Universiti Teknologi MARA Cawangan Sarawak

formerly known as: **INFO KAMPUS**

VARSITY EDGE



MAPPA XX RUN - Sarawak Edition:
Racing Towards Wellness

BORNEO INSPIRES LEGACY AWARD 2025
Double Victory for UiTM Sarawak

BLOCKCHAIN BORNEO CONFERENCE 2025
Deciphering the Future of Digital Innovation









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The bulletin is a biannual publication, documenting the activities and strategic initiatives of the university.

eISSN XXXX-XXXX
2026

National Library of Malaysia

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Rector's Remark

Professor Dr. Firdaus Abdullah
Rector
UiTM Sarawak Branch

Warm greetings to all our readers,

As we turn the page to this new issue, I am pleased to welcome you not only to another chapter of our university's story, but also to a refreshed identity for our campus bulletin. What you now hold in your hands is Varsity Edge, a reimagined platform that serves as a meaningful evolution, yet continues the spirit of Infokampus (its former name). This bulletin offers a fresher, more grounded lens through which we view UiTM Cawangan Sarawak.

In the previous issue, we reflected deeply on resilience, partnerships, and transformation lessons shaped by the pandemic years and guided by our aspirations towards 2030. This issue continues that journey. However, it does so with a renewed voice, one that speaks closer to the heart of UiTM Cawangan Sarawak and the campus community.

The decision to rebrand Infokampus was not taken lightly. For many years, Infokampus faithfully chronicled our milestones, achievements, and aspirations as a university. It served as an official and trusted platform documenting our institutional growth. Yet, as UiTM Cawangan Sarawak continues to evolve, so too must the way we tell our story.

Varsity Edge reflects a more personal, authentic, and inclusive narrative. It represents a renewed way of seeing, thinking, and engaging that goes beyond merely reporting achievements to sharing perspectives, from institutional announcements to human stories, and from top-down communication to a shared conversation. This new name embodies our identity that is grounded, inclusive, and community-oriented. It reminds us that UiTM Sarawak is not an isolated institution, but one that grows with and within its community. Through this lens, every lecturer, student, staff member, alumnus, and partner becomes part of the narrative.

While the name has changed, our values and direction remain firmly anchored. As highlighted in the previous issue, UiTM Sarawak continues to align itself with the national agenda under the Post-COVID Development Strategy 2030, as well as the global aspirations of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We remain steadfast in our mission to prepare graduates who are not only academically competent but also resilient, ethical, and socially responsible. The post-pandemic era has taught us that adaptability, collaboration, and empathy are no longer optional; they are essential attributes for future leaders.

Our efforts to strengthen teaching and learning, enhance digital capabilities, and expand industry and community partnerships continue to gain momentum. These initiatives are not standalone efforts; they are interconnected strategies designed to ensure that UiTM Sarawak remains relevant, competitive, and impactful in a rapidly changing world. In pursuing this, partnerships remain central to our growth. In line with SDG 17, UiTM Sarawak continues to foster strong collaborations with the Sarawak Government,

industries, community organisations, and international institutions. These partnerships have enabled us to contribute meaningfully to areas such as digital economy development, smart agriculture, community empowerment, and talent cultivation. More importantly, they have created pathways for our students and staff to engage beyond the classroom in applying knowledge, transferring skills, and co-creating solutions with real impact.

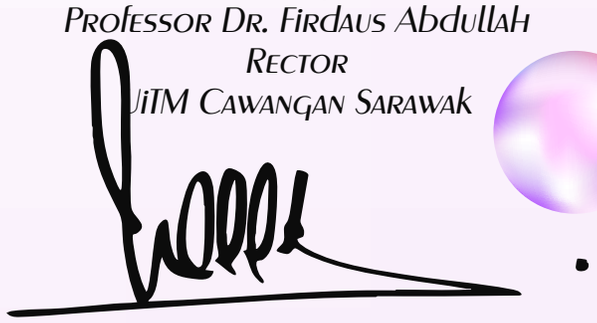
This new platform also reflects our belief that a university's strength lies in its people. Behind every award, accreditation, or recognition are individuals who work quietly and consistently to make excellence possible. Our academic staff continue to demonstrate dedication in teaching, research, and innovation. Our professional and support staff ensure that operations run smoothly, often behind the scenes. Our students bring energy, creativity, and purpose, thus challenging us to remain responsive and forward-looking. Our alumni and partners extend our impact beyond campus boundaries, carrying the UiTM Sarawak name with pride. Indeed, Varsity Edge provides space for these voices to be heard. It is a platform where achievements are celebrated, challenges are acknowledged, and lessons are shared openly.

