Aero recently hosted an Artificial Intelligence (AI) study program aimed at enhancing academic excellence, global engagement, and cultural diversity. The program provided participants with a comprehensive understanding of AI technologies and their applications across various fields. Through interactive workshops, lectures, and collaborative projects, the initiative facilitated in-depth learning and knowledge exchange among students and professionals. By incorporating global perspectives and diverse cultural insights, the program aimed to broaden participants' horizons and foster a more inclusive approach to AI education. This effort underscores USM's commitment to advancing educational standards and promoting cross-cultural dialogue, preparing learners to excel in the rapidly evolving field of AI while engaging with a global academic community.

USM Excels in Medal Haul in E-Learning Competition

USM achieved remarkable success in the International University Carnival on E-Learning (IUCEL) 2023, held from September 25-26, where participants excelled and secured a significant number of medals. The event, aligned with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), highlighted USM's commitment to advancing educational technology and innovative teaching methods. The medals awarded reflect the university's dedication to enhancing the quality of online education and its effectiveness in integrating digital tools into the learning process. This success underscores USM's leadership in e-learning and its ongoing efforts to promote excellence in educational practices through technology, contributing to the broader goals of sustainable development and educational advancement.

OPERATION/INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

USM And Istanbul Gelisim University Forge New MoU to Enhance Turkey Offshore Program, Supporting MOHE's Globalization Goals

USM has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Istanbul Gelisim University to expand its offshore program in Turkey. The partnership aims to strengthen educational ties, facilitate joint programs, and promote cross-cultural academic exchanges. The MoU aligns with USM's strategic objective to internationalize its educational offerings and increase its global footprint, enhancing its mission of delivering high-quality education.

Global Workshop on Micro-Credentials: Uniting Educators for Innovative Digital Education

USM organized an international workshop focused on micro-credentials and digital education, bringing together global educators to explore their impact on enhancing digital learning. The workshop highlighted the benefits of micro-credentials for personalized education and skill recognition, addressing evolving industry needs and technological advancements. It demonstrated USM's dedication to advancing educational innovation and adapting its institutional frameworks to align with digital education trends.


UCSI Group
RCE GREATER KUALA LUMPUR
UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY
13TH GLOBAL RCE CONFERENCE



Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

RESEARCH/INNOVATION

USM Academic Awarded Outstanding Woman Researcher In Education Technology at the 8th Women Awards - VIWA 2023

Ts. Dr. Jeya Amantha Kumar, a lecturer at the Centre for Instructional Technology & Multimedia, was honored with the Outstanding Woman Researcher in Education Technology award at the 8th Women Awards – VIWA 2023, held in Chennai, India, on March 4, 2023. The Venus International Women Awards (VIWA) aim to celebrate and promote successful and promising women researchers across various disciplines, including Engineering, Health and Medical Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, Management, and Science. Established in 2016 by the Centre for Advanced Research and Design (CARD) of the Venus International Foundation (VIF), the awards are presented annually during the Annual Women's Meet (AWM). Besides Dr. Jeya, who represented Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), other awardees included representatives from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM), and Swinburne University of Technology Malaysia. The awards also recognized recipients from countries such as Scotland, France, Bulgaria, India, Jordan, Singapore, Italy, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, and Oman.

King Faisal University and USM Conduct a Study on Addressing Gender Disparity in Public Universities of Malaysia

A recent research paper on 'Addressing gender disparity in Malaysian public universities: a study on challenges and achievements' has been published by Prof. Dr. Yasin Elhadary (King Faisal University) and Prof. Dr. Narimah Samat (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International), Universiti Sains Malaysia) in the Journal of Higher Education Theory and Practice highlights both the obstacles and progress in addressing gender disparity in Malaysia's public universities. Based on the study, despite policies promoting gender equality, challenges such as cultural norms, gender bias, and limited female representation in leadership persist. However, notable achievements include increased female enrollment and initiatives fostering an inclusive environment. Continuous efforts and targeted strategies are essential for sustaining progress in gender equity within higher education.

ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

Stem Program: USM-Micron Young Wise (Women in Science and Engineering), "Bridging The Gender Gap by Empowering Young Women in Engineering Through STEM"

The School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (PPKEE) successfully promoted the idea that science is for everyone by organizing the STEM: USM-MICRON Young WiSE (Women in Science and Engineering) 2023 program at the Engineering Campus today. PPKEE Dean, Professor Ir. Ts. Dr. Shahrel Azmin Sundi @ Suandi stated that the event was a collaborative effort between Micron Memory Malaysia and PPKEE. The Micron Foundation sponsored US$10,000 for USM to conduct this program, which involves female students from 20 secondary schools in the fields of Science, Technology, and Engineering from the northern states of Perak, Penang, Kedah, and Perlis. This initiative is a continuation of previous programs held online during the Covid-19 pandemic, including 'Introduction to Arduino Uno' (January 13, 2021), 'Pitching Challenge' (March 30, 2021), and 'Introduction to Python' (March 5, 2022). These programs received strong support from the Ministry of Education Malaysia (KPM) for national-level student co-curricular recognition.

Unita Nurses and LPPKN Collaborate for Women's Well-Being Seminar

The Women's Cancer Unit (UNITA) nurses from PPUSM collaborated with LPPKN to host a successful Women's Well-Being and Lifestyle Seminar at LPPKN Bertam. The event was attended by YB Hajah Aiman Athirah Binti Sabu, Deputy Minister of PWKM, Mr. Hairil Fadzly Md Akir, Deputy Director General (Policy), and Dr. Azura Abdullah, Director of LPPKN Penang. The UNITA nurses played a crucial role, selecting topics on breast examination, women's health, and cancer awareness, thereby enriching the seminar's content. The seminar aimed to promote women's health, focusing on mothers, and highlighted the government's commitment to women's welfare and empowerment. The event provided a platform to raise awareness about important health issues and encourage positive lifestyle choices, making it a meaningful experience for all participants.

TEACHING/LEARNING

Gender Sensitivity Course (Public) Cluster Option A: Gender and Social Well-Being

The first day's course was delivered by Prof. Dato' Dr. Noraida binti Endut, Dr. Zaireeni binti Azmi from the Centre for Research on Women & Gender (KANITA), Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), and Associate Prof. Dr. Zaharah binti Sulaiman from the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Health Campus, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Kubang Kerian, Kelantan. The course began with lectures titled Introduction Session and What Gender is, Gender in Society (Different Genders, Different Roles, Different Needs), Equal Together for Well-Being, and Gender Equality in Malaysia. The second day's lectures were titled Gender and Women's Social Well-Being, Gender-Based Violence/VAW, and Gender and Health Well-Being. The course was attended by 25 participants, including officers and staff from the Department of Social Welfare, Malaysian Social Institute, Department of Women's Development, Policy and Strategic Planning Division, Ministry of Women, Family, and Community Development (KPWKM), National Anti-Drug Agency (AADK), Kuala Lumpur Public Works Department, Nursing Training Institute of the Ministry of Health Malaysia Sungai Buloh, PKKK Seremban District, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Open University Malaysia, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) such as SIS, PAWE Seputeh, MAYC Setiawangsa, ABIM, Federal Territory Pensioners Association, and interested individuals.

Harpswell and USM Continue Collaboration in Regional Women Leadership Programme

As part of the 'Harpswell ASEAN Women's Leadership Summit: Many Countries One Sisterhood' program, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) hosted a dinner event featuring former Penang Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr. Koh Tsu Koon as the guest of honor. The event was organized by the USM Centre for Research on Women and Gender (KANITA) and the School of Social Sciences (PPSK) in collaboration with the Harpswell Foundation. This 10-day summit targeted young professional women aged 25-30 from the 10 ASEAN member countries. The Harpswell ASEAN Programme in Women's Leadership aims to foster positive social change in Southeast Asia by promoting women's active and equal participation.

OPERATION (INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT)

USM's Commitment to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Through Higher Education

USM is always prepared to establish collaborations, mainly through education, research, and advocacy platforms, with all parties to achieve the goals of gender equality and women's empowerment in Malaysia and internationally. In his welcoming speech at the program with the Deputy Minister of Women, Family, and Community Development (KPWKM) on June 23, 2023, at USM Penang, USM's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed, highlighted USM's commitment to these goals. He noted that 56 percent of USM academics are women, and recently, two out of four Deputy Vice-Chancellors are women, reflecting the university's dedication to gender equality.

USM Alumni, the First Woman Appointed as CEO of Media Prima Television Networks (MPTN) and Primeworks Studios

Nini Yusof, an alumna of Universiti Sains Malaysia, has been appointed as the CEO of Media Prima Television Networks (MPTN) and Primeworks Studios, effective August 1, 2023. She succeeds Datuk Khairul Anwar Salleh, who is stepping down to pursue interests in arts and creative writing. Nini, who holds a degree in English Language and Literacy Studies with a minor in Mass Communication and Management, has been with Media Prima since 2012, serving in various leadership roles for 11 years. As CEO, she will oversee operations for TV3, TV9, 8TV, ntv7, Tonton, and Primeworks Studios. Previously, she was the Deputy CEO of MPTN and Primeworks Studios and has held roles such as Director of Sales and Strategy at MPTN and Chief Content Officer at Media Prima Omnia and Primeworks Studios. Nini has also led successful co-productions with international partners like SBS, E! Entertainment, and the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU).





Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

RESEARCH/INNOVATION

BioEcoDS Information: Advancing Sustainable Solutions

The BioEcoDS (Biological and Ecological Data Science) initiative at USM is all about using science and data to find smart solutions for our environment. They bring together experts from different fields to study animals, plants, and ecosystems. By looking at lots of data and using new technology, they want to help protect our environment and make sure we have the information we need to make good decisions about nature. This project wants to find new and clever ways to keep our planet healthy and help other scientists learn more about nature.

"Too Many Floods, Too Little Done" – Addressing Flood Management Challenges

The article "Too Many Floods, Too Little Done" talks about the big problem of frequent flooding and the not good enough things done to solve it. It says it's really important to have good flood plans to keep our communities and buildings safe from the big damage caused by floods. It says the things being done now aren't enough to stop or lessen the bad effects of all the floods. The article says we need a full flood plan that includes better planning, stronger buildings, and getting the community ready. It suggests using new technologies to predict floods, making flood defenses stronger, and making sure everyone is ready to deal with floods. The article says we need to get ready fast to keep the places that are not safe safe and make sure floods don't cause big problems for a long time.ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

Prime Minister Launches "Water for All" Book,

Malaysia's Prime Minister launched "Water for All," a book by a USM professor, honoring their contributions to water management. The book addresses global water challenges and practical solutions. The event highlights the importance of clean water access for all and the commitment to sustainable water management.

USM Holds Meeting to Discuss Scheduled Water Supply Disruptions in Penang

Recently, a meeting was held at USM to talk about and get ready for some planned water supply interruptions in Penang. The goal of the meeting was to come up with plans and ideas to handle the temporary water stops in a smart way. People at the meeting, like university leaders and local officials, talked about how the water stops might affect the campus and students. They also made backup plans to make sure that important services and daily activities can keep going even with the water stops. They also talked about how to tell everyone what's going on and work with the local water authorities to lessen the effects of the stops. This shows that USM is focused on making sure everything keeps running smoothly and that students and staff are ready for the water supply issues coming up.

TEACHING/LEARNING

AQLS Encourages Muhammad Irfan to Enhance Water Rescue Skills

The Aquatic and Life-saving Society (AQLS) at USM has encouraged Muhammad Irfan to improve his skills in saving people in water emergencies. This program will help him learn advanced techniques and practice rescues to become better at keeping people safe in different water situations. By taking part in this training, Irfan will gain more knowledge and real-life experience, helping him be ready for emergencies. This encouragement shows that AQLS is dedicated to teaching people how to save lives in water and making sure they can handle water emergencies well.

Collaborative CSR Program by Xylem Southeast Asia and Water Watch Penang

Xylem Southeast Asia and Water Watch Penang have launched a collaborative Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) program, represented by Dr. Chee Su Yin from the Centre for Global Sustainable Studies (CGSS) at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). This initiative focuses on addressing water-related challenges in Penang through joint efforts to improve water access and quality. The program aims to implement sustainable solutions and raise awareness about water conservation and management. The collaboration involves various activities, including community engagement and educational outreach, designed to foster better water practices and support local water sustainability projects. By working together, Xylem and Water Watch Penang aim to make a significant impact on the region's water resources and contribute to broader environmental sustainability goals.

OPERATION/INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

USM Enhances Campus Facilities with Water Stations

USM has set up new water stations along the pathways on campus to make it easier for students and staff to get clean drinking water. This is part of their plan to help everyone stay healthy and take care of the environment. By having these water stations, they hope to reduce the use of plastic water bottles and encourage everyone to be more conscious of how they use resources. This is just one of the ways that USM is working to make the campus better for everyone and also help the environment.

USM Sends Flood Relief Mission to Johor

USM has started a mission to help people affected by the recent floods in Johor. The mission involves giving out important supplies like food and water to support the communities in need. This shows that USM is dedicated to helping people during tough times and is standing together with the affected areas.



Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

RESEARCH/INNOVATION

INOR Researcher Unveils World-Class Energy-Efficient Led – A Great and Impressive Innovation!

