Universiti Teknologi MARA
Cawangan Sarawak

INFO 85TH ISSUE JANUARY - JUNE 2025

sarawak.uitm.edu.my www.facebook.com/uitmsarawak www.facebook.com/rektor.sarawak

KAMPUS

UiTM Sarawak Bulletin







HIGHLIGHT

- The Governor of Sarawak Hosts UiTM Sarawak Branch to Strengthen State- Institution Relations
- UiTM Sarawak Pays Courtesy Visit to The Premier Of Sarawak: Driving Agricultural Transformation and Proposing The Establishment of The Tun Openg History and Heritage (TOHHa) Chair
- Strategic Linkage Between UiTM Sarawak Branch and Northern Illinois University (Niu): Driving Global Excellence



Rector's Remark

Professor Dr. Firdaus Abdullah
Rector
UiTM Sarawak Branch

Salam Sejahtera And Warm Greetings To All Readers,

It gives me great pleasure to extend my heartfelt greetings to all readers of the 85th issue of *Infokampus*. This bulletin is more than a repository of news and achievements; it is a living chronicle of UiTM Sarawak's aspirations, our community's resilience, and the collective journey we share as educators, researchers, staff, students, alumni and partners. As we look outward to a world reshaped by global challenges and opportunities, we also look inward to the campus that nurtures talent and where knowledge is converted into impact.

As we open the pages of this issue, I am reminded of the journey that UiTM Cawangan Sarawak has taken together with our community, partners, and stakeholders. This issue comes at a time when we continue to navigate a rapidly evolving global landscape shaped by the lessons of the pandemic and the necessity of forging stronger partnerships at every level of our operations. Each milestone we achieve is not only a testament to our collective commitment to excellence but also a reflection of our responsibility as an institution of higher learning to make meaningful contributions to society, the nation, and theworld. UiTM Sarawak has always stood as more than just a place of learning; it is a living, breathing ecosystem of ideas, cultures, talents, and aspirations.

The past few years have brought unprecedented challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic reshaped the landscape of higher education, from our ways of teaching, learning, and engaging with the community. Yet, here we are in 2025, not only having adapted but having grown stronger, wiser, and more united in our mission. The lessons learned during those difficult times have now been woven into our long-term vision, aligning closely with Malaysia's Post-COVID Development Strategy 2030 and the global aspirations outlined in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Our mission is clearer than ever: to equip our students with the skills, values, and vision to thrive in a rapidly changing world, while ensuring that UiTM Sarawak continues to be a driver of sustainable and inclusive development.

As we step into 2025, we remain proud of the legacy and accomplishments recorded in recent years. UiTM Cawangan Sarawak continues to be recognised for its quality education, impactful research, and close engagement with the community. Our position as a trusted partner of the Sarawak State Government, particularly in areas such as digital economy development, smart farming, and talent cultivation, remains central to our identity. In line with the aspirations of the Premier of Sarawak, we are committed to ensuring that UiTM Sarawak is not only a regional centre of excellence but also a globally recognised institution rooted in local relevance. Our past achievements in winning state and national awards, producing high-impact research, and fostering international collaborations are a testament to our capabilities. Most recently, we have successfully advanced to the final stage of the Sarawak State Public Service Quality Award (AKPANS) 2025 under the Statutory Body category. This milestone reaffirms our continuous pursuit of excellence and our commitment to delivering the highest standards in education, research, and service.

In today's world, communication is key, and I have embraced the role of social media in academic leadership. Platforms like Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube are not just

tools for marketing, but they are powerful ways to connect, to share transparently with stakeholders, and to strengthen UiTM's global image. At the same time, I strongly believe that our work must contribute to the wider world. Aligning our programs with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) ensures that our graduates are not only job-ready but also prepared to address social, economic, and environmental challenges. Education, after all, is not just about employment; it is about impact.

Looking ahead, I aspire to position UiTM Sarawak as a global leader in higher education, known for producing graduates who are innovative, resilient, and globally connected. This requires continuous innovation, strong partnerships, and above all, a commitment to excellence. But the road ahead calls for more than maintaining excellence; it demands transformation. Every decision and initiative is driven by a belief in the transformative power of education. Together, with our dedicated lecturers, staff, and students, we are not just keeping up with change. We are helping to shape the future of UiTM Sarawak.

As I close this Rector's remark, I am filled with optimism and gratitude for the people who make UiTM Sarawak what it is. From the lecturers who nurture minds, the researchers who seek solutions, the staff who sustain operations, the students who bring curiosity and energy, the community partners who open their lives and knowledge to us, and to the alumni who carry our name beyond the campus gates. The next five years will be decisive in shaping UiTM Cawangan Sarawak's legacy for the decades to come. Let us move forward together in partnership, with purpose, and with persistent attention to sustainability. Let our campus be a place where knowledge meets action; where students graduate not only with credentials but with a sense of responsibility; and where UiTM Sarawak stands as a model of how regional universities can contribute to national development and global sustainability.

