

# SerdangSun

a tradition of giving, a culture of bonding

UPM ALUMNI MAGAZINE

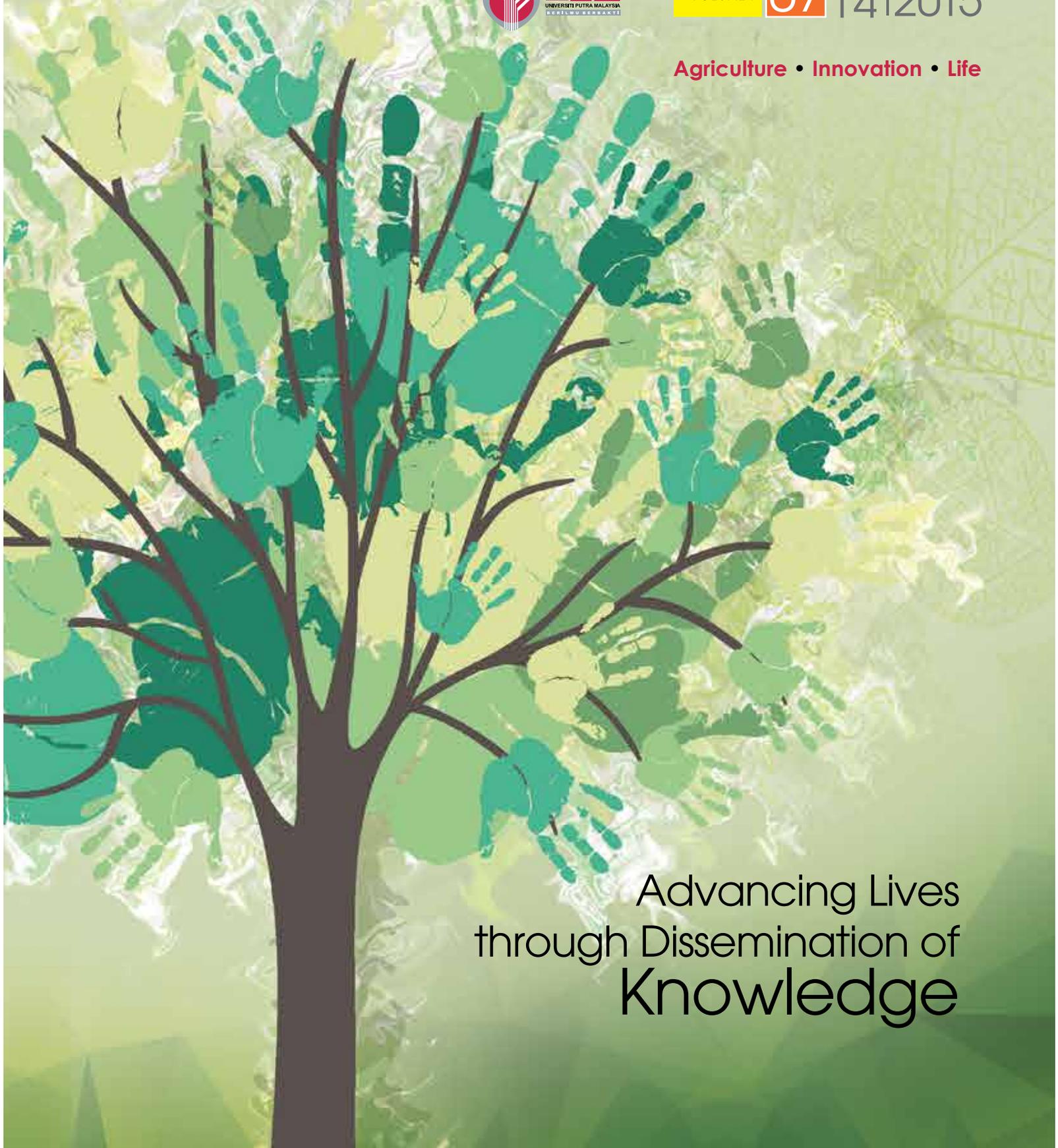


VOLUME :

07

ISSUE JULY-DEC  
14 | 2015

Agriculture • Innovation • Life



Advancing Lives  
through Dissemination of  
Knowledge

## Editorial Team

### Patron

Prof. Dato' Dr. Mohd Fauzi Hj. Ramlan

### Advisor

Prof. Dato' Dr. Mohammad Shatar Sabran

### Coordinator / Editor-in-Chief

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Bakri Hj. Ishak MMIM

### Editors

Lt. Cdr. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd

Hasmadi Ismail RMNVR

Dr. Arbaayah Ali Termizi

Dr. Rasmina Halis

Dr. Nooreen Noordin

Dr. Ibrahim Mohamed

Datin Dr. Kalthum Hashim

Dr. Masitah Arsad

Baharudin Mohd. Shah

### Assistants

Nik Hafzaini Nik Hassan

Mohd Sufian Ismail

Siti Hajjar Rozaidi

Fatheen Nabila Ghazali

### Contributors

Lt. Cdr. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd

Hasmadi Ismail RMNVR

Baharudin Mohd Shah

Dr. Ibrahim Mohamed

Ermelia Rohayu Ramlan

Ilyana Idura

Dr. Masitah Arsad

Fatheen Nabila Ghazali

### Design & Production Manager

Mazlan Jamali

### DTP Designers

Md Fairus Ahmad

Jamak Aton Habi Mahmood

### Photographer

Muhammad Ezham Hussin

### Publisher

Universiti Putra Malaysia Press

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be used or reproduced in any form or by any means, including but not limited to electronic or mechanical photocopying, recording or by any information storage or retrieval system or otherwise, without prior agreement and written permission from the publisher.

### Disclaimer

The view or opinions contained in this publication do not necessarily reflect the policy and stand point of Universiti Putra Malaysia and Universiti Putra Malaysia will not be liable or responsible towards any losses experienced by any parties on performance or non-performance based on information in this publication.

# VOICE OF

It is a great pleasure to highlight that the Alumni Centre (ACUPM) has fulfilled what we have planned for the year of 2015. We have successfully carried out several activities, inter alia, the Tracing Alumni for Collaboration and Engagement (TRACE)-alumni, Bridges-Link, live interview with prominent alumni in public (Department of Agriculture, Department of Forestry, Department of Veterinary Services) and private agencies (Islamic Bank, Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB), Adabi, Sime Darby).

At the same time, we have approached a few local authorities with a possibility of signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the near future.

TRACE-alumni internationally, started in Jakarta and Padang, Indonesia, aiming to foster long-term relationship, exchanging expertise and supporting UPM towards achieving greater heights especially in the field of agriculture. The Alumni Centre hopes to extend these aims to UPM alumni globally. Together we can advance lives through dissemination of knowledge, scientifically and socially.

I would like to commend Alumni UPM Kelas 75 for successfully registering it with the Registry of Societies (RoS) and awarding its first Anugerah Mentari Serdang to deserving alumni UPM class 1975. I hope many more alumni will emulate the good efforts of alumni class 1975.

All of us at Alumni Centre are looking forward for more activities in 2016. We too hope that all UPM alumni will come forward to contribute to this *alma mater* in tandem with our motto "A Tradition of Giving, A Culture of Bonding."

AGRICULTURE • INNOVATION • LIFE

**ASSOC. PROF. DR. MOHD BAKRI HAJI ISHAK MMIM**

(Alumni Class of 2004)

Director of Alumni Centre (ACUPM)

# EDITOR



## CONTENTS

### Features

- 04 ..... Advancing Lives through Dissemination of Knowledge
- 08 ..... Walking the Talk to Reach Space
- 10 ..... Tuan Chik at Your Service

### Contributions

- 12 ..... Failure is Not an Option
- 14 ..... Mountains to Climb, Views to Savour

### Campus Portraits

- 16 ..... Exploring the Many Frontiers of Agriculture
- 18 ..... Landscape Contribution to Agriculture

### Highlights

- 20 ..... Pictorial 2015
- 28 ..... Last Kopek 1975
- 29 ..... Giving Back to UPM
- 30 ..... Upcoming Events

**PROF. DATUK DR. MAD NASIR SHAMSUDIN**  
**Deputy Vice-Chancellor**  
**(Academic & International)**

By: Lt. Cdr. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Hasmadi  
Ismail RMNVR (Alumni Class of 1996, 2000)

Edited by: Dr. Nooreen Noordin (Alumni Class  
of 1996)

# Advancing Lives *through*

## DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE

**P**rofessor Datuk Dr. Mad Nasir Shamsudin was appointed as the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and International), Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) in December 2013. His career at UPM began as a tutor in 1984. He was then appointed as a lecturer in 1986 and associate professor in 1994. Six years later, in recognition of his academic achievements, he obtained his full professorship in the year 2000. Dr. Mad Nasir has an excellent academic track record. He received his Diploma in Agriculture from Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (UPM) in 1978, BS (Cum Laude) in Agricultural Economics from Louisiana State University, USA in 1980 and earned his Ph.D from Mississippi State University, USA in 1985.