Researchers from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) have developed a world-class energy-efficient LED lighting technology that promises to revolutionize the lighting industry. This innovative creation, known as INOR, was designed to significantly reduce energy consumption while maintaining high-quality illumination. The project, led by Dr. Mohd Shahril Mohd Yusof and his team, focuses on creating a sustainable and eco-friendly lighting solution that aligns with global energy efficiency standards. The INOR LED technology not only enhances energy savings but also offers a longer lifespan compared to conventional lighting options. This groundbreaking achievement highlights USM's commitment to advancing research and innovation in sustainable technologies, contributing to environmental conservation and energy efficiency. The team's efforts have been recognized as a remarkable idea that showcases the potential for significant impact in both local and global contexts, paving the way for future developments in energy-efficient solutions.

USM Researchers Develop World-Class Energy-Efficient LED

Researchers from the Institute of Nano Optoelectronics Research and Technology (INOR) at USM have achieved a significant breakthrough by developing an energy-efficient LED with a peak luminous efficacy of 207 lm/W. This remarkable feat is a result of the GaN-on-GaN (GoG) program, a collaborative effort involving Nobel laureate Professor Shuji Nakamura and industry partners including ams OSRAM. The successful development of this LED technology demonstrates USM's ability to compete internationally in the field of optoelectronics. With the potential to reduce energy consumption and costs, this innovative LED technology holds promise for fostering economic growth and job creation in Malaysia. The efficient utilization of resources and cutting-edge technology reflects the commitment of USM researchers to make a tangible impact in the realm of sustainable and energy-efficient illumination.

ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

Hands-On Renewable Energy Activities at SK Bukit Teh

CETREE and CGSS from Universiti Sains Malaysia organized a hands-on renewable energy workshop at SK Bukit Teh, focusing on renewable energy, energy efficiency, and green technology. The program aimed to expose rural students to STEM activities and enhance their knowledge of green technology and energy conservation. Activities included giant snake and ladder games, puzzles, wind and solar mill challenges, and visits to the Green Technology Mobile Unit. The event received positive feedback from students and educators alike.

USM Wins Second Place in Inter-University Energy Debate Competition

USM Debate Team achieved a remarkable success by clinching the Second Runner-Up position in the Inter-University Energy Debate Competition 2022, organized by Universiti Tenaga Nasional (UNITEN) Student Representative Council (MPPK UNITEN) in collaboration with the UNITEN Debate Club. The competition, themed around energy issues, aimed to increase knowledge and raise awareness among university students in Malaysia. The USM debaters, showcased their prowess in the final round against the University of Malaya (UM), debating the motion "Net Zero Carbon Target 2050: Renewable Energy is the Answer." Muhamad Hafizi, the USM team leader, was named the Best Speaker in the Final Round and the Third Best Speaker Overall, highlighting the team's exceptional performance. This achievement is a testament to the dedication and hard work of the USM Debate Team and brings immense pride to the university community.

TEACHING/LEARNING

Penang State STEM Innovation Development Carnival

The Penang State STEM Innovation Development Carnival was successfully held at SMK Kampong Selamat, Tasek Gelugor. Supported by the Penang State Education Department, the event showcased student talents through competitions and exhibitions, promoting STEM activities in Malaysian schools. Highlights included Water Rocket Competitions, Science Hunts, Math Trails, Young Scientist activities, and technology exhibits. The USM's CETREE mobile unit also featured renewable energy and green technology displays.

PETRONAS Experiential Learning - Net Zero Training Workshop

CETREE USM and senior lecturers from the Center for Global Sustainability Studies (CGSS) recently organized the 3rd PETRONAS Experiential Learning - Net Zero Training Workshop at the Penang Skills Development Centre (PSDC). The workshop, spanning two days, aimed to offer PETRONAS officers experiential learning on Sustainable Development Goals. Associate Professor Dr. Mohd Wira Mohd Shafiei led the workshop, which garnered positive feedback and facilitated discussions on achieving net-zero goals, further enhancing knowledge within PETRONAS. The event emphasized the vital role of practical, hands-on learning in understanding and addressing sustainability challenges. Participants engaged in robust discussions and practical activities, contributing to a deeper understanding of the steps needed to achieve net-zero goals. The workshop's success underscores the commitment of PETRONAS and its partners to advancing sustainable development and environmental stewardship through targeted experiential learning initiatives.

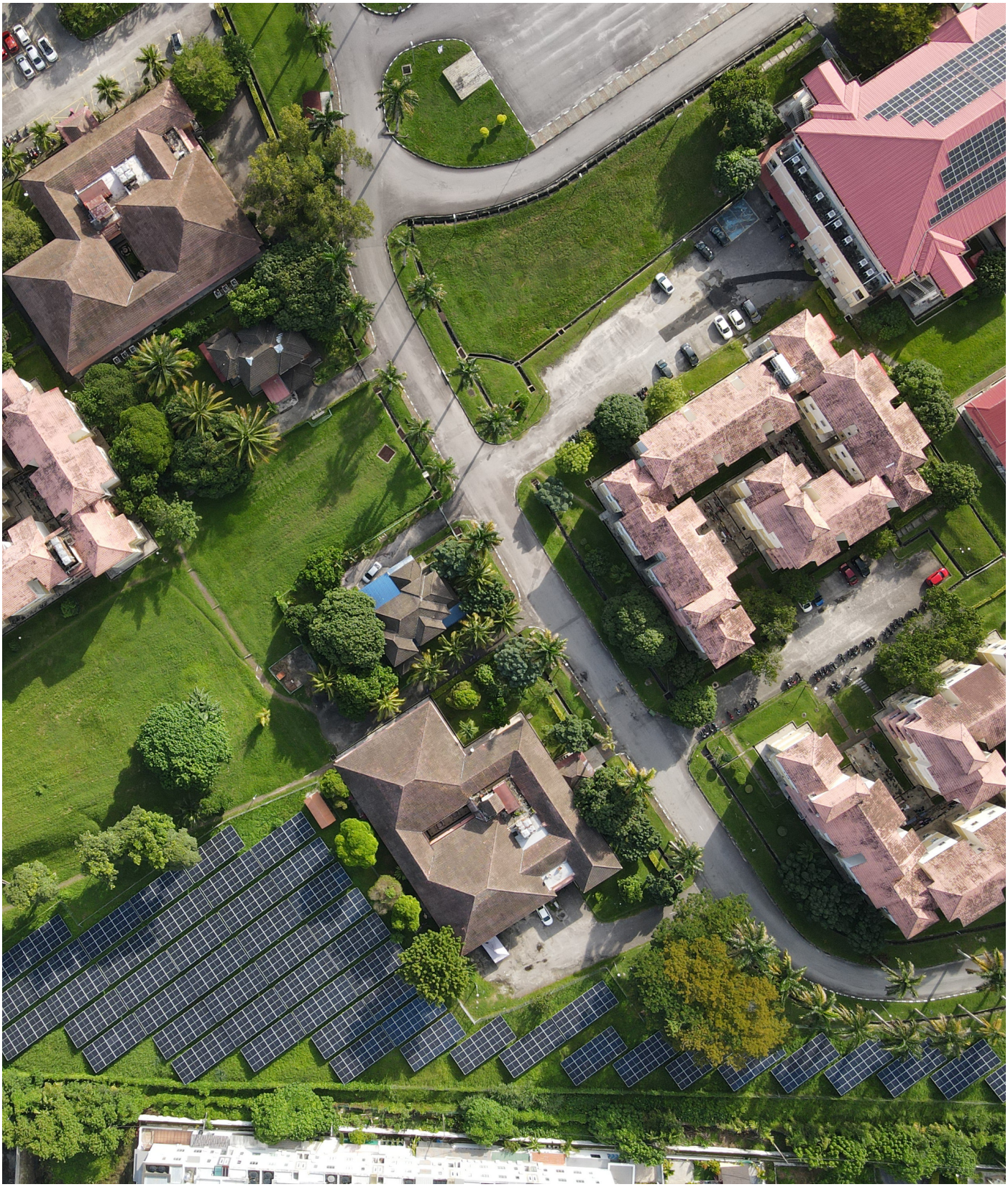
OPERATION/INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

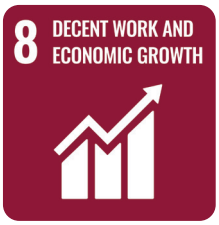
NRECC Minister Impressed with USM's Energy-Saving Initiative

The Energy Saving Initiative project at USM has garnered praise from NRECC Minister Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad for its remarkable success in reducing energy costs and promoting sustainable practices. Launched in 2013, the project incorporates photovoltaic solar systems that have significantly cut annual utility expenses from RM18 million in 2014 to RM12 million in 2022. Moreover, the initiative now caters to over 30% of the main campus's energy requirements, demonstrating a significant shift towards renewable energy sources. During his visit to USM, Nik Nazmi emphasized the pivotal role played by the university in advocating sustainable energy practices and urged other educational institutions to emulate similar initiatives. By highlighting USM's triumph in slashing energy expenditures and embracing eco-friendly technologies, the minister underscored the importance of adopting such strategies to safeguard the environment and propel the nation towards a more sustainable future. USM's Energy Saving Initiative stands as a beacon of innovation and environmental stewardship, exemplifying the profound impact that concerted efforts towards energy efficiency and renewable energy adoption can make in mitigating climate change and promoting sustainable development.

Solar PV Panel System Helps Reduce Carbon Dioxide Pollution, Strengthens Sustainable Campus Concept

USM has taken a significant step towards sustainability by installing a solar photovoltaic (PV) panel system at its Engineering Campus, which is expected to reduce carbon dioxide (CO2) pollution by up to 97,000 metric tons over the next 25 years. The RM14 million project, implemented through the Request for Proposal (RFP) method, can meet up to 45% of the campus's annual power consumption and generate up to 75% of the maximum load at any given time. By using renewable energy, the Engineering Campus aims to achieve the Sustainability@USM concept, aligning with USM's mission to transform higher education for a sustainable future. This innovative project, the first of its kind among institutes of higher learning in Penang, involves the installation of solar PV systems at 19 locations throughout the campus and is expected to save up to 30% in electricity bills.





Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

RESEARCH & INNOVATION

USM-MRANTI Supercharger Roadshow Brings Together Researchers, University Start-Ups/Spin-Offs, Industry Partners from the Northern Region

The USM-Malaysian Research Accelerator for Technology and Innovation (MRANTI) Supercharger Roadshow aims to enhance the commercialization process, which promotes economic growth and employment. This event, held at Sains@USM in Bukit Jambul, gathered researchers, start-ups, and industry partners to foster innovation and entrepreneurship. Key activities included informative sessions, workshops on successful pitching, and a showcase of innovations from various start-ups. The program highlighted the role of roadshow in boosting awareness of MRANTI and industry collaboration opportunities, helping start-ups attract clients and improve innovation for sustainable development.

Advancing E&E Industry: USM Hosts 2023 Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) – Industry Roundtable Discussion Series

USM hosted the first 2023 MOHE - Industry Roundtable Discussion Series for the Northern Zone, focusing on the Electrical and Electronics (E&E) sector. The event gathered 70 delegates from various industries, academia, and government agencies to discuss the development of research, innovation, and skilled workforce through university-industry partnerships. Key goals included enhancing talent development, strengthening academic-industry relations, improving university facilities, and addressing the industry-academia gap. The event featured speeches from notable figures, including USM's Vice-Chancellor and representatives from the Ministry of Higher Education, emphasizing collaboration for global competitiveness and innovation.

ENGAGEMENT (INDUSTRY & COMMUNITY)

Sustainable Marketing for Community (Smart Community) Programme

Sustainable Marketing for Community (SMART Community) Programme aiming to alleviate poverty and empower Sarawak's indigenous communities by promoting their products globally. This initiative focuses on enhancing production processes and marketability of local products. This effort benefited more than 233 Bumiputera B40 entrepreneurs in Sarawak. The Smart Community Programme has also moved to the next phase when USM and its collaborative partner that is based in Japan, Asia Bridge International (ABI) Co. Ltd. inked a Memorandum of Agreement at MATRADE, Tokyo. The MoA was also signed with a few 'One Stop Centres' such SPL Food Industries Sdn. Bhd.; Bayu Gagah (M) Marketing Sdn. Bhd.; and Sophia Taha Holdings Sdn. Bhd. Since its inception in 2020, the programme has achieved over RM2.55 million in sales and established a presence in the USA, Japan, Saudi Arabia, and China. The programme's success is attributed to strategic partnerships and the commitment to sustainable development and economic growth for underprivileged communities.

USM Held Session with BNM Assistant Governor: Shares Views and Insights on the Nation's Economic and Financial Standing

USM via the School of Management (SOM) hosted the Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) Session with the Youth programme, with the aim of exploring and understanding the roles of BNM in promoting economics and financial stability in Malaysia. The session was presented by BNM Assistant Governor (AG), Abd. Rahman Abu Bakar that was entitled 'Engagement with Future Nation Builder', a sharing that highlights on the challenges and opportunities faced by Malaysia in a rapidly evolving global economic landscape. The session provides an insight and a deeper understanding of Malaysia's economic landscape and its potential for future growth. The talk also discussed on the importance of entrepreneurship and innovation of Malaysia's economic landscape, as Malaysia has nurtured a culture that encourages creativity, risk-taking and the development of ground-breaking ideas by uncovering young entrepreneurs who have harnessed these opportunities, creating successful start-ups and contributing to the nation's economic growth. Over 400 students from various faculties attended the session.

