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THE XVI INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION (IOSTE) SYMPOSIUM BORNEO 2014

By: Margaret Chan

69th Issue

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The International Organisation of Science and Technology Education (IOSTE) was established in 1979 to promote contact and dialogue across political and ideological borders with the key concern that education in Science and Technology should be a vital part of the general education of the peoples of all countries. Its mission statement is that IOSTE identifies science and technology education with the real and changing needs of humankind as a whole and with specific needs of its component communities and nations. It has memberships from 15 regions and eighty countries that include South West Pacific, South East Asia, Far East Asia, South Asia, Persian Gulf, West Africa, East and Central Africa, Southern Africa, Mediterranean, Eastern and Central Europe, Nordic Countries, West Europe, South America, North America and Central America.

The 16th IOSTE Symposium was held from 21st to 27th September 2014 at the Riverside Majestic Hotel, Kuching, Sarawak. The symposium was organised jointly by Universiti Teknologi MARA, the State Education Department, the Teacher Education Institute of Malaysia Batu Lintang Campus and Tun Abdul Razak Campus.



Datuk Lens Talif Salleh, the Assistant Minister at the Chief Minister's Office with the portfolio of Promotion of Technical Education, and the Assistant Minister of Environment addressing the delegates



Professor Dr. Yoong Suan (Advisor to IOSTE Borneo 2014), Professor Dr. Pierre Clément from France and Professor Dr. Hae-Ae Seo (New President of IOSTE) from South Korea

The symposium was tagged as IOSTE Borneo 2014 to reflect the Borneo socioeconomic background. The main theme of the symposium was the Science and Technology Education (STE) for Sustainable Development, Citizen Empowerment, and Societal Transformation with three subthemes:

1. Promoting Quality and Excellence in STE: Issues and Challenges
2. STE for Informed Criticality, Civil Citizenship and Social Justice
3. Broader Issues in Science and Technology Education

The symposium was officially launched by the Chief Minister of Sarawak, Yang Amat Berhormat, Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Haji Adenan bin Haji Satem, on 22nd September, 2014 with his consent given during a courtesy call to Yang Amat Berhormat, the Chief Minister led by Prof. Dato Dr. Jamil Haji Hamali, Rector of UiTM Sarawak on 27th August 2014. Yang Berhormat, Datuk Lens Talif Salleh, the Assistant Minister at the Chief Minister's Office with the portfolio of Promotion of Technical Education, and the Assistant Minister of Environment was designated by the Chief Minister to address the symposium on his behalf.

Four keynote speakers presented at the conference. Tan Sri Dato' Sri Professor Ir. Dr. Sahol Hamid Abu Bakar, the Vice Chancellor, Universiti Teknologi MARA delivered his paper on *Mengubah Destini Anak Bangsa*. Next, Dr. Molly N.N. Lee, a former Coordinator of the Asia-Pacific Programme of Educational Programme for Development (APEID) and Programme Specialist in Higher Education at UNESCO Asia and the Pacific Regional Bureau for Education in Bangkok, presented "Education for Sustainable Development: Concept, Principles and Practices". Then, Professor Dr. Malin Ideland from Malmo University, Sweden talked on "Global responsibility or eco-certified nationalism? About impossibilities of non-colonial Educations for Sustainable Development (ESD)". Lastly, Professor Dr. Anthony Clarke from the University of British Columbia, Canada presented "What if I said No?". Six plenary papers, seventy technical papers and six posters were presented by the delegates from 18 countries. 43 papers from delegates who gave their consent would be published in the *Procedia of Social and Behavioral Sciences* (Published by Elsevier, Scopus cited).

The delegates went to the Semenggok Wildlife Centre and the Sarawak Cultural Village for their technical tour on 26th September 2014. The tenure of board member for Associate Professor Dr. Margaret Chan was renewed during the IOSTE general assembly on 27th September 2014. The 17th IOSTE Symposium will be held in Portugal in 2016.



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