Info Kampus

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UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA SARAWAK

BULETIN UiTM SARAWAK

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Message from the Campus Director, UiTM SARAWAK

The New Year has arrived bringing with it new responsibilities and objectives. First of all, I wish to remind staff and students of Dato' Seri's annual themes or targets ("amanat").This year the focus is on Internationalization. Programs, seminars and paper presentations that we conduct should not only carry local but international aspects including collaboration with overseas partners. Perhaps we could go overseas or invite international guests here in our quest for joint research with regional and foreign counterparts. We could start off with neighbouring countries such as Singapore, Indonesia and Thailand. However, we need to reach out to Europe and other regions.

It needs to be stressed that Dato' Seri wants us to maintain all the previous themes ("amanat"), of the past eight years, along with the new ones of this year. We need to also think of designing student activities from an international level.

Thanks to all the staff for the strong, continuing support extended to me during the last three years, without it we could not have achieved success in all areas that UiTM Sarawak, Kampus Samarahan, up to now. The successes are seen through the new awards we have received, improved students performances and an overall improvement in quality. I have been reappointed for another term and I hope to receive an equally dedicated support.

I wish you a Happy Awal Muharram, Happy New Year and a Happy Chinese New Year.

Associate Professor Dr. Jamil Hj. Hamali
Campus Director

Sekadar Renungan.....

Hadiah yang terbaik kepada kawan ialah kesetiaan
Hadiah yang terbaik kepada musuh ialah kemaafan
Hadiah yang terbaik kepada ketua ialah khidmat
Hadiah yang terbaik kepada yang muda ialah contoh terbaik
Hadiah yang terbaik kepada yang tua ialah hayati budi mereka
Hadiah yang terbaik kepada pasangan ialah cinta dan ketaatan
Hadiah yang terbaik kepada manusia ialah kebebasan.

Dari Meja Editor

Bismillahhirrahmanirrahim…

Warga kampus yang dikasihi,

Alhamdulillah, syukur ke hadrat- Nya di atas kemunculan Info Kampus kita untuk edisi kali ini. Untuk santapan warga kampus, kami tunggak baru Info Kampus telah membuat beberapa perubahan untuk kemunculan yang julung kalinya di atas penat lelah yang telah dicurahkan selama ini. Selaku Ketua Panel Editor untuk musim ini, tidak dinafikan bahawa pelbagai cabaran, permasalahan serta dugaan yang telah dilalui dalam usaha untuk menyiapkan keluaran yang telah menjadi tradisi kampus kita untuk memaklumkan kepada semua warga kampus akan pelbagai isu serta aktiviti yang berlaku di sekeliling kita.

2007 semakin jauh meninggalkan kita, manakala tahun baru 2008 menanti di ambang dengan senyumaman yang cukup mendebarkan. Saya percaya pelbagai peristiwa pahit manis 2007 disimpan dalam lipatan kenangan untuk dijadikan iktibar dan tauladan. Yang pasti 2008 disambut dengan semangat dan inspirasi untuk menjadi yang lebih baik meskipun cabarannya semakin getir.

Di kesempatan ini juga, setinggi-tinggi terima kasih kepada mereka yang telah memberi sumbangan dari segi bahan cerita dan gambar-gambar yang menarik untuk dikongsi bersama. Kami amat menghargainya. Dan kami akan sentiasa memberi yang terbaik untuk setiap edisi yang dipaparkan sepanjang tahun ini.
Di harap keluaran kali ini dapat memberi kepuasan maksimum kepada warga kampus semua kerana hilang rasa penat dan lelah kami menghasilkan edisi ini apabila anda berpuas hati memilikinya. Bertemu lagi di edisi yang akan datang.

Salam coretan dan Selamat Tahun Baru.

Nur Aida Kipli
Ketua Panel Editor

aidan@sarawakuitm.edu.my



Editorial

UiTM Sarawak

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by Lau Ung Hua & Foo Kien Kheng

STestMAP team conducts two workshops for lecturers at Faculty of Information Technology and Quantitative Sciences in UiTM Malaysia



Starting from the inaugural "Data Analysis with STestMAP and SPSS" workshop in September 2006, the STestMAP team under the StatMAP Special Interest Group, had conducted 9 workshops in less than a year. In addition to that, numerous presentations were carried out inside and outside of the country to promote our UiTM product. Recently, during the July semester break, the team had a golden opportunity to share the product usage with lecturers of Faculty of Information Technology and Quantitative Sciences (FTMSK), UiTM Malaysia.

There were two workshops- one for non-statistician lecturers and the other for statistics educators. These workshops were the outcome of a presentation by the STestMAP team at FTMSK in July last year. The two-day workshop was handled by Mr Foo Kien Kheng, Miss Lau Ung Hua and Mr Kelvin Goh. It was attended by 25 participants, consisting mostly of lecturers who intend to pursue their PhD. The one-day workshop was conducted by Mr Foo Kien Kheng with an attendance of 19 experienced statistics lecturers from the main campus and branch campuses.