TEACHING/LEARNING

Empowering Future Talent: IJMC Career Coach and Career Fair 2023

USM hosted two significant career-focused events to enhance student employability. The IJMC Career Coach 2023, a collaboration with IJM Construction Sdn. Bhd., provided students insights into the construction industry through talks from experts and alumni, benefiting 105 students from various disciplines. Meanwhile, the USM Engineering Campus Career Fair 2023, held after a three-year hiatus due to the pandemic, featured over 60 companies. This event offered students networking opportunities, career talks, and interviews, preparing them for future employment. Both events underscored USM's commitment to bridging education and industry.

USM and Canon Collaborate to Advance Education Through Digitalisation and Nurture Local Creative Talents

Leading provider of imaging solutions worldwide, Canon Marketing Malaysia, has partnered with USM to develop the creative potential of the local community and improve education through digitalization. Canon takes advantage of the dynamic digital age by partnering strategically with USM to provide students with improved skills and experience to the corporate world. Canon has been supporting universities in the country through strategic alliances, financial aid and other education-related initiatives. With USM prioritizing Canon's whole range of input and output imaging solutions, the firm will play a crucial role in USM's digital transformation path by boosting productivity and enabling its ecosystems. Together, Canon and USM are poised to shape the future of technology-driven education and drive the growth of the creative industry in Malaysia.

OPERATION (INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT)

Developing High-Skilled, Industry-Ready Graduates via MRI3 Programme

The Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) has appointed USM as the chief coordinator for the newly established Electrical and Electronic Consortium (E&E) under the Research and Industry-Infused Incubator Programme (MRI3). This consortium, comprising 20 public universities, aims to address the demand for skilled graduates in the engineering and technology sectors, offering a starting salary of RM4,000 per month with a job guarantee.The MRI3 initiative focuses on bridging the gap between academia and industry by providing students with hands-on experience using real-world tools and technologies. Companies such as Intel Technology Sdn. Bhd. and Infineon have shown strong support for the program, particularly in the Bayan Lepas Free Industrial Zone. The overarching goal is to enhance graduate employability and contribute to Malaysia's vision of becoming a high-income nation by cultivating a workforce equipped with the necessary skills for the E&E industry.



Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

RESEARCH/INNOVATION

USM, Spacein Launch Malaysia's First Picosatellite: A Giant Leap in Fulfilling the Nation's Space Exploration Aspirations

Malaysia's first picosatellite, SpaceANT-D, has been launched by USM and SpaceIn Sdn. Bhd, a USM spin-off company. The satellite, carried on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket, will be deployed by Alba Orbital in seven to 10 days, with the first signals being sent to an earthbound station. The picosatellite, designed by USM lecturers and engineers and developed by SpaceIn Sdn. Bhd., aims to demonstrate data storage and transmission for IoT applications in sectors like agriculture, forestry, and oil and gas.

USM Student's Masterpiece Art Sculpture Won Penang Urban Sculpture Competition, Installed in Gurney Drive

Syamirul Alif Shaharudin, a Master of Architecture student from USM School of Housing, Building and Planning, won the first prize in the Penang Urban Sculpture Competition 2023 with his masterpiece art sculpture, "Luminous Pearl." The sculpture, exhibited at Persiaran Gurney, will be moved to The Waterfront Shoppes after the completion of IJMPD's The Light City project. The competition aims to promote Penang as a center for the arts and boost the tourism industry. Abdul Munir Mohammad Lokman was also selected for the consolation prize category. State Executive Councillor for Tourism and Creative Economy, YB Yeoh Soon Hin, praised the competition's significance and said it would increase the state's prominence as an art hub.

USM School of the Arts Student Chosen as National Winner of James Dyson Award 2023

Lim Zi Suen, a USM School of the Arts student, has won the James Dyson Award for her innovative invention, "SOAPY - An Educational Soap Toy." The toy, designed like a UFO, aims to make hand hygiene education fun and educational for children. It features a timer, scrubber, and an efficient soap dispenser, with a protective case that can double as a keychain for added functionality. SOAPY is the first to encourage active interactivity and education about hand hygiene.

USM Researcher Formulates Means to Produce High-Quality Roof at Reduced Cost

USM researcher Professor Ir. Dr. Mariatti Jaafar and her team have secured a grant of RM186,300 under the Malaysia-Spain Innovating Programme (MySIP). The project, funded by the Malaysia Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysian Industry Government Group for High Technology, and the Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology, aims to create environmentally friendly roofing materials by combining natural fibers, recycled plastics, and additives. This project could lower roofing material prices and contribute to the circular economy, aligning with the Malaysia Plastic Sustainability Roadmap 2021-2030 and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

USM Amongst Consortium of Malaysian Universities (CMU) for Collaboration of Malaysian and Turkish Aerospace Industries

USM is among ten Malaysian universities collaborating with the Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT), TUSAS Malaysia Sdn. Bhd., and TUSAS Academy from Turkey. The collaboration, formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), aims to leverage each other's strengths, reduce learning curves, and promote the growth of specialized areas. The MoU focuses on reputable research capabilities, student and academic staff mobility, and joint research activities between Malaysia and the Republic of Türkiye. The consortium includes Universiti Malaya, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Universiti Putra Malaysia, International Islamic University Malaysia, Universiti Malaysia Perlis, Universiti Pertahanan Nasional Malaysia, Universiti Teknikal Malaysia, Melaka, Universiti Teknologi Petronas, and Universiti Kuala Lumpur.

Robofun Hackathon Sharpens Trainers' and Students' Skills on Mobile Robots

USM, in collaboration with Malaysia Investment Development Authority, Intel Corporation, and Malaysia Productivity Corporation, hosted the Hackathon Kick-Off for Robotics for University (ROBOFUN) workshop. The four-day training program aimed to transfer Autonomous Mobile Robot (AMR)-based knowledge to university lecturers and students. Participants learned AMR setup, software installation, and autonomous operation. They also learned sensor detection and processing using cameras and LiDAR sensors. The program, jointly conducted by Intel and SCUTTLE Robotics Asia PLT, involved five local universities.

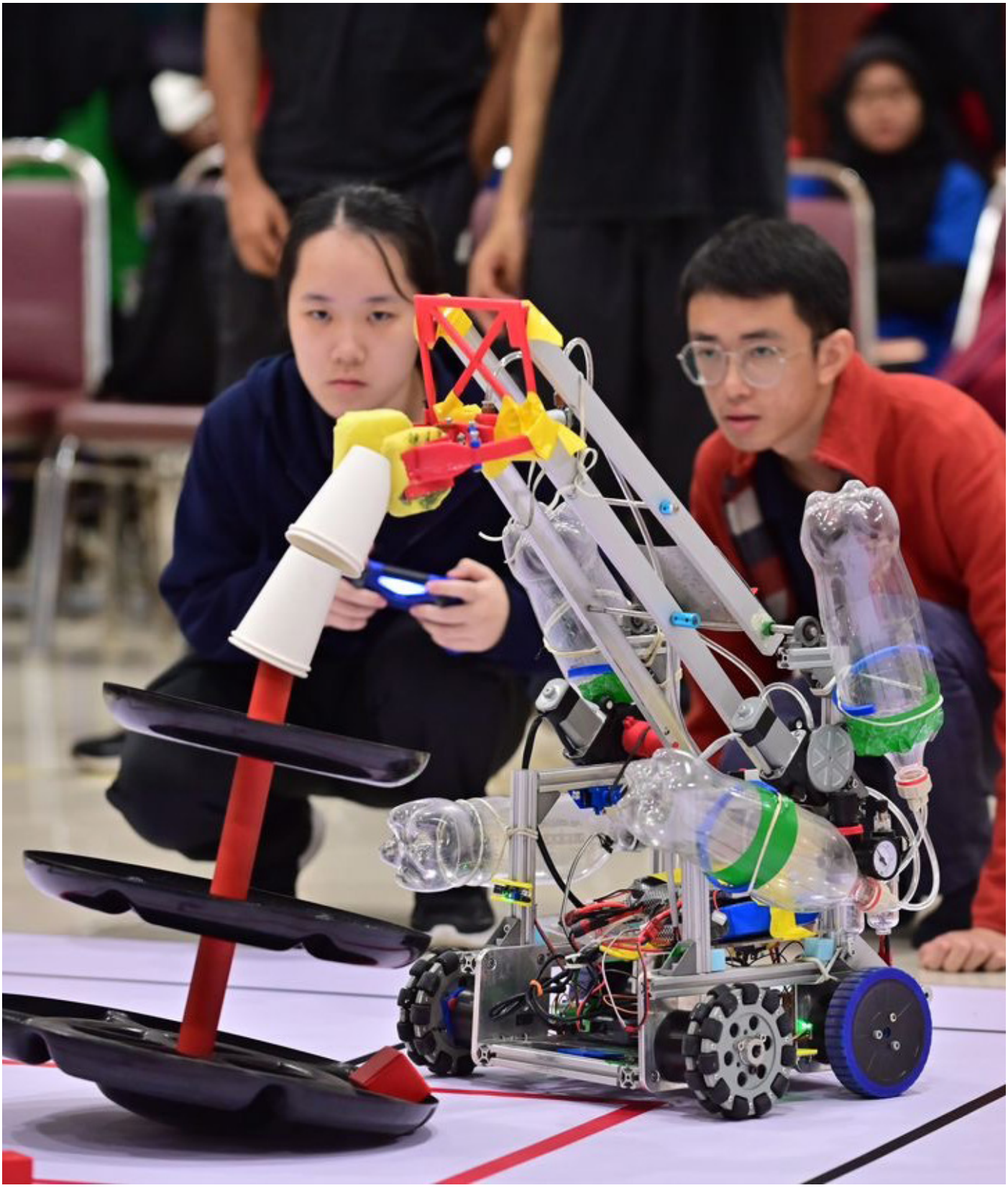
Strengthening University-Industry Collaboration Through MoU

USM has strengthened its industry and academic partnerships through Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs). These partnerships focus on enhancing leadership skills, exposing candidates to industry best practices, and promoting collaboration. USM has established partnerships with Keysight Technologies Malaysia, LETI, Infineon Technologies, Al-Mustaqbal University, TusStar Malaysia, and StarFive Technology International. These collaborations highlight USM's commitment to integrating academic excellence with industry needs, fostering innovation, and addressing sustainability through diverse, multidisciplinary partnerships.

TEACHING/LEARNING

NI ARC, Students' Platform to an Innovative Learning Experience with the Industry

The NI Autonomous Robotics Competition Championship Event (NI ARC) 2023 offers students an innovative learning experience in the industry. USM collaborates with NI to establish the NI Embedded System Laboratory, which complements traditional courses like electronics and mechatronics. The lab is used by faculty, researchers, and students. The event aims to produce holistic talents, reduce skill mismatches, and improve employability of USM's graduates. With the theme 'Robots in Manufacturing: Direct Dispatch', 15 teams from various higher education institutions participated in the competition. The collaboration aims to equip graduates with critical thinking and advanced Industry 4.0 technology.



Student-Empowered iTANK to Nurture Change in the ASEAN Higher Education Landscape

The Intervarsity Think Tank 2023 (i-Tank) was a collaborative event organized by the USM School of Educational Studies to promote sustainable ideas and solutions for future challenges. The competition aimed to encourage students to develop innovative projects addressing environmental conservation, social equity, and economic growth. Over 100 participants from ASEAN universities participated, showcasing their diversity and creativity in tackling global challenges. Notable projects included waste management systems, renewable energy solutions, and educational programs for marginalized communities. The USM Student Empowered ITank program was launched to empower students to drive sustainable development initiatives and foster a culture of innovation and critical thinking. The success of these events underscores the importance of empowering students to address global issues.

OPERATION/INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

Cabin in the Woods Is USM's Latest Attraction to Bring in International Students

"Cabin in the Woods" (CITW) the latest USM attraction is located in a verdant green setting, an outdoor space with lush green plants, a vertical garden, two water features, a few gazebos and an outdoor dining area. The lights hanging from the huge trees above the cabins, creating a tranquil atmosphere especially at night. CITW utilizes a total of 5 cabins or containers as the core structure. This space could create visibility for USM, especially to the international students as USM is currently the nation's public university with the highest number of international students at 6,232. CITW is a space for International Food Hub to support USM's Internationalisation Agenda and Job on Campus (JORAN) opportunities, especially for students in the B40 category.

USM Making its Presence Felt in Kuala Lumpur

USM has rebranded its Kuala Lumpur learning and research center, USM@KL, to double postgraduate enrollment. The center, located in the city's heart, offers competitive postgraduate programs and can accommodate around 1,000 students. Its modern facilities, including computer labs, classrooms, and EEG rooms, aim to attract international students and enhance industrial collaborations. USM@KL provides affordable tuition without fee increases, benefiting from government support and rental space. The center currently offers programs in communication, sustainable development, psychology, cognitive neurosciences, and science.