As we step into 2026, we will further strengthen our strategic direction through ten new initiatives highlighted in the "Amant Rektor 2026" that will guide our collective efforts. We will intensify our commitment towards building a Green and Sustainable Campus while ensuring the mental health and overall well-being of our community remain a priority. We will develop a comprehensive social entrepreneurship ecosystem to empower innovation with impact, and continue to elevate excellence in sports, arts, and culture as part of holistic education. At the same time, we aim to expand international faculty engagement and nurture academic personalities who serve as media icons and thought leaders, strengthening our global visibility and distinction. Also, investments in sustainable infrastructure will support resilient and technology-integrated learning environments, alongside the establishment and reinforcement of Centres of Excellence focusing on future skills and strategic niche areas. Above all, we will continue embedding the principles of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) practices into our governance, curriculum, and operations to ensure that UiTM Sarawak grows responsibly and purposefully.

As UiTM Sarawak moves forward, Varsity Edge will serve as a mirror that reflects who we are, and a window that looks outward to who we aspire to become. The years ahead will continue to challenge us, but they will also offer opportunities for innovation, collaboration, and growth. With a clear strategic direction, strong partnerships, and a committed community, I am confident that UiTM Sarawak will continue to thrive as a university that is globally aware, locally rooted, and people-centred. Together, let us continue to move forward with purpose, guided by values, strengthened by partnerships, and inspired by the communities we serve.

Thank you and may our journey ahead be one of continued growth, unity, and positive impact.

warm regards,
Professor Dr. Firdaus Abdullah
Rector
UiTM Cawangan Sarawak





Message from Editor-in-Chief

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh and greetings.

Praise be to Allah SWT, by whose grace and mercy the official bulletin of UiTM Sarawak Branch is successfully published. The release of this edition marks a significant new chapter in the university's communication and information-sharing landscape with the rebranding of the bulletin from Info Kampus to Varsity Edge UiTM Sarawak Bulletin.

This rebranding represents more than a change in name and appearance; it reflects a renewed aspiration that is fresher, more dynamic, and inclusive. Varsity Edge is envisioned as a progressive platform to highlight academic achievements, research, innovation, student activities, as well as the contributions of the UiTM Sarawak Branch community to society and the nation. This initiative is also aligned with the university's aspiration to strengthen its institutional image as a centre of academic excellence that remains relevant to contemporary needs.

As the Editor-in-Chief, I would like to extend my deepest appreciation and gratitude to the entire editorial team, contributors, and the UiTM Sarawak Branch community for their continuous support in making this publication a reality. It is our hope that Varsity Edge will serve as an effective communication medium, a source of inspiration, and a meaningful platform for knowledge sharing for all readers.

In closing, we sincerely hope that this bulletin will continue to remain relevant and gain a special place in the hearts of the university community and the public at large.

Thank you.

FARHANA BINTI GHAZUDDIN
Editor-in-Chief
Varsity Edge UiTM Sarawak Bulletin

Date Published 30th June 2025



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30 January 2026

PROFESSOR KHONG HENG YEN: A DISTINGUISHED ACADEMIC LEADER AND RESEARCH INNOVATOR



PhD convocation at UKM, 2010

Professor Khong Heng Yen is a VK7 Professor at Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Sarawak Branch. She currently serves as the Chief Editor of the Journal of Smart Science and Technology and the President of the UiTM Sarawak Professors' Council. She is also an active member who attends the JKEN meetings. Born on 28 May 1967 in Port Dickson, Professor Khong is the second of five siblings. She received her early education at SRJK (C) Chung Hua before continuing her secondary education at Port Dickson High School. Her strong passion for education led her to pursue a Bachelor of Science (Hons.) in Industrial Chemistry at Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). After working as a Research Executive at Hume Cemboard Sdn. Bhd., she completed a Diploma in Education. Professor Khong later earned her Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Chemistry from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) in 2010, supported by UiTM staff scholarship.

Professor Khong began her academic career as a young lecturer at UiTM Sarawak on 2 January 1998. Over more than 28 years of service, she has held numerous key academic and administrative positions, including Head of Diploma in Science Programme, Chemistry Course Coordinator, Chemistry Laboratory Coordinator, and Research Laboratory Coordinator. Professor Khong is an active researcher in the field of natural products, with a particular focus on medicinal plants of Borneo and Sarawak. To date, Professor Khong has successfully completed over 25 research projects, including projects worth more than RM2 million, funded by MOHE, UiTM, and national agencies. She has also established international research collaborations with Zhejiang Ocean University (China), Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta (Indonesia), and Rajamangala University of Technology Thanyaburi (Thailand).

