



THE HEART BEHIND THE NUMBERS

Dr. Wan Zurina Nik Abdul Majid

PROF. MADYA DR. MARZIANA MADAH MARZUKI
marzianamadah@uitm.edu.my

Some individuals are born into large families, but not everyone grows up in one that truly embodies the spirit of unwavering support. Dr. Wan Zurina Nik Abdul Majid, the youngest of twelve siblings. Yes, twelve, knows what it means to be surrounded by love, guidance, and an unshakeable support system. Growing up with six brothers and five sisters meant never running out of advice, whether she sought it or not. This strong familial bond shaped her resilience, motivating her to dream big and achieve more.

Her academic journey has been nothing short of remarkable. From ITM Kem Kijang to UiTM Shah Alam, she climbed the academic ladder with determination. As a recipient of the Young Lecturers Scheme grant, she wasted no time in pursuing her Master in Accounting, completing it in record time. However, her thirst for knowledge did not stop there. She undertook the challenge of a PhD in Auditing at Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), an achievement that required not only academic brilliance but also perseverance. As nothing worth having comes easy, her doctoral studies were filled with experiences that shaped her, from securing research grants to travelling across the world to present her findings.

Dr. Wan Zurina is not solely focused on crunching numbers and dissecting financial reports. She is known as an educator at heart. Having spent over two decades shaping young minds at UiTM, she has taught countless students, many of whom entered her class with little confidence but left with a newfound sense of purpose. For her, the greatest joy lies in witnessing her students succeed, particularly those who once struggled but eventually broke through their limitations. Throughout her career, she has worn many hats – lecturer, curriculum developer, programme coordinator, and auditor. Her leadership roles within UiTM highlight her ability to drive change while maintaining the integrity of academic programmes. Her contributions have not gone unnoticed as receiving the Anugerah Khidmat Cemerlang three times speaks volumes about her dedication and impact.

Yet, for all her professional achievements, Dr. Wan Zurina remains grounded in her values. She speaks passionately about integrity, whether in financial reporting or in life itself. With the rapid advancement of technology and AI tools like ChatGPT reshaping education, she believes in the importance of academic honesty, ensuring students understand that true success extends beyond passing exams to encompass character building.

Beyond the lecture halls, she is a devoted wife and mother of five. Her home is as lively as her classroom, filled with laughter, learning, and, undoubtedly, a few debates over financial management. Just as her siblings were her pillars of strength, her husband and children now form her greatest support system. They serve as her daily reminder that success is not merely measured in titles or achievements, but in the lives we touch and the love we share. To her colleagues, Dr. Wan Zurina offers a simple piece of advice – be yourself. In academia, as in life, it is impossible to please everyone. Instead, focusing on sincerity, collaboration, and a willingness to give and receive will bring both fulfilment and success. To her students, she imparts a lesson far more valuable than any accounting principle – live with integrity. When honesty is the foundation of one's life, everything else falls into place, professionally, personally, and spiritually.

With a heart full of gratitude and a mind eager for new challenges, Dr. Wan Zurina continues to inspire. Her story is not just about numbers; it is about perseverance, passion, and purpose.