Reduce inequality within and among countries

RESEARCH/INNOVATION

Empowering Communities Through Knowledge, USM Alumni the First Malaysian oo Win Wikimedian Award

A graduate from the School of Humanities, USM, Taufik Rosman, the 24-year-old Sabahan has been recognised for his extraordinary dedication to enriching the Malay-language edition of Wikipedia. Inspired by his family of educators, started contributing to the Malay-language edition of Wiktionary at age 13 due to the lack of entries in the Malay-language edition of Wiktionary (the dictionary counterpart to Wikipedia). Taufik received the prestigious Wikimedian of the Year Award, an accolade that celebrates the outstanding contributions of Wikimedia editors and contributors worldwide that marks Taufik as the first Malaysian to receive this esteemed recognition. He focuses on translating cultural content and ensuring the reliability of Wikipedia articles by verifying sources. Taufik promotes the free knowledge movement in Malaysia through workshops, teaching how to create entries and encouraging contributions to the documentation of native languages.

ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

Rohingya Refugee Support and Assistance Programme

The Centre for Global Sustainability Studies (CGSS) and the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences conducted a health-focused initiative for over 50 Rohingya refugee children at the Rohingya Education Center and Madrasah Darul Arakan Wa Tahfiz Al-Quran. The initiative aimed to provide essential insights, prepare them for adolescence, and address health disparities faced by marginalized communities. It included educational sessions on nutrition, hygiene, and reproductive health, as well as medical check-ups and consultations.

Embracing Health and Well-Being: Women's Health Programme with Rohingya Children

The International Cultural Festival (ICF) 2023 at USM aimed to bridge the gap between local and international students, fostering a deeper understanding of their cultures. Supported by government agencies, international organizations, and local businesses, the festival aimed to inspire young minds to appreciate cultural diversity and become global citizens. The event attracted around 2,500 students and highlighted the importance of cultural exchange for a harmonious and sustainable world. The festival attracted around 2,500 students and underscored the need for continued initiatives to promote cultural understanding and global cooperation..

TEACHING/LEARNING

GHEF2023: Recovery of Equity in Higher Education Post-Pandemic

The 8th Global Higher Education Forum 2023 (GHEF2023) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, aimed to address the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on educational disparities, particularly for marginalized groups. Over 600 delegates from 16 countries participated, discussing digital divide, employment, talent development, and socio-economic policies. The forum also held a Technical and Vocational Education and Training symposium on disability inclusion. USM signed a Joint Action Roadmap with Uzbekistan's Center for Higher Education Development Research and established a Memorandum of Understanding with Malaysia's Ministry of Higher Education.

IPO2023 - Fostering Academic Excellence and Cultural Connection at USM

USM International Mobility and Collaboration Centre (IMCC) hosted the USM International Postgraduate Orientation 2023 (IPO2023) programme, to celebrate the significance of global academic collaboration and cultural exchange. This event served as a platform to welcome and to guide the international postgraduate students, fostering a sense of community and support as they embark on their academic journeys at USM. The orientation programme featured a diverse range of activities aimed at acclimating participants to the university's academic environment, as well as providing valuable insights into the local culture and resources that can be found on campus. From informative sessions on academic policies and resources to cultural immersion activities, the programme sought to ensure that international students would feel well-prepared and integrated into the USM community.

OPERATION/INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

USM in Solidarity with ₱ : An Initiative by the University in Extending Financial Aid to Palestinian Students

USM is continuing to support Palestinian students at the university, in line with the Ministry of Higher Education's support for Palestinian students studying in the country. The university has extended RM250,000 aid to the People of Palestine Emergency Humanitarian Mission Fund, aiming to alleviate the burden of Palestinian students affected by the turmoil in Gaza. The USM Humanitarian Fund Committee has confirmed a provision of RM2,000 per person to 53 Palestinian students pursuing their studies at USM..

D'prince: An Inclusive Childcare Centre for Children with Normal and Hearing Impairments

The D'Prince Child Care Centre at USM is an inclusive childcare facility that accommodates both children with normal hearing and those with hearing impairments. The center is designed to integrate children with hearing disabilities into a mainstream setting, promoting inclusivity and social development from an early age. D'Prince offers specialized care and educational programmes tailored to the needs of each child, including speech therapy and communication skills development. The center is equipped with advanced facilities and trained staff to support children's holistic growth. The establishment of D'Prince is part of USM's initiative to create an inclusive society by providing equal opportunities for all children to thrive in a supportive environment. This approach aims to break down barriers and promote empathy, understanding, and acceptance among the younger generation.



Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

RESEARCH/INNOVATION

Historical Discovery: USM CGAR Team Unearths the Largest Ancient Temple at Bukit Choras

Researchers from the USM Centre for Global Archaeological Research (CGAR) have discovered an ancient building structure and artefacts at the Bukit Choras Archaeological Site in Bujang Valley. The site, which is believed to date back 1,200 years, includes a temple structure, sculptures, a Kalam Semah, an inscription stone, and earthenware fragments. The excavations, conducted in collaboration with the National Heritage Department and the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, were conducted between August and September 2023. The site is unique due to its isolated location north of Gunung Jerai.

ICoSeMT and INoDEx 2023 Fostering Innovation for a Sustainable Future

The USM Institute of Nano Optoelectronics Research and Technology (INOR) hosted the 3rd International Conference on Semiconductor Materials and Technology (ICoSeMT) 2023 and the 2nd International Invention, Innovation & Design Expo (INoDEx) 2023. The two-day event attracted over 150 participants from local and international institutions, including Japan, Austria, Germany, South Korea, and India. The conference aimed to foster innovation and knowledge sharing in the field of Semiconductor Materials and Technology, with a theme of "Innovation Towards A Sustainable Tomorrow."

ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

USM Arts And Science Students Showcase Musical Talents On Stage At USM Jazz Band 25th Annual Concert

The USM Jazz Band's 25th Annual Concert showcased the university's commitment to holistic education and music. The band, consisting of around 100 students and a crew of 30 members, aimed to promote creativity and academic excellence. The concert exemplified the importance of extracurricular activities like jazz band participation in student development, building confidence, teamwork skills, and community. The event also highlighted the role of the arts in enhancing university life. The USM Jazz Band is open to students interested in music as part of co-curricular activities and supports fund-raising initiatives.

An Eerie Expedition Into Japan's Supernatural World

Explore the realm of the supernatural with 'Yokai Parade: Supernatural Monsters from Japan' at the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) Museum and Gallery Tuanku Fauziah (MGTF) in cooperation with The Japan Foundation, Malaysia Institute of Art, Sabah Art Gallery and the Embassy of Japan in Malaysia. This travelling exhibition features creative works of Japan's Yokai culture that has been illustrated in ancient picture scrolls and Nishiki-e ("brocade picture," a type of Japanese multi-coloured woodblock print) since ancient times, curated by Yumoto Koichi, the Director Emeritus of the Yumoto Koichi Memorial JAPAN YOKAI MUSEUM (Miyoshi Mononoke Museum). As the medium

evolved from picture scrolls to Nishiki-e, books, and toys, the exhibition chronicles the transformation of Yokai from a source of fear to a more endearing and approachable presence, gradually gaining familiarity among the masses. The collection also showcases the charm of Yokai culture that continues to live within the people's imagination until today.

Cultural Gathering 2023 "Meeting Traditions, Crossing Communities"

The 2023 Cultural Gathering in Malaysia featured various activities including workshops, art and craft sales, traditional dining, sports competitions, and performances. The event included parties like USM Adikarma Art Group, Puteri Gamelan Wangsa Mutiara, Dewan Budaya Band, and Asia's Got Talent semi-finalist Sada Borneo. The event aimed to preserve local heritage and promote tradition, with the slogan "Memadani Tradisi, Merentasi Komuniti" promoting cultural exchange.

USM Placed Second In Kalam 3.0 Intervarsity Kabaddi Tournament; Highlights Another Aspect Of Indian Culture

A team from the Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) came second at the recently-held Kabaddi Competition for Men's Category in Kalam 3.0 Kabaddi Tournament. Held at Kompleks Sukan Minden USM, the tournament was hosted by the Kabaddi Unit, Persatuan Kebudayaan India (PKI) USM, with the competition offering cash prizes and certificates, which added to the excitement. In the Men's Category, Universiti Tun Hussein Onn (UTHM) and Universiti Malaya (UM) were placed First and Third respectively. Meanwhile, in the Women's Category, Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM), Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) and Universiti Malaya were placed at the First, Second and Third position respectively. A total of 170 students from 8 universities comprising of 8 men teams and 7 women teams took part in the competition.

TEACHING/LEARNING

Industrial Partnership Between USM and Histrong Design Aims to Foster Sustainability

USM School of Housing, Building and Planning has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Histrong Design (M) Sdn. Bhd to strengthen ties and establish education and training initiatives. The MoU aims to foster collaborations in industry expertise, particularly for interior design students. Key areas of cooperation include internships, project collaboration, industrial expertise, international competitions, and HISTRONG Bamboo Fiber Panel Sponsorship. Students will have the opportunity to participate in lectures and educational insights from HISTRONG experts.

Harmonising Nature and Education: Seameo Biotrop's Agro-Eco-Edu-Tourism Initiative

USM School of Biological Sciences (SBS), in collaboration with SEAMEO BIOTROP (Regional Centre for Tropical Biology), recently joined forces to hold the 61st Governing Board Meeting (GBM) and Regional Workshop on the Implementation of Agro-Eco-Edu-Tourism in Southeast Asia for Biodiversity Conservation Education, held at the Eastin Hotel in Penang. This two-day event, witnessed the active participation of seven board members and two official representatives hailing from nine countries, all convened under the shared objective of advancing knowledge and sustainable development in tropical biology. Beyond its official proceedings, this gathering serves as a testament to the spirit of collaboration and cooperation, uniting stakeholders in a shared commitment towards a common goal.

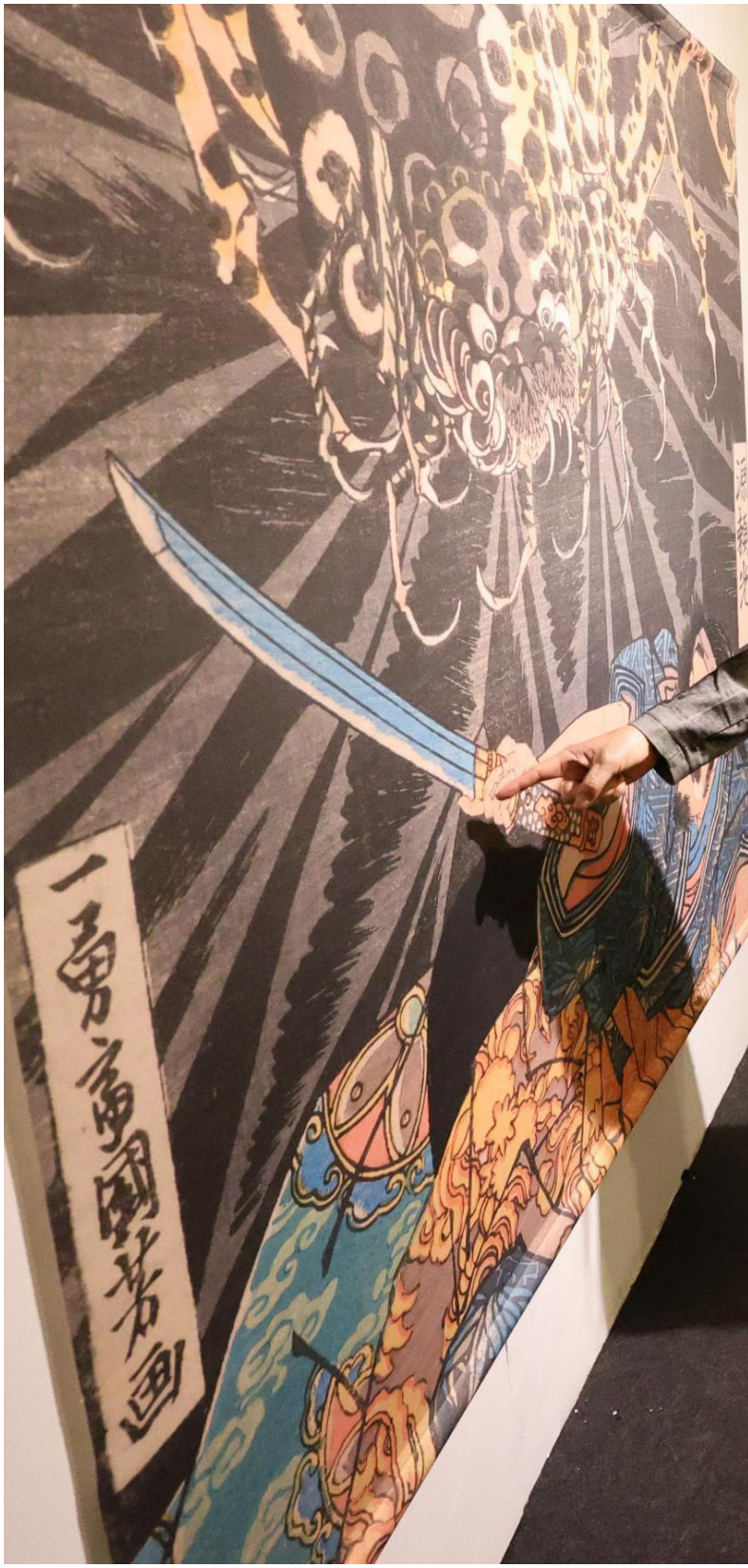
OPERATION/INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

USM Sejahtera Campus Strengthening the Role of Sustainability Officer

USM has completed a program with Sustainability Officers from its main campus and branches, empowering their roles to disseminate information about sustainability. The officers are responsible for planning, implementing, recording, monitoring, and documenting sustainability activities in their respective responsibility centres. The program aims to strengthen and make sustainability a norm in each PTJ. A reference text, 'Green Office Guidelines & Green Scholarships', was distributed to all officers to help them carry out sustainability-related activities in their respective PTJs.