1. Report on the two-day workshop – STestMAP as a research tool

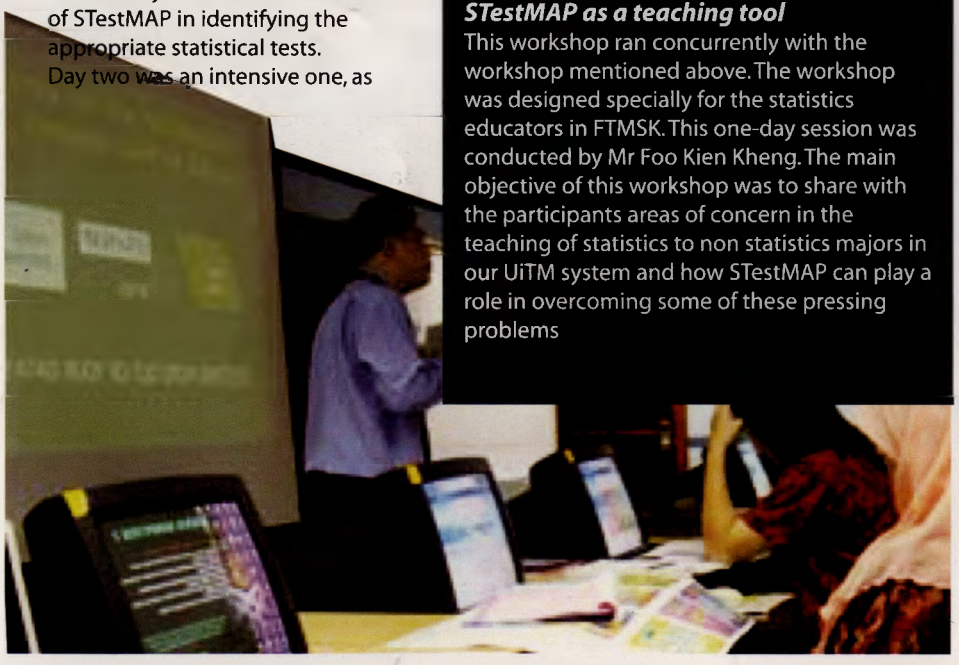
The first day of the workshop introduced the participants to STestMAP and also SPSS. A pretest was administered to assess their prior knowledge before they were briefed on the use of STestMAP in identifying the appropriate statistical tests. Day two was an intensive one, as expressed by some of the participants. They were taken through quite a few case studies to help participants identify various univariate and bivariate tests after which they were taught how to use SPSS to generate the output. Posttest was subsequently given to the participants at the end of the day to assess their ability in using STestMAP correctly.

The result of the analysis for the pretest and posttest indicated a significant improvement in the performance of the participants in identifying the right statistical tests. The individual performance of every participant was later sent to each of the participant's email.

From the verbal feedback that was received, generally the participants gave positive feedback on the running of the workshop and the ability of the facilitators in handling the workshop. Many indicated that they are looking forward to other workshops in the series conducted by the team. Even some of them requested for the same workshop to be conducted again as there were still many interested lecturers who wished to attend but were not around during the semester break.

2. Report on the one-day workshop – STestMAP as a teaching tool

This workshop ran concurrently with the workshop mentioned above. The workshop was designed specially for the statistics educators in FTMSK. This one-day session was conducted by Mr Foo Kien Kheng. The main objective of this workshop was to share with the participants areas of concern in the teaching of statistics to non statistics majors in our UiTM system and how STestMAP can play a role in overcoming some of these pressing problems



The session started off with the identification of 4 major categories of problems namely pedagogical, affective, content and technological problems. Subsequently a discussion on some of the problems faced by our own students was presented.

With the identification of these problems, some solutions were suggested. One of which was to use STestMAP to help in areas where visualization can effectively enhance the understanding of statistical content. Technology was suggested as one good way to assist in reinforcing understanding. In this workshop, the presenter shared with the participants on how STestMAP could be used in classes for the purpose of teaching and learning. The discussion focused on the following:

1. STestMAP as an advance organizer
2. STestMAP as a thinking tool for seeing connections / relationships
3. STestMAP for deep understanding
4. STestMAP for linear and nonlinear thinker
5. STestMAP as an assessment tool

The session was interactive in nature and there was much discussion as the statistics lecturers were able to bring in their experiences and problems related to the topics at hand.

The STestMAP team was grateful to be given the chance to present the product to our own lecturers as the comments and suggestions given were constructive and helpful to the team.

The team will definitely use the feedback to review the product and make changes where necessary. It is our fervent hope that we can upgrade the product into an effective teaching tool.

Algebra Book by Department of Quantitative Science, UiTM Sarawak launched by State Assistant Minister in the Chief Minister's Department

by Foo Kien Kheng



Datin Fatimah engrossed in some of the algebra problems found in the book.