*“As the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and International), my portfolio includes improving the development of academic policies, overseeing the quality of teaching and learning as well as supervising the progress of international affairs and promotion of the university,” he said.*

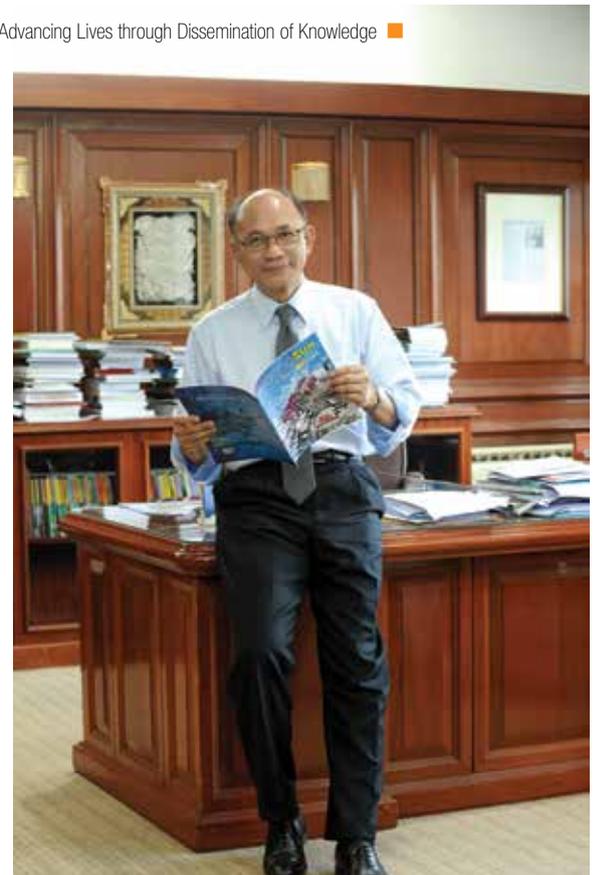
**SS: As the DVC (A&I) do you feel that UPM is now ready to lead the way to formulate new strategies towards better academic services?**

**DVC (A&I):** Yes, we are ready! Previously, cognitive skills have always been the main focus in attaining academic excellence. Now, being knowledgeable is not enough to stay relevant in today’s ever-changing environment. The economy is changing from being an input-based economy to a knowledge-based economy. The challenge in today’s academia is to produce knowledgeable graduates with good leadership skills. Back in the day, more emphasis was given to the development and production of output but now, graduates must be equipped with soft and professional skills that will enable them to be creative and innovative. The introduction of Integrated Cumulative Grade Point Average (iCGPA) by the Ministry of Higher Education which is in line with the Malaysia Education Blueprint 2015-2025 (Higher Education) first shift in producing holistic, entrepreneurial and balanced graduates marks the paradigm shift in evaluating students’ performance that emphasizes on overall performance and not merely academic

achievement. This shift becomes the evidence that we are responsible for preparing our graduates ready to face the changing environment with value added skills as leaders in various fields rather than only excel in cognitive domain. Further, I believe technology and industry policies should be expressed to maximize performance and well-being in “knowledge-based economies”, where it is directly based on the production, distribution and use of knowledge and information. In fact, knowledge, as embodied in human beings is actually “human capital” and in technology, this has always been central to the economic development. But it is only over the last few years have its relative importance been recognized, just as we see the global economy changing rapidly.

**SS: Enhancing visibility of the university and its students’ is one of the main focuses of UPM. How do you see this as an avenue to ensure UPM and its students’ remain visible worldwide?**

**DVC (A&I):** Universities play a key role in the advancement of knowledge which is vital for the development of national key economy and society. The university ranking has sparked the debate about the quality and



performance of higher education systems and has had a considerable impact on global society in light of the internationalization of higher education. To put UPM forward, we have to be visible everywhere. Being recognised as a university with ‘prestige’ may in turn contribute to more effective resource capture (students, funding, projects). One important question in mind though, is how many universities in a country can be and remain at the top of international rankings? We take that as a challenge and must ensure we rise to the occasion! UPM Putra Global 200 is one of the initiatives taken to be visible in the global area. Our objective is to be ranked at position 200 by 2020. UPM has mapped out the strategy towards achieving this and if we gain 20 to 30 points every year, this will eventually be a reality! In line with this aspiration, we believe that through dedication and support of the whole community in UPM, the vision to become a university of international repute will be successful, and thus achieve the Putra Global 200. If we look at this by subject, UPM is ranked 54th in the





forces of that change. A massive open online course (MOOC) is an online course aimed at unlimited participation with open access via the web. In addition to traditional course materials such as videos, readings, and problem sets, MOOCs provide interactive user forums that help build a community for students and academicians. Today, UPM have compiled several of the MOOCs that are available internationally under PutraMOOC which is an online platform. In fact, UPM is the first university in the country to launch an online platform for its academic staff to impart knowledge to anyone

Best Global Universities Rankings for Agricultural and Forestry Sciences by the US News and World Report.

UPM also promotes student mobility programs. The program offers the opportunity to accustom students with other cultures in an increasingly globalized world and solidify them to be more competitive. At the same time it can improve UPM's image because our students who are abroad are our best global ambassadors! They can attract foreign students to our campus and enroll for UPM's Master's and Doctoral programs and this will definitely improve our visibility abroad.

In 2010, UPM was awarded the Self Accreditation Status by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) and the Certificate Presentation Ceremony was officiated by the then Minister of Higher Education Malaysia, YB Dato' Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin. This certification is significant for UPM as a leading research university as it impacts the quality of courses that we offer. Internationally, we now have 27 courses that had received accreditation by international organisations. Once we obtain the accreditation of the program, that program is considered to have achieved an international standard. This means, we can sell this



UPM plays a big role in food security where focus is given to innovation in all levels of agriculture, teaching, research, human development and technology which has become the main agenda in order to improve productivity.

program and attract international students come to study in UPM. This is undoubtedly an added advantage which makes UPM a globally visible university. Currently, we have about 4,600 international students out of the total population of 27,000 students in UPM.

Nowadays, the education industry is changing and Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) is one of the driving

interested. Thus far, available courses include "Agriculture and Man" and "Malay Arts". Other courses will be made available when they are modified from UPM's in-campus courses for PutraMOOC. Through PutraMOOC, UPM is also offering the compulsory course on "Islamic Civilization and Asian Civilization" (TITAS) that can be used by freshmen in all public universities.

**SS: UPM is currently using the tagline “Agriculture.Innovation.Life” and this was given by the Ministry of Agriculture to champion agriculture in life. What is your comment on this matter Datuk?**

**DVC (A&I):** Yes true! Even when UPM changed the name from Pertanian to Putra that has never stopped us from becoming the numero uno in agriculture. We have 10 institutes and 7 of them are dedicated to agriculture. The university's programs and the curricula structures are based on agriculture. Our agriculture programs are recognized by the US news and ranked top 50 in the world. Agriculture is close to the issue of food security. When we talk about food security in Malaysia, it covers two main areas namely foods (crops, fisheries and animal) and plantations. UPM plays a big role in food security where focus is given to innovation in all levels of agriculture, teaching, research, human development and technology which has become the main agenda in order to improve productivity. Finally, the word “life” in the tagline means agriculture contributing to the society and the targeted group population to elevate poverty either in rural or urban areas.

For the urban area, promoting the urban agriculture is important where social interaction among community is created which helps in boosting their living quality. We are looking to promote healthier eating by encouraging urban agriculture, especially through increasing productivity in backyard gardening, community gardening, and urban farming. UPM has launched urban agriculture awareness in its effort to encourage city dwellers to carry out modern farming activities in the limited spaces of their homes as a guaranteed source of food for the nation by 2020. In line with this, UPM aims at becoming a food excellence centre in guaranteeing food and agriculture for the urban areas.

The next focus is for UPM to contribute in transforming Malaysia as a dependable food producer. This initiative will not be carried out by UPM alone but with the co-operation, engagement and collaboration with other public institutes of higher learning and research institutes involved in agriculture. Having said that, the utilization and transfer of technology such as direct farming, information and information communications technology (ICT), enhancing the quality of seedlings, growing technique, fertigation and production, biotechnology and mechanization have to be upgraded in the modernization and transformation of agro-food industry in order to achieve the food security goals in this country. We have to be resourceful and cannot rely too much on imported foods to fulfill our needs. This is crucial as when we are independent from imported foods, we can control the price of the food effectively.