As a highly accomplished academician, Professor Khong has received numerous awards and recognitions, including the Eminent Scientist Award (2015), Meritorious Service Medal (2017), Best Academic Writer Award, Excellent Innovator Award (2024), as well as over 30 innovation medals at national and international levels. She has led and evaluated innovation competitions extensively, serving as Chief Judge more than 15 times, and has also contributed as a panel evaluator for the FRGS grant under the Ministry of Higher Education.

Additionally, she has shared her expertise as an external examiner for the Masters and PhD programmes at UNIMAS and has been actively involved in state-level committees, including the Sarawak Bamboo Industry Development (SaBIDTeC) and the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), particularly in relation to the development of Sarawak's bamboo industry. The core values upheld by Professor Khong are excellence and integrity, which are clearly reflected in her research achievements, publications, and innovations. She continues to inspire through the international success of her students and the publications of more than 100 journal articles. Among the motivational quotes that guide Professor Khong's life is: "Excel in everything you do. Never give up and be determined. Do your very best and God will do the rest."



UiTM 25 years of service

Professor Khong's message to the UiTM community is to continuously learn, innovate, and inspire, and to carry out all endeavours for the glory of God and for the positive impact on the lives of others. Professor Khong strongly believes in the principle of "from the community, back to the community." She aspires to continue contributing to education, research, mentorship, innovation, and community service, including plans to undertake more charitable initiatives after retirement. Professor Khong remains deeply committed to mentoring young lecturers and nurturing future UiTM graduates to become competent, competitive, and visionary leaders.



Family photo

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

VISI, MISI, MOTO, FALSAFAH & OBJEKTIF

VISI

Universiti unggul pemacu Bumiputera Profesional

MISI

Melonjak keilmuan, adab dan kepakaran bumiputera agar berjiwa usahawan melalui kurikulum termaju, pembangunan bakat, penyelidikan berimpak, dan sinergi industri ke arah kemakmuran tanah air serta kesejahteraan sejagat

MOTO

Usaha, Takwa, Mulia

FALSAFAH

Kita percaya Allah SWT menganugerahi manusia dengan bakat, minat dan kecenderungan yang sekiranya diasuh, dididik dan dilatih dengan sempurna melalui penjanaan, pemindahan dan pengintegrasian ilmu secara terbuka serta penerapan nilai-nilai Islam, mereka berkemampuan menjuarai transformasi diri, masyarakat dan negara

OBJEKTIF

1. **Memperluas akses pendidikan tinggi**
2. **Menyediakan pendidikan terkehadapan bertaraf dunia**
3. **Menawarkan program akademik yang memenuhi keperluan industri yang sentiasa berubah untuk kemajuan negara dan kemakmuran global**
4. **Menggilap kepimpinan graduan holistik, serba boleh dan berciri keusahawanan yang kompetitif sehingga ke peringkat global**
5. **Memperkasa penghayatan falsafah dan nilai warga UiTM melalui program pengukuhan insan dan suri teladan**
6. **Mengungguli kesarjanaan ilmu terkehadapan melalui penyelidikan, inovasi dan pengkomersialan berimpak tinggi serta lestari**
7. **Melebar luas jaringan melalui sinergi bersama alumni, industri, akademia, komuniti dan kerajaan untuk memperkasakan bidang tumpuan strategik universiti**
8. **Menjuarai kecemerlangan organisasi melalui tadbir urus yang efektif dan efisien selari dengan agenda kelestarian global**
9. **Menyediakan infrastruktur kondusif dan ekosistem digital terkehadapan**
10. **Menjana pendapatan, mengurus sumber dan kewangan dengan cekap, telus, berintegriti dan efektif bagi kelestarian organisasi**

Kelulusan Mesyuarat Lembaga Pengarah Universiti (LPU) ke-208, bertarikh 23 September 2025

(YBhg. Prof. Datuk Ts. Dr. Shahrin Sahib @ Sahibuddin, FASc)
13 November 2025 | 22 جمادي الأول 1447

Universiti Teknologi MARA

Cawangan Sarawak

Varsity Edge

UiTM Sarawak Bulletin

eISSN XXXX-XXXX

BARCODE

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