USM Citizens Need to Understand and Make Sustainability a Continuous Practice

The Center for Human Transformation at USM held an online session on the role of staff in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The session was delivered by Dr. Normaliza Abdul Manaf, the Deputy Coordinator of Kampus Sejahtera, a unit responsible for sustainability activities. USM, recognized as a Research University in 2007, has been focusing on sustainability research. In June, USM chose June as 'USM Sustainability Month 2023' to promote sustainability activities. The month included programs like Sejahtera Walk, Car-Free Day, Sustainability Talk, and Clean the Beach. The highlight of the month is the Sustainability Carnival, "Sustainable Future Initiative Exhibition."







Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

RESEARCH/INNOVATION

USM-STRAVIK Form Strategic Collaboration to Develop ESG Automation Measurement Tool in USM Campus

USM's Center for Global Sustainability Studies (CGSS) has partnered with STRAVIK Sdn. Bhd to test the STRAVIK integrated energy consumption dashboard application (Connect2Save) in USM buildings. The dashboard automatically calculates energy consumption, promoting sustainability. The partnership also involves joint research to develop affordable, sustainable hardware and software solutions for water management, waste material management, and energy storage technology development, with a focus on artificial intelligence in energy storage analytics.

Catalysing Green Chemistry: USM's Presence at the Global Conference

Chew Ho Kin, a committee member of the American Chemical Society at USM International Student Chapter, attended the 27th Annual Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference in Long Beach, California. The conference, organized by the ACS Green Chemistry Institute, focused on sustainable chemistry practices and life cycle thinking. Chew participated in sessions, workshops, and networking events, gaining valuable insights into sustainable chemistry. His participation reflects USM's commitment to promoting sustainability and empowering students to drive transformative advancements in chemistry. He also explored the vibrant city life of Los Angeles, demonstrating USM's commitment to global engagement and STEM leadership.

ICSDG 2023: Nurturing Sustainability Through Collaboration and Knowledge Exchange

USM via the Centre for Global Sustainability Studies (CGSS) in collaboration with the South East Asia Sustainability Network (SEASN) held the 3rd International Conference on Sustainable Development Goals 2023 (ICSDG 2023) at Royale Chulan Hotel, Penang. Under the theme "Reinforcing SDGs Implementation for a Sustainable Future: Ensuring Inclusivity for All," the two-day conference focused on the pillars of Social, Economy, Environment, and Governance. The event provided a dynamic space for researchers, industry players, and experts to share insights, experiences, initiatives, and best practices relating to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This conference was graced by the presence of academics, experts, and leading researchers hailing from renowned international and local universities, alongside active industry players in sustainability-related fields who serve as keynote, plenary, and invited speakers.

ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

USM Inks MoU with Blue Planet to Push Sustainability Agenda Further

USM has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Blue Planet Environmental Solutions Pte. Ltd. to strengthen its ties and explore initiatives for waste management. The collaboration includes research collaboration, academic cooperation, and staff and student mobility programs. Activities include joint research, student supervision, and publication, as well as short courses, seminars, and conferences. This collaboration aims to realize the university's sustainability agenda.

USM Promoting Environmental Awareness via Green Forum

USM is promoting environmental awareness through the Green Forum, organized by student volunteers and the USM Centre for Global Sustainability Studies (CGSS). The forum, held on 20 February 2023, featured the Penang Green Council (PGC) and discussed environmental challenges and solutions. The forum is crucial for advancing environmental education and promoting sustainable practices within the university and the community. It aligns with USM's commitment to sustainability and its role as a leader in environmental education. By facilitating discussions and collaborations among stakeholders, the forum contributes to the university's mission of fostering a sustainable future.

NTN 3.0: 'Sekretariat Sukarelawan India' (SSI) Students Supporting USM's Effort in Creating a Green Campus

The third edition of Nurture the Nature (NTN) 3.0 Phase 1 programme, organized by SSI, USM, EcoHub, CGSS, Penang Agricultural Department, Kampus Sejahtera, and USM Archaeology Club, aims to create a green campus and promote environmental sustainability. The program raises awareness about planting trees and helps USM restore ecosystem services. 100 USM students participated, participating in activities like planting saplings and walking along EcoTrail, a forest bathing activity led by CGSS Science Officer Mohd Abdul Muin Md Akil. The initiative aims to become a model for sustainable practices in higher education.

GSB And Partners Create Impact on Coastal Communities with Engagement Programme

The Graduate School of Business (GSB), USM in collaboration with the Prince of Songkla University (PSU) Thailand and Chung Hua University in Taiwan today held the Coastal Cleaning Engagement Programme at Downtown Penang Second Bridge, an engagement programme that was designed to promote global participation and facilitate the exchange of knowledge in environmental preservation, while instilling sustainable principles in our future business leaders. With the aim to generate substantial and enduring positive impacts on local communities that rely on these resources of their livelihoods, this programme serves as an exceptional platform for the school and students of GSB@ USM to interact with their international counterparts, with a specific focus on sustainability and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

International Delegation Visits by Thammasat University, Thailand

The Centre for Global Sustainability Studies (CGSS) has received a courtesy visit from Thammasat University, Thailand. The visit aims to expand cooperation on SDGs, student mobility programmes, staff exchange, research cooperation, and many other potential areas of cooperation between the two universities. This discussion is also expected to be a starting point for international collaboration between Thammasat University and the Centre for Global Sustainability Studies (CGSS), Universiti Sains Malaysia. The delegation was led by Dr. Chaiwat Meesanthan, Director, Institute of East Asian Studies, Thammasat University (Coordinator), Asst. Prof. Chaiwat Meesanthan, Director, Institute of East Asian Studies, Thammasat University, and 20 university officials.

Hydroponics for Everyone

The Centre for Global Sustainability Studies (CGSS) team, led a sharing session on hydroponic cultivation for the children and some women residing in Kampung Melayu Flat. This initiative is organised jointly by the NGO PAKK Kampung Melayu under the Social Welfare Department and funded by YB Dr. P. Ramasamy, Penang Education Council. The project aims to give exposure to the participants, showing that agriculture is not limited by the availability of large spaces or land.

TEACHING/LEARNING

USM CGSS Taking Multi-Pronged Approach To Tackling Sustainability Issues

The Tzu-Chi Merits Society Malaysia and USM Centre for Global Sustainability Studies organized the "Tzu-Chi x PaGamO: Environmental Protection and Education E-sports World Cup II," an e-sports competition aimed at raising environmental awareness. The event, which included online and in-person components, featured 338 Malaysian contestants and 60 advancing to the final. USM students, including Yeap Pei Ying and Yong Shi Hui, performed well. The event, supported by sustainability-focused companies, attracted around 200 attendees and demonstrated how e-sports can be a fun and effective educational tool for environmental education.

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Literacy Session, Social Statistics And Well-Being 2023

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) and Centre for Global Sustainability Studies (CGSS) collaborated to discuss the role of SDGs indicators in forming policies for a sustainable future. The session aimed to increase awareness among USM students about sustainable development issues and implementation efforts towards achieving the 2030 Agenda by providing access to DOSM's latest social publications and free downloads on the DOSM portal.

Collaborative CSR Programme By Xylem South East Asia And Water Watch Penang Represented

Dr. Chee Su Yin from Centre for Global Sustainability Studies (CGSS) who is an EXCO of WWP attended a CSR event with Xylem South East Asia (Xylem SEA) that was held at Penang Free School. The programme was attended by more than twenty Form 3 students. Xylem facilitated the session on chemical and physical assessment of a river that consists of several parameters, such as pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen, flow rate, phosphate, nitrite, nitrate and ammonia content of a river. Those parameters are indicators of whether the condition of the rivers have been polluted or remained pristine. As a short practical session, the students got to test and compare parameters of rainwater, river water, tap water and soap water. WWP proceeded with the biological assessment of a river that demonstrated a river health by identification of macroinvertebrates present in a freshwater ecosystem. At the end of the session, quizzes were conducted with souvenirs from WWP and Xylem presented to the winners.

Recycling Education Tour Program with ESH Resource Management Sdn. Bhd.

The Recycling Education Tour programme was held in collaboration with ESH Resource Management Sdn. Bhd. The programme was organised by Tzu Chi in collaboration with Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) through Centre for Global Sustainability Studies (CGSS) together with CETREE located in Bukit Minyak industrial area, Juru, Penang to provide awareness, knowledge and support the noble efforts of NGOs and industries in the processing of used goods such as ESH Resource Management Sdn. Bhd.

OPERATION/INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

USM Continues to Strengthen Sustainability Commitment: Full Implementation of Single-Use Plastic Ban

The USM Industrial and Community Network Division (BJIM) will continue to ban single-use plastic use on the campus, aiming to strengthen sustainability and well-being. This initiative builds on previous announcements for reducing polystyrene and single-use plastic containers. USM has been a pioneer in sustainability and wellbeing since 2008, and the enforcement aims to encourage citizens to reduce and reject plastic use. Alternatives include using reusable or own containers, steel drinking straws, glass containers, or cloth bags. A plastic-free campus requires support and cooperation from all parties on the campus.

Household E-Waste Collection Program Organised by Ppkbsm to Give Awareness Regarding the Disposal of Electrical and Electronic Waste

The Household E-waste Collection Program at USM Materials and Mineral Resources Engineering Study Center (PPKBSM) aims to educate staff and students about proper disposal of electrical and electronic waste. The program also collects printed circuit boards for research on environmentally friendly metal acquisition using hydrometallurgy methods. The increasing amount of e-waste has raised concerns about recycling activities competing with the growing pile of e-waste. The program aims to raise awareness and responsibility among USM citizens about proper disposal of household electrical and electronic waste.

USM-ADRC Signed MoA, Form Strategic Collaboration in ESG Project

USM has signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Advance Dispute Resolution Center to collaborate on the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Project. The partnership aims to develop new ESG systems, support USM's KPIs, and create synergistic benefits.

Plogging in USM Campus

Green Ambassadors (GA) under Environmental Protection & Education Hub (EPEHub), Centre for Global Sustainability Studies had conducted a plogging event around Masjid Al-Malik Khalid, Tasik Harapan, Tasik Aman & Tapak Convex USM. It was time for students to take the initiative in their hands to clean up our very own green campus. The student volunteers (GA) had set up each group to pick up the rubbish that they spotted while walking around the designated locations. Two separate rubbish bags were given to each group to separate recycling items as well as items that cannot be recycled. At the end of the plogging event, the students gained a lot of knowledge on which items can be recycled and love the green and clean environment.





Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

RESEARCH/INNOVATION

USM and ADRC Join Forces for ESG Project

USM has partnered with the Advance Dispute Resolution Centre (ADRC) on a pioneering ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) project. This collaboration aims to advance research and innovation in ESG practices by developing and implementing effective strategies for sustainable development. The project will integrate USM's research expertise with ADRC's specialized knowledge in dispute resolution to address key environmental and social challenges. By combining their resources and insights, the partnership seeks to create impactful solutions that enhance sustainability and governance practices across various sectors. This initiative reflects USM's commitment to driving research and innovation in ESG areas, supporting the development of more sustainable and ethical practices globally.

NTN 3.0: SSI Students Propel Green Campus Innovations at USM

USM has launched the NTN 3.0 initiative to support students in their efforts to develop a greener campus. This program focuses on fostering innovation and research related to sustainability and environmental management. NTN 3.0 provides students with resources, mentorship, and funding opportunities to implement eco-friendly projects and technologies on campus. The initiative encourages the development of innovative solutions for reducing the university's environmental footprint and promoting sustainable practices. By supporting student-led green projects, USM aims to enhance campus sustainability, integrate research with practical applications, and foster a culture of environmental responsibility among its students. This program underscores USM's commitment to advancing research and innovation in sustainability, aligning with its broader goals of contributing to environmental conservation and sustainable development.

ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

Geoscientists Converge at ICOG 2023 to Delve into Technology for Earth Science

At ICOG 2023, geoscientists from around the globe gathered to discuss the latest technological advancements in Earth science applications. The conference provided a platform for experts to share insights and innovations that can enhance geological research and industry practices. By focusing on emerging technologies and their practical applications, the event fostered collaboration between academic researchers, industry professionals, and technology developers. The discussions highlighted how cutting-edge tools and techniques can address current challenges in Earth sciences and drive progress in fields such as environmental monitoring and resource management. This engagement underscores the importance of integrating technological advancements with scientific research to support sustainable development and improve industry practices. The gathering not only promoted knowledge exchange but also strengthened connections between the geoscience community and industry stakeholders.

USM Team Joins Global Voices at United Nations Climate Week 2023

At the United Nations Climate Week 2023, a team from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) actively participated in global discussions on climate action and sustainability. The event brought together leaders, scientists, and stakeholders to address urgent climate issues and explore innovative solutions. USM's involvement included sharing research findings, contributing to panel discussions, and engaging with international experts to promote effective climate strategies. This engagement highlighted USM's commitment to advancing global climate initiatives and fostering collaboration between academia, industry, and policy makers. By participating in these high-profile discussions, USM helped shape the discourse on climate change, emphasizing the role of research and education in driving sustainable development and environmental stewardship. The university's presence at the event underscored its dedication to addressing global climate challenges and contributing to the international effort for a sustainable future.

TEACHING & LEARNING

Master in Sustainable Development Practice (MSDP)

The Master in Sustainable Development Practice (MSDP) is a two-year program at Universiti Sains Malaysia, focusing on addressing sustainable development challenges. Students learn across health, natural sciences, social sciences, and management, with crosssectoral field training. The program fosters effective communication among diverse fields, tackling poverty and sustainability issues. The "Global Classroom: Foundations of Sustainable Development Practice" course facilitates cross-disciplinary collaboration. The program aligns with SDG 13: Climate Action, emphasizing the importance of interdisciplinary education in addressing climate challenges.

Acknowledging Green Ambassadors: USM's Focus on Environmental Education and Sustainable Practices

USM underscores its dedication to environmental sustainability by integrating green practices and climate action into its teaching and learning framework. By recognizing the significant contributions of students, faculty, and staff who have advanced environmental awareness, USM highlights its role in fostering a culture of environmental responsibility. This commitment aligns with SDG 13: Climate Action, which calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its effects. USM's focus on embedding sustainability into educational objectives aims to raise awareness and inspire broader participation in climate action initiatives. Through these efforts, USM supports SDG 13 by promoting environmental consciousness and preparing individuals to address climate challenges effectively.

OPERATION/INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

USM Promoting Environmental Awareness via Green Forum

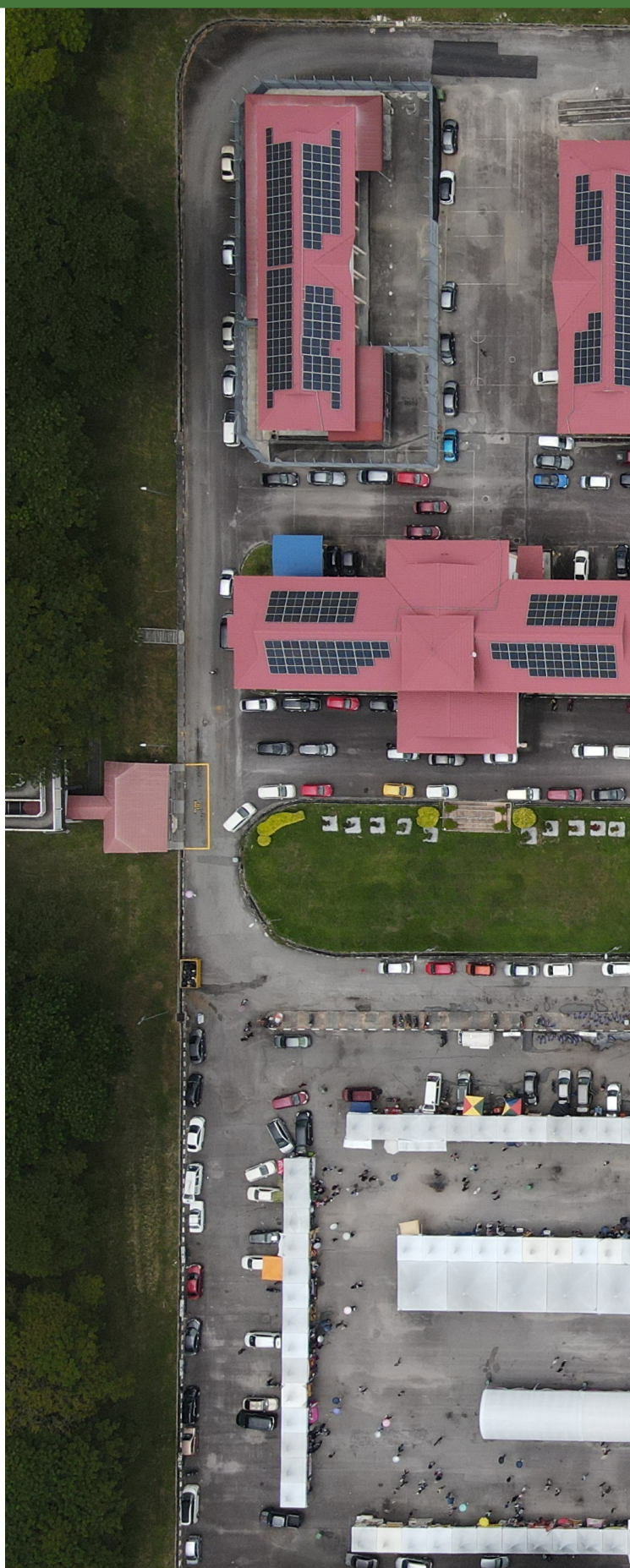
USM has launched the Green Forum to enhance environmental awareness and sustainability practices within the university and beyond. This initiative aims to foster dialogue on environmental issues by bringing together experts, students, and community members to discuss and promote green practices. The forum features a series of lectures, workshops, and interactive sessions focused on various aspects of environmental conservation and sustainable development. By facilitating these discussions, USM seeks to strengthen its institutional commitment to environmental stewardship and integrate sustainability into its operations and educational programs. The Green Forum not only supports USM's goal of fostering a culture of environmental responsibility but also encourages collaborative efforts to address global environmental challenges. This program underscores USM's role in leading by example and advancing environmental awareness within the academic community and the broader society.

USM's Appointed as Climate Change Advisory Panel: A Significant Recognition

USM has been appointed as a panel advisor for climate change, marking a significant recognition of its contributions to environmental sustainability. This prestigious appointment highlights USM's role in shaping climate policy and promoting effective climate action strategies. As a panel advisor, USM will provide expert guidance on climate change issues, leveraging its research and institutional expertise to influence climate-related policies and practices. The appointment aligns with SDG 13 (Climate Action), emphasizing the university's commitment to addressing global climate challenges through collaborative efforts and informed decision-making. This role will involve contributing to discussions on climate change mitigation and adaptation, advocating for sustainable practices, and supporting initiatives that aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance resilience to climate impacts. USM's inclusion in this advisory panel underscores its leadership in environmental stewardship and its dedication to advancing climate action at both national and international levels.

National Online Green Technology and Stem-Biodiversity FestivaL 2023

USM has organized the 2023 National Online Green Technology and STEM Biodiversity Festival, an initiative designed to promote environmental sustainability and STEM education across Malaysia. This virtual event aimed to raise awareness about green technologies and biodiversity through a series of online presentations, workshops, and interactive sessions. By leveraging digital platforms, the festival facilitated widespread participation and engagement, demonstrating USM's commitment to integrating sustainability into educational practices and institutional operations. The event highlighted USM's role in advancing green technology and fostering a greater understanding of biodiversity, aligning with its broader goals of environmental stewardship and innovation. This festival reflects USM's strategic approach to promoting sustainable practices and educational outreach in a digital format, enhancing its institutional arrangements for addressing critical environmental and educational challenges.







Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

RESEARCH/INNOVATION

USM CEMACS Team Malaysia Clinches Victory at 7th International Ocean Hackathon Grand Finale in Brest with Jellygo App

The USM CEMACS-led Team Malaysia achieved a significant victory at the 7th International Ocean Hackathon Grand Finale in Brest, France, with their innovative app, JellyGo. This competition, which brings together global participants to develop solutions for ocean-related challenges, saw the Malaysian team excel with their app designed to enhance marine conservation and sustainability. JellyGo impressed the judges with its advanced features and practical applications in monitoring and protecting marine ecosystems. This achievement highlights the team's research and development efforts in addressing oceanic issues through technology. The win not only underscores USM CEMACS's commitment to advancing marine science and innovation but also enhances Malaysia's reputation in the global research community. This success demonstrates the impactful integration of technology in environmental solutions, aligning with broader goals of ocean preservation and sustainability.

CEMACS Academic Wins Global Award for Dugong and Seagrass Conservation Project

A USM CEMACS academic has received a global award for their outstanding work on a dugong and seagrass conservation project. This accolade recognizes the significant impact of the project in protecting and preserving marine biodiversity. The initiative focuses on the conservation of dugongs, a vulnerable marine species, and their crucial seagrass habitat, which plays a vital role in maintaining healthy marine ecosystems. The award highlights the project's innovative approaches and successful outcomes in addressing environmental challenges. This recognition not only underscores the academic's contribution to global marine conservation efforts but also enhances USM's reputation as a leader in marine research and environmental stewardship. The project exemplifies the effective application of research and innovation in fostering sustainable practices and protecting endangered marine species.

USM CEMACS Director Appointed Vice-Chair of UNESCO Oceanographic Commission

The Director of USM CEMACS has been appointed Vice-Chair of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) for the Western Pacific. This prestigious role highlights the director's significant contributions to marine science and international oceanographic research. As Vice-Chair, the director will play a crucial role in shaping policies and initiatives aimed at advancing oceanographic research and addressing regional and global marine challenges. The appointment underscores USM's

leadership in oceanographic research and its commitment to contributing to international efforts in marine conservation and sustainability. This position not only enhances the university's reputation but also reinforces its role in advancing innovative solutions and collaborative approaches to oceanographic issues on a global scale.

ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

Celebrating the Conservation and Sustainable use of Marine Biodiversity

USM recently celebrated achievements in the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity through a dedicated event. This initiative brought together community members, industry stakeholders, and researchers to highlight efforts in preserving marine ecosystems and promoting sustainable practices. The event featured presentations and discussions on successful conservation projects, emphasizing the importance of collaboration between academic institutions, local communities, and industry partners. By showcasing these efforts, USM aimed to raise awareness about marine biodiversity issues and inspire further engagement in sustainable practices. The celebration underscored USM's commitment to fostering partnerships that support environmental stewardship and contribute to the protection of marine resources, reinforcing the university's role in advancing community and industry collaboration for marine conservation.

CEMACS-KAHAKU Japan-Underwater World Langkawi Bring Deep Sea Creatures to Langkawi with New Exhibition

USM's Centre for Marine and Coastal Studies (CEMACS), in collaboration with Kahaku Japan and Underwater World Langkawi, has launched a new exhibition showcasing deep-sea creatures in Langkawi. This initiative brings the wonders of the deep ocean to a broader audience, combining academic research with public engagement. The exhibition features a range of deep-sea species, aiming to increase awareness and understanding of marine biodiversity and the challenges facing deep-sea ecosystems. By partnering with international and local organizations, the project highlights the importance of community involvement in marine conservation efforts. This collaboration not only educates the public about deep-sea life but also strengthens ties between academic research and industry, fostering a greater appreciation for marine environments and promoting conservation efforts. The exhibition exemplifies how engaging with diverse stakeholders can advance marine science and conservation goals.

WCMB 2023: Promoting Sustainable Practices to Safeguard the Earth's Marine Biodiversity

The World Conference on Marine Biodiversity (WCMB) 2023, hosted by Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), focused on promoting sustainable practices to protect marine biodiversity. This conference gathered global experts, industry leaders, and community stakeholders to discuss innovative solutions and strategies for safeguarding marine ecosystems. The event emphasized the importance of collaboration between academic institutions, industry, and local communities in advancing marine conservation. Through workshops, presentations, and panel discussions, participants shared knowledge on effective practices for preserving marine biodiversity and mitigating environmental impacts. The WCMB 2023 highlighted USM's role in fostering dialogue and partnerships that drive sustainable marine management, showcasing how interdisciplinary and cross-sector collaboration can address pressing environmental challenges and support the preservation of the world's oceans.

TEACHING/LEARNING

USM and IORA Workshop Raising Awareness of Coastal and Marine Protection

USM and the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) organized a workshop to enhance awareness about coastal and marine protection and its significance to the Blue Economy. This event brought together educators, researchers, and industry professionals to explore the integration of coastal and marine conservation into educational frameworks. Participants engaged in discussions on the challenges and strategies for preserving marine ecosystems while promoting sustainable economic activities. The workshop emphasized the need for interdisciplinary approaches and collaborative efforts in teaching and learning to address environmental and economic issues related to coastal and marine areas. By focusing on the Blue Economy, the workshop aimed to improve understanding and foster best practices in marine conservation, illustrating how education can drive effective solutions for sustainable development and environmental stewardship.