UPM makes great efforts to create agriculture's showcase as a reference centre for industry and farmers. We have developed several activities and experts clinics where the technology transfer programs are targeted to achieve the desired impacts. Students are our assets, therefore, UPM has increased students' involvement through volunteer programs in order to make urban agriculture and agriculture in the suburbs a reality. UPM is already recognised as the pioneer in agricultural research and knowledge dissemination and therefore, we will not turn back. I believe if we work hard, UPM will be able to give back (to the communities) the excellent results of its work on the agriculture sector while introducing new knowledge and discoveries.

**SS: How does UPM develop students' entrepreneurial skills and mould them from jobseekers to becoming job creators?**

**DVC (A&I):** Entrepreneurship and business-related skills are becoming

increasingly important in today's economy as more and more people seek to create their own jobs. Entrepreneurship is a business where we create culture and we must have something to sell! Universities need to teach enterprising skills. Our challenge is to increase the numbers of entrepreneurial graduates produced. Entrepreneurial education should by no means be limited to business faculties. Other discipline-based education can also foster entrepreneurial skills for their students.

In UPM's strategic plan (2014-2020), one of the strategies outlined is to create graduates with successful entrepreneurship attributes. UPM has developed the agriculture incubation program and encouraged MyAgrosis Club to be active in carrying out entrepreneurship activities. The activities would see students inculcate attitudes, ideas and habits drawn to having an entrepreneurial mindset. This mindset includes the ability to tolerate failure, having self-awareness and the ability to take a challenge that will raise the core skills of innovation and creativity.

Students also need to change their outlook. Today's students need to be prepared to actively create their own future by thinking and becoming the entrepreneur throughout their university education. I noticed that some students rely heavily on acquiring academic skills rather than actively taking their future into their own hands. Students need to build contacts and make links with the world outside. I believe students should spend time networking and build long-lasting connections while they are at the university. Incorporating the elements of entrepreneurship into other educational domains provide students with a clear vision and the ability to see an opportunity and being able to seize it.

# Walking the Talk to Reach SPACE



**PROF. DR.-ING. IR. RENUGANTH VARATHARAJOO**  
**Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Industry Relations & Community)**

By: **Baharudin Mohd. Shah (Alumi Class of 1989)**

Edited by: **Dr. Arbaayah Ali Termizi (Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication)**

**SS: Can you tell us about yourself and how your career started in UPM?**

**DVC (IR&C):** Basically, It started in 1997 when I was about to finish my Bachelor's degree in Robotics at Institute Technology Bandung, Indonesia. To earn a Bachelor's degree in Indonesia you must help to produce equipment which is funded by the industry. The product is sold to the industry and the profits are partly given to the university and the research laboratory. At that time there was a visit from the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Associate Professor and now Professor Shahnor Basri to the institute. He was happy with my work and asked me whether I could replicate it in UPM, Malaysia.

I was offered a post as a tutor in UPM and initially I started with Robotics work but there was a change of plan with a new aerospace programme initiated by MIGHT, under the Prime Minister's Department. I was among the five (5) candidates sent to France for Masters in Aerospace. Thereafter, I went to Germany in 1999 for my PhD in satellite technology,



specializing in navigation and control. As satellites are flying "robots" as well, I consoled myself that it was something new and related to my original interest in robotics.

A decade ago, UPM decided to form a small unit of Industry and Community relations portfolio, which later grew bigger. I was made the Head, later Research Director and now the Deputy Vice Chancellor for Industry and Community Relations.

**SS: What are the activities and programmes that you build to sustain a more global collaboration?**

**DVC (IR&C):** Back in the faculty I was in the international exchange program with international universities. As mentioned, I was also active with the faculty's industry and community engagement unit. It is now my role to enhance collaboration at University level. We have several programmes in the pipeline.

**SS: As the DVC (IR&C) what are the most critical challenges you face in your task?**

**DVC (IR&C):** All impactful industry and community engagements are our focus. We have prepared several new frameworks. We have to assess how to do this at a faster rate and low cost, while empowering staff and giving them non-monetary incentives. I am also making sure that the community engagement is recognized and is also part of the annual appraisal criteria for UPM staff. This I believe can be an incentive for our staff to be involved in the community service.

**SS: What are the key responsibilities as the DVC (IR&C)?**

**DVC (IR&C):** UPM currently has 400 on-going community projects. I run quality industry and community engagement work which is knowledge driven. As I have extensive experience in these projects, I realise that UPM must engage with the community and be relevant to the country's needs.

We have established that there are 52 critical social problems relevant to the country. Our aim is to try to solve some of them, if not all. To achieve this aim, I believe we should do away with the conventional system and innovate. UPM has the structure, knowledge, skills and unique empowerment system which we will use to address these social issues.

**SS: What are the kinds of Alumni support that UPM needs in Industry and Community works?**

**DVC (IR&C):** A strong alumni support is desired always. Chances of good industrial penetration are there and our alumni can play important roles as well.

**SS: What is the future of Industry and Community engagement in**



**UPM specifically and the country as a whole?**

**DVC (IR&C):** The cost should be minimal, only the staff who are highly motivated should be involved, and this must be a part of the new job appraisal system.

Our University should be run as a partial corporate entity and most foreign universities are doing this already. As a Corporate we will have a Corporate Social Responsibility programme. This means we should have quality research and quality staff in the payroll who can also engage with industry and community. We should not be regarded as a charity organization, thus accommodating people who

just want a job but do not contribute anything significant to the university.

**SS: What are the criteria for good industry engagement?**

**DVC (IR&C):** Our approach is novel and impactful. However, we should take even small jobs seriously. If we do not have the expertise internally, we can be part of joint-ventures with the private, public sector and other universities.

**SS: What will you do in the next three (3) years as DVC?**

**DVC (IR&C):** I intend to bring more funding to the University. I believe that a holistic national blueprint for research and development should be done for our Malaysian start-up companies.



# “Tuan Chik at Your Service”

By: **Dr. Masitah Arsad (Alumni Class of 1975); Fatheen Nabila Ghazali (Alumni Class of 2009)**  
Edited by: **Dr. Ibrahim Mohamed (Alumni Class of 1975) and Datin Dr. Kalthum Hashim (MSc. Vet. Pharmacol, 1984)**



(1972). He received his Bachelor of Science from Louisiana State University (LSU), USA in 1974, and a Master of Science majoring in Animal Science – Ruminant Nutrition from North Carolina State University (NCSU), USA, eighteen months later.

During his student days, he was involved in many extra-curricular activities. He started as a Sports Secretary before becoming the Vice-President of the College of Agriculture Students' Union (CASU). To cap it all, he even played soccer, hockey, tennis and rugby for the College. The trend continued when he became the President of the Malaysia-Singapore Students Union in LSU in 1974.

“His name is Syed Razlan Jamalullail... in full it's Y.A.M Syed Razlan Ibni Al-Marhum Syed Putra Jamalullail.” A royal prince, he is. A royal pain, he is not.

However, to many, he was once their Member of Parliament or State Exco Member or Lecturer or Rugby Coach or Student Leader or “Royal Freshie”. Probably with many more nicknames too. Currently, he is the President of the Alumni Association of Universiti Putra Malaysia (PAUPM).

Y.A.M Tengku Syarif Laksamana Perlis, Dato' Seri DiRaja Syed

Razlan Ibni Almarhum Syed Putra Jamalullail, S.P.M.P, S.S.P.J was born on 26 January 1951, the eighth child of the Perlis Royal Family. He is married to Dato' Paduka Sharifah Hishmah Syed Hassan Shahabudin and have four children, two sons and two daughters.

Known to the locals as “Tuan Chik”, he attended his primary education in Malaysia until 1963, then went for his secondary education in Aitchison Chief College, Lahore, Pakistan. In 1965, he left for England to complete his O-Level Examinations before enrolling into College of Agriculture Malaya, Serdang in 1968, where he obtained a Diploma in Agriculture



He started his career as a tutor in the then Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (UPM) in 1972 and later left the academia to venture into his own business dealing with agricultural supplies, consultancy services and trading. With agriculture being his strong base and coupled with his personal reputation and leadership, his businesses flourished.

With all those activities interacting with people all his life, one is not surprised to see him going into politics eventually. Serving the community is in his royal blood. He became a Member of Malaysian Parliament for Arau, Perlis (2004-2008). Having won the state election in 2008, he was appointed as a Senior Exco of the Perlis State Legislative Assembly until 2013.