Terima kasih and may our collaborative efforts in the years to come yield outcomes that uplift communities, protect our environment, and advance knowledge for the common good.

Here's to a greener, stronger, and more united UiTM Sarawak.
With warm regards,





Message from Editor-in-Chief

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh
And Salam Uitm Di Hatiku,

With heartfelt gratitude, we are proud to present the 85th Issue of Info Kampus Bulletin (January-June 2025 Edition). This publication serves as a platform to highlight the achievements of our university community, share the latest information, and strengthen the spirit of togetherness among members of the university.

UiTM Sarawak Branch continues to register commendable positive developments. In efforts to drive excellence, the university has forged strategic partnerships with the state government and received international recognition for several faculties. Additionally, several new academic programs will be introduced to meet industry demands and enhance the competitiveness of graduates.

I would like to express my highest appreciation and thanks to YBrs. Professor Dr. Firdaus Abdullah, Rector of UiTM Sarawak Branch, for his continued leadership and unwavering support in driving the excellence of this institution. His guidance and strategic vision serve as a source of inspiration for us in producing this bulletin.

Not forgetting, my sincere thanks go to the entire editorial team, article contributors, and all parties who have collaborated to make this publication a success. Your commitment and dedication are greatly appreciated.

We hope that this Info Kampus Bulletin can become a dynamic and ongoing platform to disseminate knowledge, strengthen connections among campus residents, and serve as a reference and inspiration for all readers. We trust that this publication will bring meaningful benefits to the UiTM Sarawak Branch community and reflect the university's aspirations in producing quality and competitive graduates.

Thank you and let us continue to progress together through knowledge.

Farhana binti Ghazuddin

Published by
Universiti Teknologi MARA, Sarawak
ISSN 2232-1578

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

EDITORIAL BOARD

Info Kampus UiTM Cawangan Sarawak



ADVISOR
Professor Dr. Firdaus Abdullah

CHIEF EDITOR
Farhana binti Ghazuddin

DEPUTY CHIEF EDITOR
Jacqueline Susan Anak Rijeng

EDITORS
Dr. John Francis Noyan
Dr. Sueb bin Ibrahim
Arrominy binti Arabi
Ts. Hemyza binti Budin

COORDINATOR OF CORPORATE COMMUNICATION UNIT
Yaziz bin Kasim

CORPORATE COMMUNICATION UNIT
Sarah Syamimi binti Khalid
Mohammad bin Abang
Mohd. Adam bin Johny

WEBMASTER
Adib bin Sarkawi

Date Published 30th June 2025



STRATEGIC LINKAGE BETWEEN UiTM SARAWAK BRANCH AND NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY (NIU): DRIVING GLOBAL EXCELLENCE

Source:
UiTM Sarawak Rector's Facebook Page

9 May 2025 | Last Friday morning, I received a courtesy visit from Professor Melissa E. Lenczewski, Assistant Director of the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Northern Illinois University (NIU), United States, at my office in Samarahan 2 Campus. I warmly welcomed Prof. Melissa and her delegation to UiTM Sarawak Branch (UiTMCS) and thanked them for taking the time to visit.

Throughout the meeting, we discussed various interesting topics and issues. Among them, Prof. Melissa shared that her team is currently researching groundwater resources. The study was initiated because groundwater sources are often overlooked due to their invisibility, despite being a major source of water in this country. Moreover, it rarely becomes the focus of scholarly research in the state, even though it plays a crucial role in climate resilience, economic development, and human health.

Prof. Melissa also expressed concern about the growing presence of contaminants of emerging concern (CEC), which has become an increasing issue not only in Malaysia but also throughout Southeast Asia. This is mainly due to high population density and inadequate sanitation infrastructure, making groundwater pollution a critical environmental issue. Additionally, the widespread presence of microplastics (MP) today further contributes to the contamination of groundwater sources, oceans, and the agricultural sector.

In relation to this, Prof. Melissa mentioned that NIU is working to establish a Midwest Research Center focusing on advancing microplastic science research, while also emphasizing standardization, community engagement, and policymaker involvement.

According to her, this research will bring together experts from various fields, including geology, biology, environmental science, public health, and Southeast Asian studies, demonstrating the need for cross-disciplinary collaboration. The research will span from Thailand to Malaysia, extending even to Mexico, to explore how microplastics affect different groundwater environments across the world.

It is hoped that more academics will take up groundwater research as their focus in the future. UiTM Sarawak Branch also hopes that the research conducted by NIU will have a positive global impact on groundwater resources.



Universiti Teknologi MARA | Cawangan Sarawak

JANUARY - JUNE 2025

INFO KAMPUS 85TH ISSUE

UiTM Sarawak Bulletin

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA
CAWANGAN SARAWAK

A UNIVERSITY BEYOND THE WALLS, AN INSTITUTION WITHOUT LIMITS.

ISSN: 2232-1578

Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM),
Cawangan Sarawak
94300 Kota Samarahan,
Sarawak, Malaysia.
Tel: +6082-677 200 | +6082-677 500
Fax: +6082-677 300

9 772232 157005