Students Explore Aquatic Sciences (SEAS) Camp 2023

The Seas Camp 2023, hosted by USM, provided students with an immersive learning experience in aquatic sciences. This event aimed to deepen students' understanding of marine environments through hands-on activities and expert-led sessions. Participants explored various aspects of aquatic science, including marine biology, ecosystem dynamics, and conservation practices. The camp featured interactive workshops, field trips, and demonstrations, allowing students to engage directly with marine research and environmental issues. By fostering a practical understanding of aquatic science and its real-world applications, Seas Camp 2023 enhanced students' knowledge and enthusiasm for marine studies. The program underscored USM's commitment to experiential learning and its role in preparing the next generation of marine scientists and environmental stewards.

HRH Saudi Prince Visits USM CEMACS, Shares Interest in Coastal and Marine Conservation

HRH Saudi Prince visited USM and the Centre for Marine and Coastal Studies (CEMACS) to explore mutual interests in coastal and marine conservation. During the visit, the Prince engaged with USM's academic and research teams, discussing collaborative opportunities for advancing marine science and sustainability. The discussions highlighted the importance of integrating global perspectives into educational programs focused on marine conservation. The visit underscored USM's commitment to fostering international partnerships and enhancing its educational offerings in marine sciences. By sharing expertise and exploring joint initiatives, the collaboration aims to address pressing environmental challenges and advance the understanding of coastal and marine ecosystems. This interaction exemplifies how global engagements can enrich teaching and learning experiences, contributing to a broader impact on marine conservation education.

OPERATION/INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

WCMB Premier Forum Addresses Marine Biodiversity Issues

The World Conference on Marine Biodiversity (WCMB) 2023, held at USM, aimed to address marine biodiversity issues. It facilitated discussions among experts, researchers, and stakeholders on marine conservation and sustainable practices. USM showcased its leadership in marine research and commitment to global biodiversity challenges. The conference featured presentations, panels, and workshops, highlighting USM's strategic position in marine conservation and its commitment to preserving marine ecosystems.

GSB and Partners Create Impact on Coastal Communities with Engagement Programme

Universiti Sains Malaysia's Graduate School of Business (GSB) and its partners have launched an impactful engagement program aimed at coastal communities. This initiative focuses on strengthening the ties between academia and local stakeholders to address key issues faced by coastal regions. The program includes collaborative projects that support sustainable development and community well-being through targeted interventions and capacity-building efforts. By engaging directly with coastal communities, GSB and its partners seek to create meaningful and lasting improvements in local livelihoods and environmental practices. This program highlights USM's commitment to operationalizing its research and expertise to benefit society, demonstrating how institutional arrangements can drive positive change and foster productive partnerships in addressing regional challenges. The engagement program underscores USM's role in translating academic knowledge into practical solutions that enhance community resilience and sustainability.

International Coastal Cleanup 2023

The International Coastal Cleanup Campaign 2023 by CEMACS USM concluded successfully with a significant impact. Over the month-long campaign, 15 groups across the country collected a total of 16,284 items. The top three items collected were cigarette butts (2,406), food wrappers (1,601), and plastic beverage bottles (1,346). We extend our gratitude to all partners, supporters, and friends who contributed, and encourage continued awareness of the importance of protecting marine ecosystems.





Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystem, sustainability manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degredation and halt biodiversity loss

RESEARCH/ INNOVATION

Barn Owl For Oil Palm Smallholders' Initiative (BOSI) Programme

USM, together with the Barn Owl and Rodent Research Group (BORG), runs the Barn Owl Initiative program for Palm Oil Smallholder Farmers (BOSI) to help farmers control rodents in their fields. BORG coordinator who is also a lecturer at the School of Biology USM, Associate Professor Dr Hasber Salim said the initiative was carried out in collaboration with the Malaysian Palm Oil Green Conservation Foundation (MPOGCF) and was able to help smallholders effectively control and reduce the pest rat population. BOSI is a project special event that saw the handover and installation of 20 nest boxes to smallholders in Mukim Bagan Samak, Bandar Baharu in Kedah.

Inter-University Bio-Link 6.0 Launch: Collaborative Biology Learning and Research

Walailak University's School of Science and Universiti Sains Malaysia's School of Biological Sciences have launched the Inter-University Bio-Link 6.0 program from May 17 to 20, 2023. This initiative allows students to exchange knowledge in biology, fosters a dynamic learning environment, and encourages research collaborations among faculty. Initially planned for 2020, the program was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Now, with the pandemic under control, the event has begun. Ms. Chirawan Rattanasuk, a third-year Entomology and Parasitology student from Universiti Sains Malaysia, expressed her excitement about Walailak University's environment and its coastal proximity.

Research on Tropical Limestone Karst Landscapes Aims to Safeguard Malaysia's Unique Heritage

YTL Cement Bhd and the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) have formed a strategic partnership by creating a University-Industry Research Consortium focused on studying sustainable tropical limestone karst landscapes in Malaysia. This unique consortium includes Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Universiti Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdullah, Universiti Malaysia Sabah, and Universiti Malaysia Sarawak. University-Industry Research Consortium involves various research disciplines, including experts in earth science, biodiversity, landscape and geoheritage, conservation geology, and sustainability, thus ensuring a thorough study of geological, ecological, and cultural aspects for informed decision-making on conservation and resource management.


BARN OWL ANTI
RESEARCH &
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ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

Spacein Sdn Bhd and Planters International Join Forces to Revolutionize Reforestation Efforts with Satellite Iot Solutions

SpaceIn Sdn Bhd, a satellite manufacturing spin-off from Universiti Sains Malaysia, has partnered with Planters International Bhd to improve reforestation and environmental monitoring using satellite IoT technology. The partnership will enable efficient project management, wildlife monitoring, and ecosystem management. SpaceIn will test Ground Sensor terminals in conservation areas and launch a dedicated constellation of satellites for reforestation. In October 2023, SpaceIn will launch SpaceANT-D, a technology demonstration satellite, funded by a grant from the SUPERB accelerator program by TERAJU.

MPDJLU, BHEPA and Perak State Forestry Department Working Together to 'Save Our Earth'

A recent collaboration among the Exco for Sustainability and Culture of MPDJLU, BHEPA, and the Perak State Forestry Department resulted in the successful "Save Our Earth" program on May 28, 2023. Held at the Larut Matang Eco Learning Centre in Kuala Sepetang, 65 students from USM's Engineering Campus participated. The event included planting mangrove saplings, following an informative session by Abu Bakar Mat Saad on swamp forests. The primary goal was to support the government's Penghijauan Malaysia Programme and the 100 Million Tree Planting Campaign, focusing on flora conservation.

USM Celebrates Earth Week 300 Mangrove Trees Planted

The American Chemical Society of USM International Student Chapter (ACS USM) successfully organized an event called 'Earth Day 2023: Importance of Mangrove Trees', in collaboration with Water Watch Penang (WWP) as the main sponsor, Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM) and Penang Inshore Fisherman Welfare Association (PIFWA). he event was held to raise awareness about environmental preservation and sustainability practices, in conjunction with the Chemists Celebrate Earth Week (CCEW) organised by the American Chemical Society (ACS). It was held at Pusat Pendidikan Kecil Hutan Paya Laut, located at Sungai Acheh, Nibong Tebal, and involved 45 USM students, 17 participants from ViTrox Corporation Berhad (an industry), and some members from the local fishermen communities.



TEACHING/LEARNING

Agro-Eco-Edu-Tourism In Southeast Asia For Biodiversity Conservation Education

The Universiti Sains Malaysia School of Biological Sciences and SEAMEO BIOTROP held the 61st Governing Board Meeting and Regional Workshop on the Implementation of Agro-Eco-Edu-Tourism in Southeast Asia for Biodiversity Conservation Education. The event, held from 5 to 6 October 2023, involved seven board members and two official representatives from nine countries. The event aimed to advance knowledge and sustainable development in tropical biology. The Education and Cultural Attaché, Professor Dr. Muhammad Firdaus, highlighted the similarities between Indonesia and Malaysia in their biodiversity, highlighting their unique wildlife and rainforests.



Bats of Penang: Guardian of the Night, Protectors of the Island

No photo description available.Bats of Penang – Guardian of the Night, Protectors of the Island" is an enlightening experience-sharing talk by USM researcher Dr. Nurul Ain that delves into the fascinating world of bats in Penang, Malaysia. This talk explores these nocturnal creatures' crucial role in the island's ecosystem, from pollination and seed dispersal to insect control. The talk showcases the diverse bat species native to Penang, their unique behaviors, and their challenges due to habitat loss and environmental changes. It highlights conservation efforts and the vital importance of protecting these misunderstood creatures, emphasizing their role as guardians of the night. By raising awareness and fostering appreciation, awareness of the 'Bats of Penang' aims to inspire local communities and viewers around the world to support conservation initiatives and ensure the survival of these species.

USM Collaborating with Various Partners to Provide Education on Mangrove Ecosystems

USM, in collaboration with various organizations, successfully organized a mangrove planting project in Kedah. The initiative, funded by the Japan Malaysia Association and the USM School of Educational Studies, involved 30 students, teachers, and USM staff planting mangrove saplings in designated areas. The project aimed to preserve mangroves along the coastal areas of Kuala Muda and educate students and teachers about their vital role in the ecosystem. Mangroves act as a buffer against coastal erosion, provide habitat for marine species, and sequester carbon dioxide, making their preservation crucial for local communities and the environment.



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainabale development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

RESEARCH/ INNOVATION

USM Experts: Proposed Unit Will Strengthen Police Force

The Criminal Investigation Department's proposal to create a Behavioural Science Unit (BSU) has been backed by criminology experts, who believe it will improve police investigations. Datuk Dr. P. Sundramoorthy from USM's Centre for Policy Research supports the BSU, citing its potential to improve crime scene analysis, offender behavior assessment, and victim profiling. The unit would use expertise from various fields, including sociology, criminology, economics, political science, forensic science, computer science, and psychology, to analyze crime patterns and refine policing methods.

ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

The 2023 Regional Lecturer Workshop on Teaching Peace

The Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies (IHRP), along with USM and the SHAPE-SEA program, hosted the 2023 Regional Lecturer Workshop on Teaching Peace: Developing Knowledge and Skills on Peace and Transformative Peacebuilding. The event took place at the Ibis Bangkok Riverside Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand, and was attended by resource persons and participants. The ASEAN University Network – Human Rights Education was introduced by Dr. Vachararutai Boontinand, Director of IHRP at Mahidol University.

TEACHING/LEARNING

Prof. Carmel Borg in Malaysia for the IMAESC Summer School: Education, Sustainability and Peace

Prof. Carmel Borg led a group of IMAESC students who attended the annual summer school at the USM. The three-week summer school focused on education, sustainability and peace. USM is a public research university. Ranked 137 in the QS World University Rankings and 4th in the Times Higher Education Impact Ranking, the university is an associate partner of the consortium that is responsible for the delivery of the International Master in Adult Education for Social Change. While at USM, Prof. Borg contributed daily to knowledge production. Also, Prof. Borg met the Vice Chancellor of USM and several members of the academic staff to discuss bilateral as well as multilateral cooperation.

OPERATION/INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

A-Lead 2023: Strengthening USM's Leadership for a Transformative Future

In alignment with USM Strategic Plan for 2022-2024, which focuses on cultivating competitive talent to address both national and global demands, the USM Pusat Transformasi Insan (PTI) has conducted the second series of the 'Accelerating High-Potential Leaders Programme (A-Lead)'. This initiative is designed specifically for the university's Deputy Heads of Departments. The programme aims to enhance competencies in resource management, including succession planning, and to ensure the effective and efficient use of resources in decision-making processes.The programme's objectives include:Unlocking participants' internal innovative potential by promoting forward-thinking practices related to resource management; Analyzing real-world challenges to develop creative and strategic solutions; Providing participants with practical skills in resource management to build resilience and succeed in navigating unexpected disruptions.



Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

RESEARCH/ INNOVATION

UISU Medan to Host 12th iCMR

Universiti Islam Sumatera Utara (UISU) in Medan, Indonesia, has been announced as the host for the 12th International Conference on Multidisciplinary Research (iCMR) in 2024. This was declared during the closing ceremony of the 11th iCMR held at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). The event saw participation from over 100 delegates, fostering interdisciplinary discussions and networking opportunities. The conference aims to enhance collaborative research efforts across various fields. Awards for the best papers and posters were given out to recognize outstanding contributions. The 11th iCMR was conducted in a hybrid format at Sains@USM.

USM and MTU Sign MoU for Academic and Research Collaboration

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and Middle Technical University (MTU) from Iraq have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to foster academic and research collaboration. This partnership aims to enhance scientific exchange, joint supervision of graduate students, and participation in international conferences and training. The agreement was signed by USM Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed, and MTU President, Professor Dr. Abdulmohsin Naji Mohaisen Al-Agele, focusing on advancing engineering, medical, and administrative disciplines.

USM and MSU Strengthen Collaborative Ties Through MoU Renewal

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and Management and Science University (MSU) have renewed their Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance collaboration. The agreement focuses on four key areas: health and medical sciences programs, dual-degree offerings, research partnerships, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)-related activities. Signed by USM Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed, and MSU President, Professor Tan Sri Dato' Wira Dr. Mohd Shukri Ab. Yajid, the MoU aims to foster interdisciplinary research, knowledge exchange, and innovative initiatives for a sustainable future.