He said, as an elected representative, he enjoyed mingling with the rakyat discussing political issues and listening to their problems and trying to resolve them. In addition, he was also given the honour to chair the Malaysian Stadiums Board and also to be elected the President of the Malaysian Rugby Union (MRU) which enabled him to bring the sports of rugby to greater heights.

Asked how he managed to balance between business, family and politics, he replied that he knew of the consequences and the sacrifices that he had to make in order to fulfill all the obligations and commitments. Until now, despite not holding any political post, his services to the various communities still continue, in one way or another. *"Insyah Allah*, with good time management and planning, the unfulfilled ones are not too many" he confided.

Why agriculture? One would have thought a royal prince studying in England would have emulated a passion for a career in the military, a Royal Malaysian Navy Pilot, perhaps! Or an equestrian questing for the

first Olympic gold medal for the country, being an ardent sportsman.

"Being surrounded by villages, my life was always with paddy fields, rubber trees and fruit trees with beautiful limestone hills in the background. But the choice of doing agriculture was purely by chance because I was not keen to stay on in England to further my studies. And, despite being told of the "Serdang-brand Orientation" and my-far-from-satisfactory Bahasa Melayu competency, I was fated to end up in College of Agriculture."

He felt that being a graduate of agricultural science does not prohibit one from venturing into other fields. In fact, it will give one a greater opportunity to look at a problem from a different perspective. He reaffirmed his belief that no matter what discipline one graduated with, if one set one's mind to do something, ONE CAN DO IT.

Moving forward and equipped with previous agricultural experiences, he is now involved in products utilising bamboo as building material, producing bio-plastics from wood waste harvested from sustainable forests, manufacturing edible proteins from insects such as cricket and fire extinguisher medium from plant-based materials.

Connecting to the recent widely published news, Dato' Seri DiRaja Syed Razlan Putra felt proud of the success of UPM in maintaining its status as the number one agriculture university in Southeast Asia. As the President of PAUPM, he calls upon all alumni members to come forward and do whatever they could, to support the alma mater in their effort to climb up the global ranking and also make the Association even stronger in all aspects.

However, he also expressed his regrets that the agricultural expertise in Malaysia is not given its due

recognition. He suggests that in order to bring it to another level, we need to have our own agriculture professionals registered through the proposed "Agrologist" scheme. In supporting the issue at hand, PAUPM has brought the matter up to the Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-based Industry for the scheme to be recognized and implemented.

"Through PAUPM, we also pledged our undivided loyalty to serve the nation by upholding the status and improvement of agriculture as an agenda towards FOOD SECURITY. This is of prime importance and cannot be taken lightly", he continued.

When asked about agriculture not being the priority choice by many top students, he replied that Malaysian students are no different from the rest of the world because of the myriad of courses available to choose from and agriculture has never been in the top ten courses.

In his opinion, the important thing is to choose the right candidates for agriculture-related courses so that they will make agriculture, their life-long career and excel in whatever they do. "After all, Malaysia is still an agricultural nation and employment opportunities are still in abundance. Moreover, we are still facing shortages in many food production-related activities which resulted in us being the net-importer of many food items. Hence, the importance of agriculture to the Malaysia cannot be disputed", he emphasised further.

In addition, he strongly believes that the graduates themselves must show their worth to the potential employers by complementing their scientific and technical knowledge with high soft skills. In fact, that had been the traits of Serdang graduates of yesteryears which the current generation must uphold.

"Uphold the good name of UPM".

# “Kegagalan Punca Kejayaan”

## Failure is Not an Option - Baharom Hamzah

By: **Dr. Ibrahim Mohamed (Alumni Class of 1975)**

Edited by: **Dr. Masitah Arsad (Alumni Class of 1975) and Fatheen Nabila Ghazali (Alumni Class of 2009)**

(Dr.) Baharom bin Hamzah menerima Diploma Pertanian pada 1979. Beliau dilahirkan di Temerloh, Pahang dan dibesarkan di Johor Bahru kerana mengikut bapanya yang bertugas di sana. Seorang bekas penghuni Kolej Ketiga (kini Kolej Tun Dr. Ismail), beliau sangat aktif dalam bidang sukan hoki dan ragbi. Sebagai seorang graduan Pertanian, beliau pernah bekerja di Harrisons and Crosfield Plantations dan FIMA Corporation Berhad.

Beliau kemudian melanjutkan pelajaran ke University of New Haven, Amerika Syarikat di bawah tajaan

MARA dan memperoleh Ijazah (1985) dan Sarjana (1987) dalam bidang Pengurusan Perniagaan. Kemudian, beliau kembali untuk berkhidmat di Unit Perancang, MARA. Pada 1992, beliau menyambung pelajaran di peringkat PhD dalam bidang Industrial Economics di University of Birmingham, United Kingdom.

Walau bagaimanapun, peluang menjawat jawatan sebagai Pengarah Eksekutif di Syarikat Delcom Services Sdn. Bhd. pada 1994 merupakan titik perubahan dan langkah pertama (Dr.) Baharom menceburi industri minyak

dan gas. Beliau nekad mengambil peluang ini dan menamatkan pengajian tanpa ijazah PhD.

Pada ketika itu, pin pintar (intelligent pins) dianggap perkara baharu di Malaysia dan hanya dua syarikat utama yang memberi perkhidmatan berkenaan, iaitu General Electric (GE) dan Rosen Group. Peluang untuk melibatkan diri dengan GE telah dibuka melalui mentor beliau, yang juga menjadi pendorong utama dalam bidang perniagaan, iaitu, Dato' Seri DiRaja Syed Razlan



(Dr.) Baharom Hamzah is the Managing Director and CEO of Romstar Group, a leading Malaysian-based provider of intelligent pipeline inspection services. Intelligent pins are used to inspect oil and gas (O&G) pipelines to detect corrosion and other defects. Romstar also manufactures cleaning pins, which are used to clean out crude oil residues from the pipelines, as well as calipers, to measure the insides of pipelines to ensure that there are no dents. In 2007, Romstar was awarded a major contract by Petronas, the government-owned oil and gas company in Malaysia, to inspect more than 10,000 kilometres of their pipelines. All the efforts and hard work paid off when the company won the 2013 Innovation Award, the top honour given by the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Corporation Malaysia.

Jamalullail, yang dikenali semasa menjadi pemain ragbi di UPM.

Romstar telah ditubuhkan pada 1997 sebagai ejen perdagangan untuk perkhidmatan dan peralatan bidang minyak dan gas. Syarikat ini bermula dengan skala kecil dan tidak diuruskan sepenuhnya masa kerana beliau masih terikat dengan GE. Apabila meninggalkan GE pada 2005, beliau mengambil keputusan untuk menukar asas perniagaan Romstar daripada syarikat perdagangan menjadi pembekal perkhidmatan. Namun, langit tidak selalunya cerah. Satu perkara yang disedari oleh (Dr.) Baharom adalah ketiadaan stok peralatan ini dalam pasaran tempatan merupakan satu cabaran besar. Menurut beliau, "Apabila Romstar mendapat kontrak pemeriksaan saluran paip, kami perlu menempah peralatan berkenaan dan terpaksa menunggu antara tiga hingga enam bulan untuk mendapatkannya".

Terdapat kira-kira 15 syarikat di dunia ini yang membuat peralatan itu dan tiada satu pun mahu menjual produk mereka kepada syarikat yang tidak dikenali seperti Romstar. Walau bagaimanapun, (Dr.) Baharom bernasib baik kerana sebuah syarikat di Jerman sedia berurusan dengannya. Malangnya, apabila dua unit pertama pin pemeriksaan tiba, beliau dapati peralatan itu tidak memenuhi syarat teknikal menyebabkan beliau terpaksa



membatalkan kontrak tersebut dan mencari pembekal lain selain mengalami kerugian berjuta ringgit.

Kegagalan kedua berlaku apabila sebuah syarikat yang berpangkalan di Asia Barat gagal membekalkan lakaran reka bentuk dan peralatan yang ditempah dengan nilai melebihi RM6 juta.

Namun Romstar cukup bernasib baik kerana mempunyai kontrak di bawah program vendor Petronas dan beliau diberi peluang kedua. Beliau begitu tertekan sehinggalah mengambil keputusan untuk mendapatkan pakar yang boleh membina peralatan dengan inovasi dan sumber dalaman.

"Apabila wujud satu masalah, saya mengambil keputusan untuk menukar masalah itu kepada peluang," katanya. Berkat kegigihan beliau, pada 2010, Romstar menghasilkan teknologi dan perisian mereka sendiri. Teknologi itu merupakan 100 peratus direka dan dibangunkan di Malaysia. Kemudian Romstar membangunkan pin pintar yang mempunyai pelbagai jenis ukuran garis pusat untuk memenuhi keperluan pelanggan.

