Universiti Teknologi MARA
Cawangan Sarawak

INFO 85TH ISSUE JANUARY - JUNE 2025

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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

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GRAND IFTAR CEREMONY 2025 WITH THE RIGHT HONOURABLE PREMIER OF SARAWAK

Source:
UiTM Sarawak Rector's Facebook Page

Alhamdulillah, the Grand Iftar Ceremony 2025 with The Right Honourable Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri (Dr) Abang Haji Abdul Rahman Zohari bin Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg, Premier of Sarawak, held at Masjid Al-Qarawiyyin, UiTM Sarawak Branch, Samarahan Campus, was carried out smoothly and with many blessings.

The Premier of Sarawak was represented by The Honourable Dato Sri Haji Julaihi bin Haji Narawi, Minister for Utilities and Telecommunications, Sarawak.

This ceremony was organised to celebrate the asnaf (eligible zakat recipients) students and staff of UiTM Sarawak Branch (UiTMCS) and to help ease their financial burdens in preparation for Ramadan and the upcoming Syawal celebrations. At the same time, it aimed to strengthen the relationship between the university, state government leaders, and the local community during the holy month of Ramadan, reflecting UiTM Sarawak's commitment to fostering the spirit of giving and sharing.

During the event, YB Dato Sri Julaihi also presented contributions to 55 asnaf recipients, consisting of underprivileged students, single mothers, UiTMCS staff, and new Muslim converts from Kampung Plaie (the converts' village) in Kota Samarahan.

The contributions were channelled through the Zakat and Waqf Unit (ZAWAF) of UiTMCS, with funds from the Zakat Fund for student beneficiaries, while the Charity Fund was used for UiTMCS staff and asnaf from Kampung Plaie. Contributions for the single mothers were provided by the Women's Association of Universiti Teknologi MARA (PEWANI).

Following the presentation ceremony, YB Dato Sri Julaihi witnessed the handover of zakat mock cheques and corporate contributions to UiTM Sarawak Branch, as follows:

1. Maybank Islamic Berhad, represented by Mr. Abang Jamili bin Abang Julai, Regional Director of Maybank Sarawak Region, presented a contribution of RM115,105.00 to the UiTMCS Zakat Fund.
2. Rafulin Holdings Sdn. Bhd., represented by Ms. Ivy Molly Luhat, Branch Manager of Rafulin Sarawak, on behalf of YBhg. Dato' Mohamed Raffe Chekku, Managing Director of Rafulin Holdings Sdn. Bhd., presented a contribution of RM75,450.00 to the UiTMCS Zakat Fund.

More than 400 attendees, including students, UiTMCS staff, and invited guests, were present at the event. The evening began with iftar (breaking of fast), followed by Maghrib congregational prayer and the presentation of contributions to the asnaf recipients. The ceremony continued with Isyak and Tarawih prayers, and concluded with moreh (light supper).

Also in attendance were YBhg. Datuk Haji Abdul Wahab bin Aziz, Pro-Chancellor of UiTM, and his wife, YBhg. Datin Dayang Rosnah binti Haji Abang Drashid, members of the UiTM Sarawak Branch State Executive Committee (JKEN), Heads of Departments, community leaders from nearby villages in the Samarahan District, as well as students and members of UiTM Sarawak Branch.

Heartfelt appreciation and sincere thanks to The Honourable Dato Sri Haji Julaihi for graciously taking the time to attend this event.

A special note of appreciation is also extended to all corporate organisations for their generous contributions, and not forgetting the organising committee members for their dedication, commitment, and effort in ensuring the success of this event.







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