The Department of Quantitative Science, UiTM Sarawak recently published an algebra book entitled " Preparatory Course in Algebra " through the University Publishing House (UPENA). This book was written by a group of experienced mathematics lecturers from this department. It was specially written for students embarking on a first course in university algebra. The book was launched during the Mini Mathematics Conference 2007 held at the Exhibition Gallery, Sarawak State Library on 25 June 2007 by Datin Hajah Fatimah Abdullah, Assistant Minister in the Chief Minister's Department.

The book has been specially written for non-specialists who need a solid introductory grounding in algebra. It serves equally well as a self-study text, lecture text and ready reference guide. It is hope that this book will get overwhelming response from our own students as the approach and style incorporated have been tailored to local needs within a Malaysian context.

KONFERENSI ANTARUNIVERSITI SE BORNEO-KALIMANTAN KE 3 DI UNIVERSITI LAMANGKURAT BANJARMASIN (15-17 JUN 2007)

Oleh Che Bakar Che Mat

Konferensi berbentuk tahunan ini telah diadakan di Universiti Lamangkurat, Banjarmasin Kalimantan Timur. Kali pertama ia diadakan pada tahun 2005 di UNIMAS, dan kali kedua di Universiti Tanjungpura, Pontianak 2006.

Beberapa kertas kerja dari pensyarah UiTM Sarawak telah dibentangkan pada konferensi yang pertama termasuklah kertas kerja dari Timbalan Pengarah HEA. Pada tahun ini seramai dua orang pensyarah dari UiTMS telah dijemput untuk membentangkan kertas kerja iaitu Ustaz Che Bakar Che Mat dari CITU dan juga En. Abdul Jabbar Abdullah. Ustaz Che Bakar telah menarik diri di saat akhir kerana berlaku pertembungan aktiviti dengan Bengkel Penyemakan Kurikulum IDA yang telah diadakan di UiTM Sarawak. Kertas Kerja Yang bertajuk "Hak Asasi Manusia Menurut Perspektif Islam" telah dibentangkan oleh Ustaz Sophian Rambli. En. Abdul Jabbar telah membentangkan dua kertas kerja iaitu dalam bidang ekonomi dan juga politik.

Kehadiran pensyarah UiTM Sarawak ke majlis tersebut bukan hanya sebagai pembentang kertas kerja tetapi juga dalam usaha untuk mempromosikan "Konferensi Perkembangan Islam Borneo" yang akan diadakan di UiTM Sarawak pada penghujung tahun ini. Menurut En. Abdul Jabar kehadiran wakil UiTM di Banjarmasin amatlah penting bagi mempromosikan secara langsung konferensi yang akan diadakan di UiTMS dan ramai dari kalangan ahli akademik yang telah menyatakan minat untuk hadir pada bulan Disember nanti di UiTMS.

PERASMIAN RAKAN MUDA DESA IPTA PERINGKAT NEGERI SARAWAK

Pada 27 Julai 2007 bertempat di Dewan Jubli UiTM Sarawak, Yang Berhormat Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Abang Haji Openg, Menteri Perumahan Sarawak telah merasmikan program Rakan Muda Desa IPTA untuk peringkat Negeri Sarawak. Objektif aktiviti ini adalah untuk memberi peluang pelajar-pelajar IPTA bergaul dan mendidik masyarakat setempat dengan budaya universiti. Hanya UiTM dan UNIMAS di antara IPTA yang terlibat dalam program ini. Aktiviti bermula pada setiap hari Jumaat petang dan berakhir pada hari Ahad tengahari. Para pelajar telah ditempatkan di rumah keluarga angkat dan aktiviti yang dijalankan adalah seperti gotong-royong, taklimat kepada penduduk kampung mengenai UiTM dan aktiviti-aktiviti yang disediakan oleh penduduk kampung yang terlibat. Dalam melancarkan lagi aktiviti ini, UiTM telah mengendalikan 13 buah kampung di bahagian Kuching dan UNIMAS pula sebanyak 12 buah kampung di bahagian Samarahan. Di antara kampung-kampung yang terlibat adalah :



Majlis Perasmian disempurnakan oleh YB Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Abang Haji Openg,bersama-sama dengan Pengarah Kampus UiTM Sarawak

1. *Kampung Landeh Kuching*
2. *Kampung Buntal*
3. *Kampung Seleng Melayu Lundu*
4. *Kampung Muara Tebas*
5. *Kampung Bunga Rampai*
6. *Kampung Duyoh Serikin*
7. *Kampung Paya Embi Kuching*
8. *Kampung Sungai Lumut Kuching*
9. *Kampung Stunggang Melayu, Lundu*
10. *Kampung Sejingkat Kuching*
11. *Kampung Syiru Melayu Semantan*
12. *Kampung Stass Serikan*

A Happy and Prosperous New Year to All



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