Beliau turut berhadapan dengan pelbagai cabaran ketika memulakan perniagaan. Permohonan pinjaman bank sebanyak RM15 juta untuk membeli 20 unit pemeriksaan pin gagal didapati dan bertemu dengan pelanggan untuk

menawarkan perkhidmatan dan peralatan juga tidak semudah yang dijangkakan. Industri berteknologi tinggi ini dianggap sukar apatah lagi pandangan masyarakat yang agak sangsi dan ragu-ragu dengan kemampuan beliau.

Kini, Romstar merupakan pengeluar utama pin pintar di Malaysia serta memiliki kira-kira 90 pekerja dan 60 daripadanya adalah jurutera. Syarikat juga menerima projek dari negara luar termasuk Indonesia, China, Iran dan Thailand. Pada 2015, kontrak dari luar negara menjana pendapatan sebanyak RM25 juta. Bagi 2016, beliau menyasarkan pendapatan melebihi RM35 juta. Susulan daripada pencapaian dalam bidang inovasi dan pembekalan pin pintar oleh Romstar, beliau telah dianugerah Ijazah Kedoktoran Kehormat oleh University of New Haven, Amerika Syarikat pada 2016.

Sebagai alumni UPM, beliau sentiasa mengambil peluang untuk kembali menyumbang kepada aktiviti Universiti dan Kolej Kediaman. Beliau turut mengambil graduan UPM untuk bekerja di syarikat serta mengalu-ngalukan graduan UPM yang berkelulusan kejuruteraan mekanikal dan elektrik untuk berkhidmat dengan Romstar. (Dr.) Baharom yakin dengan kemampuan jurutera tempatan kerana mereka berbakat selain mampu menyumbang kepada pembangunan inovasi dan teknologi syarikat.



# “Mountains to Climb, Views to Savour”

**“I know what I want in life and I knew that someday it would happen. I used my own creativeness and common sense to take me higher than the life I knew”  
– Muhammad Hizal Mustafa**

By: Lt. Cdr. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Hasmadi Ismail RMNVR (Alumni UPM Class of 1996, 2000)

Edited by: Dr. Ibrahim Mohamed (Alumni Class of 1975) and Masitah Arsad (Alumni Class of 1975)

Muhammad Hizal Mustafa was born in Butterworth, Pulau Pinang in October, 1976. He has four siblings and married to Elya Juliana Hakimi with four children. He had his secondary education at Sekolah Menengah Dato' Lokman in Kg. Pandan, Kuala Lumpur (1989-1991) and Sekolah Menengah Teknik Kuala Lumpur (1992-1993). He received his Diploma in Computer Science from Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (UPM) in 1997. Currently, Muhammad Hizal Mustafa is the Managing Director of the H & E Global Trading Sdn. Bhd. (HEGT).

## **HEGT is my business and life!**

HEGT was incorporated on 18 May 2004. In general, the company is engaged in trading-related activities, notably, supplying fertilisers to oil palm plantations. Most of HEGT's business dealings are directly involved with Government & Semi Government agencies such as Felcra Bhd. In 2007, the company was offered Marrybrown franchise by Perbadanan Nasional Berhad (PNS).

Three years later, HEGT went into a new commodity business with Mardec Bhd. supplying them scrap rubber and acts as selling agent for their technically-specified rubber grades.

Muhammad Hizal started his career as System Administrator with M/s Aerospace Technology Systems Corporation Sdn. Bhd. and later as System Engineer with two different companies, namely, M/s Accurate Networks and System Integration Bhd and IBIL (M) Sdn. Bhd.

Muhammad Hizal also attended a few courses such as Latihan Skim Usahawan Siswazah organised by Kementerian Pembangunan Usahawan & Koperasi (MECD) and Program Francais Siswazah organised by Perbadanan Nasional Berhad (PNS). He was also one of the shareholders of Golden Finger's Sdn. Bhd. and H&E Fried Chicken Sdn. Bhd. which owned the Marrybrown Fried Chicken franchise license from 2007 to March 2010.



## Seeking change

In reality, my journey to owning a business was full of obstacles, endless challenges and ugly truths. Like many others, I prefer not to discuss the difficult times that I went through. Nevertheless, out of hopelessness and despair, I learnt a great lesson. Remembering the inspiring quote "You are your own destiny", he decided to relook at his own life strategy and made the necessary changes. His renewed effort and strong determination finally paid off.



He is a successful businessman today. Looking back, he is grateful that he started his own business at a young age and explored for opportunities and sought changes even though there were not readily available.

## Words of advice

He reminds young graduates to be grateful and to know where they come from and what it

took to bring them where they are today. As for himself, he will continue to work as hard and his motto is always "To create something bigger than himself".

"Believe in yourself and exploit the talent that you have and decide what is best for you to do in your life and then make it happen. Additional qualities of being humble, forgiving and being positive would augur well with one's spiritual values" he continued.

Finally, Muhammad Hizal reiterated that everyone has life obstacles but do not let them define you. "Hold on to your individuality and let it shine in all you do including your business dealings. Be thankful and appreciate everything what you got and don't give up easily. There are always mountains to climb but the views from the top will be worth savouring".





“Exploring the many frontiers of Agriculture”

By: **Ermelia Rohayu Ramlan (Alumni Class of 2015)**  
Edited by: **Baharudin Mohd. Shah (Alumni Class of 1986)**

The thought of winning main awards for a convocation had never crossed my mind, let alone to win four out of seven prestigious awards. I am very grateful to be selected as the winner for the four main awards during the UPM 39<sup>th</sup> Convocation Ceremony last year which were Chancellor's Gold Award Medal, Royal Education Gold Award Medal (Bumiputera), Alumni Gold Award and Gold Award Medal of Professor Emeritus Tan Sri Dr. Rashdan Baba.

Growing up in the heart of Kuala Lumpur, I never thought that I would choose agriculture as my field of study. Like any other kids living in the city, the idea of future career will always in the medical profession or teaching and nothing related to agriculture. However, after my SPM results were out in 2009, I ran across Foundation Studies for Agricultural Science (ASPer) being offered in UPM and I decided to make it as my first choice in my UPU application. Alhamdulillah, my application was accepted and I became the fifth batch of ASPer. From that moment, I knew that I would go through whole new valuable experiences that I never thought of before. During the three semesters as ASPer's student, my perspective towards agriculture sector in Malaysia was broadened and my passion towards this field was strengthened. I enjoyed being in the field with my friends planting vegetables and fruits either conventionally or using modern agriculture technology.

Thus, I decided to pursue my bachelor degree in Agricultural Science and I never turned back since then. Everyday was a new adventure for me. Learning every aspect of agriculture such as the plants, the soil and other organisms made me feel blessed and grateful towards His creation.

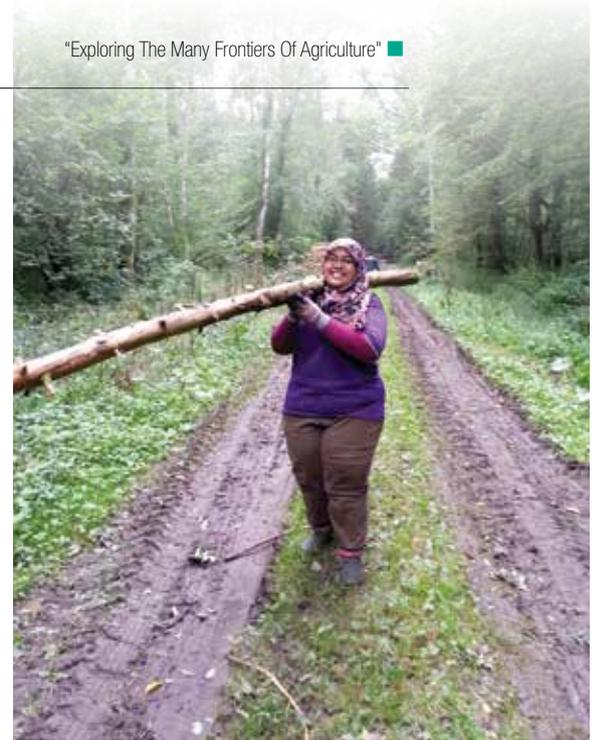
Throughout the years in UPM, I was able to travel abroad for the students exchange programme twice and for my internship once. During my second year, I had a chance to travel to the land of rising sun, Japan as a participant for an International Field Science Training Programme 2012 (IFST 2012) organised by Kochi University. This programme was participated by three other countries which were Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand. We were introduced to the agriculture and forestry technology and systems that were used by the Japanese. Furthermore, we had a first-hand experience pruning and

trimming replanted forest trees at the University Forest Reserve. In order to meet the standard and maintain the quality of any fruits, vegetables and flowering plant, most of them were planted in a controlled environment in a glasshouse. On top of that, researchers developed a heating system using house temperature control in order to minimize fuel consumption. This approach seemed to be effective, cost efficient and easy to handle.