USM and ITS Launch Collaborative Research Programme

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember (ITS) in Surabaya, Indonesia, have initiated the USM-ITS Research Student Enrichment Programme (RSEP) 2023. This programme, aligned with USM's APEX agenda, aims to empower 21 selected final-year and postgraduate students through interdisciplinary collaborations and cultural exchanges. The initiative features workshops and interactive sessions led by experienced researchers, inspiring students to become leaders in their fields and contributing to sustainable development. The collaboration enhances USM's commitment to academic excellence and international research opportunities.



USM and SMBB Medical University Sign MoU for Academic and Research Collaboration

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto (SMBB) Medical University in Pakistan have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance academic and research collaboration. The agreement focuses on student and staff exchanges, joint academic and research programs, and shared workshops and publications. Signed by USM Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed, and SMBB Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dr. Nusrat Shah, the MoU aims to provide new opportunities for postgraduate studies and benefit disadvantaged students in suburban areas. Both institutions look forward to fruitful cooperation.

ENGAGEMENT (COMMUNITY/INDUSTRY)

USM and Osaka University Forge Collaborative Milestones Through OUICP

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and Osaka University celebrated their partnership through the Osaka University International Certificate Programme (OUICP) at the Osaka University ASEAN Campus in USM. The event honored the achievements of the 2022 cohort and welcomed the 2023 participants. Distinguished guests, including Collaborative Professor Dato' Seri Michael Tio, praised the collaboration for providing international exposure and enhancing research expertise. The program includes diverse courses and emphasizes interdisciplinary research, strengthening ties between both institutions and enriching their educational landscapes.

USM Expands Global Partnerships with China

USM has signed Memoranda of Understanding with four Chinese institutions: Guilin Medical University, Huaiyin Institute of Technology, Liaoning University, and Suzhou City University. These MoUs aim to strengthen international ties through student and staff exchanges, collaborative research, and academic programs. This initiative underscores USM's dedication to global cooperation and its reputation as a leading research university with a focus on sustainability and impact.

USM and JICA Collaborate for Sustainable Science and Technology

USM and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) are collaborating on sustainable development in science and technology through the SATREPS-OPT program. This partnership focuses on research involving oil palm trunks and aims to advance innovation across ASEAN. The collaboration also aligns with JICA's regional initiatives, enhancing research and educational opportunities.

USM and Croatian Envoy Discuss Future Collaboration Opportunities

USM engaged in discussions with Croatian Ambassador Dr. Ivan Velimir Starčević, focusing on potential collaborations in education, research, culture, and tourism. The dialogue explored joint programs, student and staff exchanges, and cultural initiatives that could benefit both Malaysia and Croatia. The meeting also highlighted the possibilities for expanding partnerships in science and technology, particularly in fields where both nations have expertise. This collaboration reflects USM's commitment to global engagement and the pursuit of mutually beneficial academic and cultural ties.

USM and UMPSA Explore Fintech Collaboration

USM hosted a visit from Universiti Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdullah (UMPSA) to explore potential collaboration in Financial Technology (FinTech) and Micro-Credentials. The visit aimed to enhance academic cooperation, with UMPSA expressing interest in USM's FinTech programs. Discussions were led by USM's School of Management (SOM) and Graduate School of Business (GSB), focusing on educational initiatives in FinTech and Micro-Credentials. The collaboration seeks to equip students with industry-relevant skills and strengthen academic ties between the two institutions.

UISU Medan to Host 12th ICMR

Universitas Islam Sumatera Utara (UISU) Medan will host the 12th International Conference on Multidisciplinary Research (ICMR), focusing on promoting multidisciplinary research in various fields. The conference is a collaboration between USM and UISU, aiming to provide a platform for researchers, academics, and industry professionals to exchange ideas and discuss recent advancements. This event highlights the importance of collaborative research in addressing global challenges.

USM Engineering Campus Welcomes Collaboration with Universita di Parma

USM Engineering Campus hosted Professor Dr. Cristina Sissa from Universita di Parma, Italy, to explore potential academic and research collaborations. The visit focused on strengthening ties, particularly in chemistry and material sciences. Both institutions aim to enhance student exchange programs and joint research initiatives. Professor Dr. Habibah A Wahab emphasized the importance of this partnership in expanding USM's global collaborations, while Dr. Cristina Sissa expressed her interest in leveraging USM's research facilities for future projects.

USM and Walailak University Strengthen Ties for Sustainable Goals

USM and Walailak University (WU) are exploring collaborative efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through the USM-WU Mobility Programme, both institutions are focusing on sustainability engagement, knowledge exchange, and collaborative research. The program includes visits to biodiversity sites, community initiatives, and academic discussions on sustainability. This partnership aims to benefit students and researchers, advancing sustainable practices in both Malaysia and Thailand.

USM Signs MoU with Intel to Enhance University-Industry Collaboration

USM has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Intel Microelectronics to enhance cooperation between the university and industry. The MoU aims to drive innovation and research by leveraging Intel's technological expertise. The partnership will foster a dynamic research environment and enhance USM's infrastructure, contributing to Malaysia's technology sector growth.

USM Enhances Collaboration with Gakushuin University Through MoU

USM has strengthened its partnership with Gakushuin University through a recently signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). This agreement aims to enhance academic and research collaboration between the two universities, focusing on collaborative academic programs, student and faculty exchanges, and joint research initiatives. The collaboration aims to facilitate a more robust exchange of knowledge and resources, benefiting the academic communities of both universities and paving the way for increased global academic collaboration and mutual advancements in research and education.

USM Hosts Third Visit from Libyan Academic Attaché

The Academic Attaché from the Embassy of Libya in Malaysia visited USM for the third time. The purpose of the visit was to strengthen academic partnerships between USM and Libyan institutions. Discussions during the visit focused on potential collaborations in research, student exchanges, and faculty development. The Academic Attaché's visit highlighted Libya's interest in enhancing educational ties and cooperation with USM. The meeting involved a review of existing collaborative efforts and the identification of new opportunities for joint initiatives. Both parties expressed their commitment to advancing educational and research exchanges, reflecting a shared goal of fostering international academic partnerships and mutual growth in higher education.

USM Delegation Visits Osaka University to Expand Collaboration

A delegation from USM recently conducted a visit to Osaka University with the aim of enhancing their collaborative network. The primary objectives of the visit were to fortify existing connections and identify fresh opportunities for academic and research partnerships between the two institutions. During the visit, discussions encompassed potential joint research endeavors, student and faculty exchange programs, and other collaborative initiatives. The deliberations underscored the mutual advantages of expanding the academic network and augmenting research capabilities through strategic partnerships. The delegation's visit serves as a testament to USM's dedication to broadening its international affiliations and cultivating substantive academic alliances. The envisioned collaboration with Osaka University is poised to yield substantial advancements in both research and educational prospects, to the benefit of stakeholders at both institutions.

USM and HIFA China Sign MoU to Enhance Arts, Culture, and Design

USM has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Hangzhou International Film Academy (HIFA) in China to expand cooperation in the fields of arts, culture, and design. The MoU was signed at USM and aims to foster collaboration through joint projects, cultural exchanges, and educational programs. This partnership will facilitate the sharing of expertise and resources, promoting mutual growth in creative disciplines. The agreement includes plans for collaborative research, student and faculty exchanges, and the development of joint artistic ventures. The collaboration underscores USM's commitment to enhancing its international presence in the arts and design sectors, providing valuable opportunities for students and faculty to engage with global creative industries.

UNHAR Delegation Visits USM and Delivers Talk at PPBLT

The University of Harapan (UNHAR) delegation recently visited USM and delivered a presentation at the Center for Learning and Teaching (PPBLT). The purpose of the visit was to strengthen academic connections and exchange insights on educational practices and research. The presentation delved into a range of topics relevant to both institutions, with a focus on innovative teaching techniques and potential collaborative research prospects. This knowledge exchange underscored the ongoing efforts to elevate educational standards and cultivate international academic partnerships. The visit demonstrates USM's dedication to broadening its global reach and participating in meaningful academic conversations, ultimately benefiting students and faculty by promoting enhanced collaboration and shared expertise.

USM Seeks to Advance Educational Diplomacy with the USA

USM is actively forging robust educational alliances with institutions in the United States. This initiative is geared towards expanding academic collaboration and fostering stronger partnerships across the Atlantic. USM is spearheading joint research projects, enabling seamless student and faculty exchanges, and innovating new academic programs as part of its relentless efforts. The university is enthusiastic about harnessing these partnerships to elevate its global academic presence and drive international educational progress. This strategic endeavor underscores USM's unwavering commitment to expanding its international network and championing cross-cultural academic interactions, ultimately enriching its educational community through amplified global connections and collaborative opportunities.

USM and USTF Forge Partnership Through MoU Signing

USM and the University of Science and Technology of Fujian (USTF) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a framework for collaboration. The MoU, formalized at a signing ceremony, aims to enhance cooperative efforts between the two institutions. The agreement focuses on joint research initiatives, academic exchanges, and collaborative educational programs. It is designed to foster mutual growth and innovation by combining USM's strengths with USTF's expertise. This partnership highlights USM's commitment to expanding its global academic network and advancing research and educational opportunities through international collaboration.

USM Offers Collaboration Opportunities with Russian Institutions on Social and Community Projects

USM has asked universities in Russia to work together on new ideas for projects that can help communities. The goal is to make friends with other countries and learn from each other. Together, they want to find new ways to solve problems in society and make life better for everyone. USM wants to create a way for both countries to share what they know and work together on projects that can make a difference. This shows that USM wants to reach out to the world and help solve big problems by working with others from different cultures.

MoA Enhances USM-UT Partnership

USM and the University of Texas (UT) have come together to make their partnership even stronger. They have signed a new agreement that aims to deepen their collaboration. This means that they will work more closely together on research projects and exchange programs. The agreement will help them to cooperate more effectively in different academic and research areas. By working together, both universities hope to make important progress in their research and education activities, which will benefit everyone involved.

KUFS-USM Japanese Cultural Centre: A Symbol of Bilateral Cultural Relations

The Japanese Cultural Centre was created through a partnership between Kyoto University of Foreign Studies (KUFS) and USM. It represents the strong cultural bond between Malaysia and Japan and aims to promote understanding between the two countries. The centre organizes various cultural events like exhibitions, workshops, and language courses to enrich the cultural experiences of people from both countries. It also encourages collaborative research and educational activities related to Japanese culture. This shows the ongoing dedication of KUFS and USM to strengthening cultural exchanges between Malaysia and Japan.

USM Hosts Benchmarking Visit from UiTM and Khon Kaen University

Recently, USM hosted a visit from Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) and Khon Kaen University to share best practices and explore opportunities for collaboration. Representatives from both universities discussed ways to improve academic and administrative processes. The focus was on making the institutions better and fostering relationships with other universities. The visit highlighted USM's commitment to improvement and learning from others to enhance the quality of education.

Uzbekistan Ambassador Visits USM to Discuss Future Partnerships

The Ambassador of Uzbekistan to Malaysia recently visited the Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) as a friendly gesture. They talked about ways that USM and universities in Uzbekistan could work together. They discussed things like doing research together, students and teachers swapping places for a while, and other projects that would help both sides learn more. The visit shows that both sides want to be better friends and help each other out when it comes to education and research. It also shows that USM is serious about making friends around the world and working together on things that matter to both sides.

USM-IPPT Signs MoU and MoA with Japanese, Thai Universities, and Industry Partners

The Institute of Postgraduate and Professional Training at Universiti Sains Malaysia has recently made agreements with universities from Japan and Thailand, as well as industry partners. These agreements are aimed at working together on research, training, and professional development. The focus is on collaborating on research projects, exchanging academic knowledge, and coming up with new and creative solutions. The goal of these partnerships is to combine the knowledge and skills of the involved institutions and industry partners, to make significant progress in their respective areas. This shows that USM-IPPT is dedicated to growing its global connections and playing a strong role in international academic and industry partnerships.

TEACHING/LEARNING

USM and JICA Partnership for Sustainable Development in Science and Technology

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) are advancing their collaboration through the Science and Technology Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS-OPT). The focus is on research concerning oil palm trunks. Discussions also covered the ASEAN University Network/Southeast Asia Engineering Education Development Network (AUN/SEED-Net). JICA Malaysia's Chief Representative, Sugawara Minako, expressed appreciation for the partnership, hoping for more fruitful collaborations. USM Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed, emphasized exploring future cooperation in research and innovation.

OPERATION/INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

USM Announces 3rd International Conference on Sustainable Development Goals

The Centre for Global Sustainable Studies (CGSS) at USM has announced the 3rd International Conference on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This conference aims to bring together global experts, academics, and policymakers to discuss and advance the implementation of SDGs. The event will feature presentations, panel discussions, and workshops focused on innovative solutions and strategies for achieving sustainable development. It provides a platform for sharing research findings, best practices, and collaborative opportunities related to the SDGs. This conference underscores USM's commitment to addressing global sustainability challenges and promoting international dialogue on sustainable development.

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