My journey to the foreign land continued when I decided to complete my internship at Belgium during my final semester. For three months, my friends and I learnt about managing an organic farm that used the permaculture principles in order to create sustainable and productive agriculture systems.

Permaculture concentrates on working together with nature in order to create sustainable and productive systems. As the ancient Indian proverb goes, "We did not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children". Thus, it is very crucial to sustain our ecosystem for future usage.

Throughout my journey at the foreign land, I learnt that the awareness of keeping our earth green is still low in Malaysia compared to Japan and Belgium. We need to raise this awareness among our people in order to sustain our unique beautiful biodiversity. Moreover, agriculture



is one of the crucial sectors that needs to be developed extensively and intensively as it is the source of our food supply. Meeting new people from all walks of life taught me that any collaboration can lead to success despite our differences. Last but not least, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Universiti

Putra Malaysia, Faculty of Agriculture, Centre of Foundation for Agricultural Science and my sponsor for their never ending support and guidance throughout my years in UPM. My heart will always be with my alma mater and with the knowledge I gained here, I will strive for the betterment of UPM and our nation.

# Landscape contribution to Agriculture

By: Ilyana Idura (Alumni Class of 2013)

Edited by: Baharudin Mohd. Shah (Alumni Class of 1986)



European countries are well known with their English cottage landscape view; Japan with its' oriental style look; Indonesian is made famous with its' Balinese concept; Egypt has its' Mediterranean garden; and Malaysia with its' multicultural society is blessed with the oldest tropical rainforest and deep blue oceanic views. Despite moving as fast as a developed country, greenery scenery is a must in the most concrete parts of Kuala Lumpur, the capital city of Malaysia, to fulfill the sustainability relationship between human and the environment.

Another example is Putrajaya, the second well strategized Malaysia administrative city that has set the vision of "City in the Garden" as part of its healthy living lifestyle.

Inside Putrajaya, there are administrative buildings, such as, the Prime Minister Office (PMO), Prime Minister Official Residence (Seri Perdana), Deputy Prime Minister official residence (Seri Satria) and Putrajaya International Convention Centre (PICC), which is also a venue

for international events. Maintaining a refreshing landscape in this high profile area is a challenge. The fertility of the soil, the nutrient management, pest and disease control, the topiary and crown of tree need to be constantly in the right balance in weathering the unpredictable climate of Malaysia. This needs the professional touch of horticulture experts, consultants of turf management and also the arborist to ensure that the landscape esthetical value has a lasting impression. Either

we realise it or not, a fascinating landscape in an area can raise up its' property value especially in residential suburban area.

To emphasis the importance of the landscape industry, The National Landscape Policy (NLP) was launched in 2006 with one of the objectives, was to have a Beautiful Malaysia Garden by 2020. More people, approximately 57%, are employed in this industry, according to Malaysia's Department of Statistics as compared to agriculture, fisheries and fishing, mining and quarrying, constructions and other industries. Housing and commercial developers also assured financial institutions that they need to include the landscape costing in their Gross Development Cost (GDC) as discounted cash flow.

At present I am working with Vet-Fine(M) Sdn. Bhd. I started as landscape supervisor, later as horticulturist and now as Site Manager. This scope of work gives me a lot of experience to be a



quick thinker to solve various problem instead of using plants management skills learnt from the university. Furthermore, I was challenged to burst out on the idea of landscape architecture, a new knowledge to me. I have the continuous support of the owner of Vet-Fine (M) Sdn. Bhd. Dr. Noor Bakry Mat Drus, who is an alumni of UPM himself. I am slowly but vigorously learning and growing up as horticulturist with an entrepreneur mind. Dr. Noor Bakry himself open his own company starting from 1994 and currently certified with CIDM G7/A PKK classes. He is now hiring about 300 workers and with the 25 strength of management team where half of the team are taken from undergraduate students of UPM. His motto that always prioritize himself to contribute back to his school of education has made big changes to the problems that youth face now, unemployment.

# Pictorial 2015

Highlights of Alumni Activities • July-December 2015



## 7 AUGUST 2015 • REUNION HI-TEA: ALUMNI INDUSTRIES (UNIVERSITI PERTANIAN MALAYSIA)

Alumni Centre UPM (ACUPM) has organised Reunion Hi-tea: Alumni Industries at Bangunan Canselori Putra, UPM. The main objectives of the event are to strengthen the relationship among UPM alumni industries and enhance fellowship by discussing future programmes of the alumni. The event started around 3 p.m. with the arrival of guests, followed by opening speech by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Bakri Hj. Ishak, Director of ACUPM and ACUPM's video presentation. During the engagement session (jalanan alumni), several alumni expressed their appreciation to ACUPM and UPM for giving them opportunity to be where they are today and shared with us their achievements and future plans. Both alumni UPM and ACUPM are looking forward to future collaboration to benefit UPM alumni members, students and the society. Approximately 50 alumni and campus community attended the event.



## 27 AUGUST 2015 • WORKSHOP ON MANUSCRIPT WRITING

ACUPM and Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (DBP) successfully conducted a Workshop on Writing Manuscript. The objectives of the workshop are to obtain high-quality output and impact in professional writing, as well as to offer opportunities to the academicians to publish their materials/books/journal with DBP. About 40 UPM academicians attended the workshop. The workshop was conducted by two experienced facilitators from DBP, namely Mrs. Rohaida Baharudin and Ms. Azlin Asmuni.



**31 JULY 2015 •  
TECHNICAL VISIT TO MALAYSIAN  
AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND  
DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (MARDI)  
2015**

The aim of the technical visit was to update the students and alumni members with the current research and development programmes conducted by MARDI. The PAUPM delegation led by its President, YAM Dato Seri DiRaja Syed Razlan Jamalullail, was received by YBhg. Dato Dr. Azizan Ab. Rashid, Deputy Director MARDI (UPM Alumnus 1978), on behalf of the Director-General.

The slide presentation that followed described the various agriculture-related technology and innovation activities at MARDI. The visitors were then brought to selected laboratories to see for themselves the latest laboratory equipment used for part of their research and development programmes.



**2 SEPTEMBER 2015 •  
MINGGU PERKASA PUTRA**

In conjunction with Minggu Perkasa Putra Programme, Alumni Centre UPM (ACUPM) has organised one alumni slot with new students' intake 2015/16 entitled Jejak-jejak Kegemilangan Alumni. The objectives of this programme are to share alumni past experience and their university life with UPM new students, as well as to introduce the UPM Alumni Centre.

The programme started at 4.00 p.m. beginning with a short introductory speech by our Deputy Director, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Hasmadi Ismail. This was followed by a "Down Memory Lane with UPM Alumni" sharing session delivered by three panellists; Mr. Shahfarin Hj. Selamat, Head of Business Department, Sapura Kencana Petroleum Berhad (Alumni Class of 2003), Capt. Nor Azman Shahimi, Pilot TD, Skuadron Udara Peninjau Taktikal, Rejimen 881 Pasukan Udara Tentera Darat, (Alumni Class of 2003) and Mr. Azlan Mubin, Presenter/Sportscaster RTM (Alumni Class of 2008).



**18-19 SEPTEMBER 2015 •  
UPM AMBASSADOR**

ACUPM organised student based programmes normally conducted in UPM, Serdang to the students in UPM Campus Bintulu during its two-day visit there. These programmes included the discussion with the Management of UPM Campus Bintulu, sharing session between ACUPM's Management with student and UPM Ambassador. UPM Ambassador programme aimed to give exposure to the students on the importance and responsibility as an alumnus in the hope to foster the spirit of love towards their alma mater.



**19-22 SEPTEMBER 2015 • TRACE SARAWAK**

ACUPM welcomed another addition to its family through the establishment of UPM Alumni Sarawak Chapter during Reunion Hi-tea: UPM Alumni Sarawak. The Reunion Hi-tea started with welcoming remarks by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Bakri Haji Ishak (Director of ACUPM) and proceeded with the launching ceremony officiated by YH Prof. Dato' Dr. Mohd Shatar Sabran (Deputy Vice Chancellor of Students' Affair and Alumni), UPM. In his speech, he stressed alumni members' role and their contribution to the development of their alma mater.

In conjunction with the 2-days programme, ACUPM has taken the initiative to extend its Temu Mesra Alumni (engagement alumni session) at the Forest Department

Sarawak and Veterinary Division, Department of Agriculture Sarawak. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Bakri Haji Ishak (Director of ACUPM) shared information the past and upcoming events of ACUPM, as well as conveying the message on the importance of alumni to support UPM's PUTRA GLOBAL 200 (PG 200) aspiration to be ranked in the top 200 of World Universities Ranking by the year 2020.

The event concluded with further discussions and leveraging networks among UPM Alumni. We would like to express our highest appreciation to Tuan Haji Sapuan Ahmad, Director General of Forest Department Sarawak and Dr. Stephen Gabriel, Director of Veterinary Division, Department of Agriculture Sarawak and all of UPM alumnus who had contributed directly or indirectly to the success of this event.



**1-4 OCTOBER 2015 • TRACE JAKARTA-BOGOR**

ACUPM has marked another significant milestone by organizing the Reunion Hi-tea: UPM Alumni Indonesia Chapter. The event was conducted at the Park Lane City Hotel, Jakarta and attended by 15 alumni. The rationale of this gathering with UPM Alumni Indonesia Chapter is based on the increasing need to enhance bilateral cooperation and also delivered the message on the importance of international alumni to support UPM's PUTRA GLOBAL 200 (PG 200) aspiration to be ranked in the top 200 of World Universities Ranking by the year 2020.



The ACUPM delegates visited Bogor Agricultural University (IPB) for Temu Mesra Alumni (engagement alumni session) in order to strengthen its linkages with UPM alumni and share UPM's updates with them. The event also included sharing of ideas and opinions among the delegation of ACUPM with the top management from Career Development Alumni IPB (CDA). We would like to thank Dr. Ir. Syarifah Iis Aisyah, Director of CDA, Dr. Imas Sitanggang (Representative of UPM Alumni Bogor) and all UPM alumni for their cooperation during our working trip at IPB. We hope the success of this venture will continue and at the same time try our best to realize all aims and missions.



**23 OCTOBER – 8 NOVEMBER 2015 • DISTRIBUTION OF ALUMNI GRADUATION PACKAGES**

As commonly practised, we opened up Alumni Counter for UPM Alumni who graduated in the UPM Convocation Ceremony 2015. Approximately 5100 graduates received their graduation packages. Congratulations to all graduates!



## Highlights

### 13 NOVEMBER 2015 • HI-TEA & TOWN HALL SESSION: ALUMNI INDUSTRIES (UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA)

Alumni Centre UPM hosted Hi-tea and Town Hall Session for Alumni Industries of Universiti Putra Malaysia to celebrate and strengthen strategic networking between Alumni-Alma mater. The programme started at 3.00 p.m. beginning with a welcoming speech by UPM Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dato' Dr. Mohd Fauzi Hj. Ramlan. This was followed by a "UPM Alumni towards PG200" forum delivered by three panellists; Mr. Shamsol Azhar Ismail, Managing Director, Wiranda (M) Sdn. Bhd. and General Manager, Eco Synergy Solution Sdn. Bhd. (Alumni Class of 1996), Mr. Shahfarin Hj. Selamat, Head of Business Department, Sapura Kencana Petroleum Berhad (Alumni Class of 2003), Mr. Sabrie Salleh, Managing Director, Food Artists (M) Sdn. Bhd. (Alumni Class of 2009) and the moderator was Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Bakri Hj. Ishak, Director of ACUPM.

The discussion occurred over a range of topics including the roles of alumni towards PG200, income generation and other topics of interest. Various ideas were exchanged for the betterment of the alumni. The evening was truly enjoyable with 50 alumni attendees.



### 25-27 NOVEMBER 2015 • TRACE ALUMNI @ JOHOR

ACUPM took the initiative to organise its third Tracing Alumni for Collaboration & Engagement (TRACE) programme at the Department of Agriculture Johor. The engagement sessions included activities such as sharing of the past and upcoming events, and promoting the importance of alumni to support the aspirations of UPM's PG200. The sessions concluded with a dialogue session between the alumni and ACUPM where valuable feedback was gathered on the way forward to further strengthen the linkages with Alumni-Alma mater. The event was concluded with the official establishment of the UPM Alumni Chapter of Johor. Director of ACUPM, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Bakri Haji Ishak thanked all the alumni who participated in the event and for making it a memorable afternoon.



#### PERUBUHAN CHAPTER ALUMNI UPM JOHOR



**7-10 DECEMBER 2015 • TRACE ALUMNI @PADANG, INDONESIA**

Alumni Centre UPM conducted a 4-day programme on Tracing Alumni for Collaboration and Engagement (TRACE) at Padang, Indonesia. The programme leverages alumni networks to maintain long-lasting relationship, exchange expertise and also delivered the message on the importance of international alumni to support UPM's PUTRA GLOBAL 200 (PG 200) aspiration to be ranked in the top 200 of World Universities Ranking by the year 2020. The delegation of ACUPM also visited Universitas Andalas (UNAND), Universitas Bung Hatta (UBH) and Universitas Negeri Padang (UNP) for Temu Mesra Alumni (engagement alumni session) in order to strengthen its linkages with UPM alumni and share alma mater's updates with them.



## Highlights

31 OCTOBER - 8 NOVEMBER 2015 •

### **DISTRIBUTION OF GOODIES AND OPENING OF FLOWER STAND DURING UPM 39TH CONVOCATION CEREMONY**

PAUPM continued its annual obligation to distribute convocation goodies to the graduands during the Convocation Ceremony by opening special counters alongside UPM Alumni Centre. For 2015, four items, namely, a non-woven bag, a car sticker, a small notebook and PAUPM Membership Card were given away.

In addition, PAUPM was also allocated a flower stand to sell convocation bouquets behind UPM Experimental Theatre.



### **23 DECEMBER 2015 • VISIT TO THE OFFICE OF MENTERI BESAR OF TERENGGANU**

In collaboration with its Terengganu Chapter, PAUPM organised a courtesy visit to the Office of Menteri Besar of Terengganu, YAB Dato Ahmad Razif Abdul Rahman, who is also an alumnus of UPM. The delegation of 15 members comprising members of PAUPM Exco and Terengganu Chapter was led by the President of PAUPM, YAM Dato Seri DiRaja Syed Razlan Jamalullail.



The Menteri Besar briefed the visitors on the current development in and around Kuala Terengganu with the tagline "Transformasi Terengganu Baharu". The vision was to transform Terengganu into a progressive state through its political agenda, administrative capability and economic capacity.

**JULY - DECEMBER 2015 •  
ALUMNI FOUNDATION TALK 2015 (AF  
TALK - SERIES I)**

Alumni Foundation Talk was organised by the Alumni Association of UPM (PAUPM) in collaboration with the UPM Residential Colleges with the aims of bringing back the alumni members to the campus to share their memories during their student days as well as their life experiences after leaving UPM in an environment that is devoid of formality.

The forum provides students with glimpses of what are required to succeed in a world full of challenges and strong competitions. In addition, these interactions also provide platform for future networking and opportunity for alumni bonding and relationship.





By: Dr. Masitah Arsad, Setiausaha (Alumni UPM Kelas 75)

# Alumni UPM Kelas 75 Memberi Pengiktirafan melalui Anugerah

## “Mentari Serdang”



### Latar Belakang Alumni UPM Kelas 75

Persatuan Alumni UPM 1975 atau Alumni UPM Kelas 75 telah didaftarkan sebagai sebuah pertubuhan pada 18 Julai 2013 dengan Jabatan Pendaftaran Pertubuhan Malaysia (JPPM). Keahliannya terbuka kepada semua Graduan 1975. Penubuhan Persatuan ini bertujuan mewujudkan platform untuk ahlinya berinteraksi secara rasmi atau tidak rasmi dengan Alumni UPM yang lain serta masyarakat umum. Ia juga diharap dapat membantu Alumni kembali menyumbang kepada “Alma Mater”nya melalui Persatuan Alumni UPM yang bertindak sebagai persatuan induk.

### Anugerah Mentari Serdang Kelas 75

Anugerah ini diwujudkan sempena pendaftaran kultivar Bunga Raya yang diberi nama “Mentari Serdang” oleh Hj. Mohd Zulkifli Mohd Zainudin.

Walaupun ramai Ahli Kelas 75 telah bersara secara rasmi daripada kerjaya mereka, mereka masih aktif melibatkan diri dengan aktiviti peribadi dan ada antaranya berjaya dalam bidang yang diceburi. Anugerah ini dilihat sebagai keprihatinan dan tanda sokongan kepada mereka yang telah memperoleh kejayaan sama ada di dalam mahupun luar negara.

Anugerah Khas Mentari Serdang yang pertama telah diberikan kepada Hj. Mohd Zulkifli pada 16 Disember 2015 atas usaha beliau untuk mendaftar Bunga Raya “Mentari Serdang”. Anugerah Mentari Serdang 2015 telah disampaikan kepada empat Ahli Alumni UPM Kelas 75 pada 11 Mei 2016 di Majlis Makan Tengah Hari sempena Mesyuarat Agung Tahunan 2016.

- a) Penternak Jaya Negeri Selangor 2015 - Hj. Abd Adziz Hassan
- b) Tokoh Kepimpinan Pendidikan S’gor 2015 - Hj. Rohana Hussin
- c) Khidmat Masyarakat 2015 - Hj. Zamani Ab Wahid
- d) Khidmat Masyarakat Antarabangsa 2015 - Prof. Dr. Rahmatullah Khan Abd Wahab Khan

### Pendaftaran Bunga Raya cv Mentari Serdang

Nama “Mentari Serdang” atau “Serdang Sun” telah dimaktubkan sebagai nama kultivar Bunga Raya apabila pendaftarannya telah diterima oleh International Hibiscus Society pada 17 Oktober 2015. Kultivar ini telah ditanam dan diusahakan oleh Tuan Hj Mohd Zulkifli Mohd Zainudin yang juga Alumni 75.

Sila rujuk Gambar 1

Anugerah Khas Mentari Serdang 2015 juga telah dianugerahkan kepada Hj. Azami Husin, Lيسان Diploma Pertanian 1974 atas sumbangan beliau ke atas aktiviti silaturahim dan kebajikan yang melibatkan Alumni UPM Kelas 75.



Gambar 1  
Tahniah kepada Sdr Hj Mohd Zulkifli Bin Mohd Zainudin (Alumni UPM Kelas 75) atas pendaftaran kultivar baru bunga raya (hibiscus) dengan nama “Mentari Serdang” (Serdang Sun)



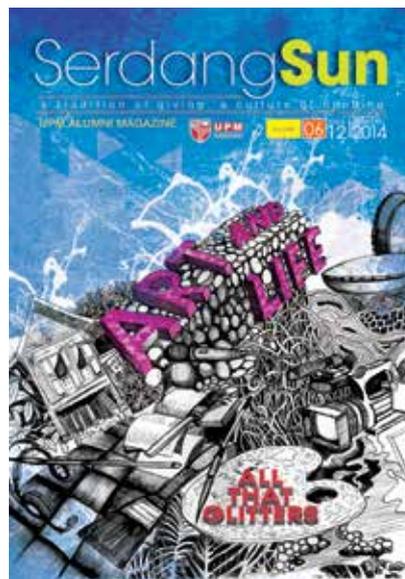
# Giving Back to UPM

We welcome our alumni to promote their business in **UPM Alumni Magazine 'Serdang Sun'**. Advertising in this magazine is a great way to let UPM alumni and friends know about your product, service, event or organization.

For your information, all payment made will be channelled to the **Tabung Menara Jam Warisan Budi Putra**.

Listed below are our ad rates.

No.	Category - Ad Size	Price
1.	Page (Full)	RM10,000.00
2.	Page (Half)	RM5,000.00
3.	Page (Quarter)	RM3,000.00



## Contribute to Alma mater

**Serdang Sun** welcomes contributions in the forms of article, feature stories, alumni news to ensure the content of the magazine is relevant and appealing to the readers. Photos must be in high resolution and submitted as jpeg file. All published articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor, UPM alumni or the university, nor does the Editor take responsibility for errors on fact that may be expressed by the writers and we also have right to edit submissions of style and length.

Send your interesting story, thought and views to [alumni@upm.edu.my](mailto:alumni@upm.edu.my).

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**1** BRIDGES-LINK ZON  
UTARA (KEDAH /  
PERLIS / P.PINANG)  
30 JAN-3 FEB 2016

**2** BENGKEL  
PENULISAN  
MANUSKRIP  
4 FEB 2016

**3** TRACE ZON TIMUR  
26-30 MARCH  
2016

**4** SERDANG HERITAGE  
4 MAY 2016

**5** TRACE NEGERI  
SEMBILAN  
11 MAY 2016

**6** TAUTAN MAHABBAH  
19 MAY 2016

**7** HOMECOMING IX  
21 MAY 2016

**8** DAL'S FACULTY  
OF ECONOMY  
3 JUNE 2016





## Gabungkan semua hutang anda dengan Bank Islam dan jimat ansuran bulanan.

- Nikmati kadar pembiayaan yang rendah
- Jumlah pembiayaan sehingga RM200,000
- Tempoh pembiayaan sehingga 10 tahun
- Kelulusan SEGERA
- Perlindungan Takaful
- Servis perbankan di mana sahaja anda berada

### JADUAL ANSURAN BULANAN PEMBIAYAAN PERIBADI-I

AMAUN PEMBIAYAAN	TEMPOH PEMBIAYAAN (TAHUN)		
	KA (3.90%) + 1.30%		
	1	2	3
10,000	856.99	439.61	300.61
50,000	4,284.96	2,198.05	1,503.04
70,000	5,998.94	3,077.27	2,104.25
100,000	8,569.92	4,396.10	3,006.08
130,000	11,140.89	5,714.93	3,907.90
150,000	12,854.87	6,594.15	4,509.12
170,000	14,568.86	7,473.37	5,110.33
180,000	15,425.85	7,912.98	5,410.94
190,000	16,282.84	8,352.59	5,711.55
200,000	17,139.83	8,792.20	6,012.16

AMAUN PEMBIAYAAN	TEMPOH PEMBIAYAAN (TAHUN)						
	KA (3.90%) + 2.60%						
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10,000	237.15	195.66	168.10	148.49	133.86	122.55	113.55
50,000	1,185.75	978.31	840.50	742.47	669.31	612.73	567.74
70,000	1,660.05	1,369.63	1,176.70	1,039.46	937.04	857.82	794.84
100,000	2,371.50	1,956.61	1,680.99	1,484.94	1,338.62	1,225.45	1,135.48
130,000	3,082.94	2,543.60	2,185.29	1,930.43	1,740.21	1,593.09	1,476.12
150,000	3,557.24	2,934.92	2,521.49	2,227.42	2,007.93	1,838.18	1,703.22
170,000	4,031.54	3,326.25	2,857.69	2,524.40	2,275.66	2,083.27	1,930.32
180,000	4,268.69	3,521.91	3,025.79	2,672.90	2,409.52	2,205.81	2,043.86
190,000	4,505.84	3,717.57	3,193.89	2,821.39	2,543.38	2,328.36	2,157.41
200,000	4,742.99	3,913.23	3,361.99	2,969.89	2,677.25	2,450.90	2,270.96

\* Jadual di atas adalah ilustrasi bagi pembiayaan pada kadar asas (KA) semasa 3.90% setahun.

Untuk memohon Pembiayaan Peribadi-i Bank Islam, sila:

Kunjungi cawangan Bank Islam terdekat atau SMS

BIPF<jarak>NAMA<jarak>LOKASI dan hantar ke 32728 (contoh: BIPF Amirul Bangi)

**BANK ISLAM**

Perbankan Pengguna | Perbankan Komersil | Perbankan Korporat | Pasaran Modal  
Pengurusan Tunai dan Perkhidmatan Perdagangan | Perbendaharaan

T 603 26 900 900 URL [bankislam.com.my](http://bankislam.com.my) [facebook.com/bankislamfb](https://www.facebook.com/bankislamfb)

6% GST termasuk dalam yuran/caj seperti yang berkenaan  
Untuk keterangan lanjut, terma dan syarat layari [www.bankislam.com.my](http://www.bankislam.com.my)

[www.alumni.upm.edu.my](http://www.alumni.upm.edu.my)

**Agriculture • Innovation • Life**

**Alumni Centre**

Bangunan C13, Lorong Pongamia  
43400 Universiti Putra Malaysia  
Selangor Darul Ehsan

Tel : 03-8946 7886 / 6079 / 6080  
Fax : 03-8656 6933  
Email : [alumni@upm.edu.my](mailto:alumni@upm.edu.my)  
Website : <http://www.alumni.upm.edu.my>

**UPM Alumni Association (PAUPM)**

Aras Bawah Bangunan Canselori Putra  
Off Lebuh Silikon  
43400 Universiti Putra Malaysia  
Selangor Darul Ehsan

Tel : 03-8946 7242/ 7243/ 7244  
Email : [alumniupm@gmail.com](mailto:alumniupm@gmail.com)  
Website : <http://www.alumniupm.my>

ISSN 1985-806X



9 771985 806000