

# A BRIEF REPORT ON THE CANADIAN CHAPTER: SIGNING OF THE MOU BETWEEN UiTM AND THE UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA, CANADA.

**PM KHAS DR ANGELINE RANJETHAMONEY VIJAYARAJOO**

AKADEMI PENGAJIAN BAHASA, UiTM KAMPUS SEREMBAN

This memorable and historical journey began on the 15th of August, 2022.

The members of the team who left for Canada on government service comprised the following people:

Prof Yamin Yasin (our Rector, UiTMCNS)

Ts Dr Noorlis Ahmad (Deputy Rector, Academic Affairs, UiTMCNS)

Dr Siti Nor Atika Baharin (Liaison Officer, UiTM Global, UiTMCNS)

Associate Professor Dr Angeline Ranjethamoney Vijayarajoo (UiTMCNS, APB Seremban,)

We began our journey from Kuala Lumpur to Canada, with a transit stop-over at Doha. After this, our first point of entry to Canada was Montreal, where we had a connecting flight to Toronto.

Toronto was where our first official duties began on the 15th of August, 2022.

However, the focus of this article is the signing of the MoU between the University of Ottawa and Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia. Hence, this article will only focus on the MoU Ceremony between Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) and the University of Ottawa (UO).

Our second point of the visit, which is the highlight of the entire trip, is the visit to the University of Ottawa, where the MoU was signed. Just a little background before this was that the Letter of Intent was signed between the two Universities on May 25th 2022, in UiTM Shah Alam, Malaysia. This document was signed by the President of the University of Ottawa, Jacques Fremont and our Vice Chancellor, Professor Datuk Dr Ts Hajjah Roziah Janor.

The MoU ceremony was like a déjà vu moment, with the same people signing a document, this time, a far more important one – the Memorandum of Understanding, with some differences that will be mentioned.

Firstly, what was significant was the attendance and presence of the Malaysian High Commissioner to Canada, to witness this special moment in the lives of both Universities. Her Excellency Datin Paduka Anizan Siti Hajjar Adnin added a sense of grandeur to this historic event. An added difference was that we were on Canadian soil, so to speak. Right at the Telfar Business School Hall, where Prof Yamin Yasin, Rector of UiTMCNS, was the witness to our Vice Chancellor, while Prof Sanni Yaya, the Vice President of the University of Ottawa, was the witness to the President of the University of Ottawa. Prof Sanni Yaya was not present in Malaysia for the signing of the Letter of Intent ceremony, hence another difference.

As for the time of day, the MoU ceremony was held at noon, while the Letter of Intent Ceremony in Malaysia, was held in the morning.

We are very thankful to Her Excellency, the Malaysian High Commissioner to Canada, The President and the team from the University of Ottawa Team, our Vice Chancellor and the UiTMCNS team and the Academy of Language Studies Team for making this event a reality.

After the signing ceremony, we were served refreshments, and by evening, the event was over with many photographs of smiles.

Behind those smiles, we were all aware of the work ahead, collaborating effectively to bring about mutual benefit to both countries.

Behind those smiles, we were also aware of the work that went into these negotiations months earlier, leading up to this point, with our team headed by Professor Dr Yamin Yasin, our Rector of UiTMCNS, Ts.Dr Noorlis Ahamd, our Deputy Rector of Academic Affairs, UiTMCNS, Dr Siti Nor Atika Baharin, Dr Nor Monika Ahmad, Mohd Ikram Mohd Nor Rizan, the Coordinator of the Academy of Language Studies, Seremban, Abdul Fattah Abdul Ghani, Aemi Ruzana Abu Kassim, Razif Sazali and I. Behind those smiles, we were tired but relieved of accomplishing a feat.

In conclusion, this journey was a long but fruitful one, with the first mark in terms of direction, towards concrete academic collaboration between the two universities. On behalf of APB Seremban, I would like to thank our Vice Chancellor, Professor Datuk Dr Ts Hajjah Roziah Janor, Prof Yamin Yasin and the management of UiTM for making this trip possible. Our special thanks to our Vice Chancellor, Professor Datuk Ts Dr Hajjah Roziah Janor, Prof Yamin, Dr Noorlis Ahmad, Dr Siti Nor Atika Baharin (Liason officer, UiTM Global, UiTMCNS) and Dr Nor Monika Ahmad, (Coordinator, Corporate Communication Unit UiTMCNS), for being great partners with APB during this physical journey whilst in Canada. (We were constantly contacting Dr Nor Monika Ahmad, days and nights).

Behind those smiles, we all knew how much of our hearts, minds, time and energy was well invested into a great project with work in progress.



The Team that went to Canada from UiTMCNS.

From left: Ts.Dr Noorlis Ahmad, Dr Siti Nor Atika Baharin, AP Dr Angeline Ranjethamoney Vijayarajoo and Prof Dr Yamin Yasin.



The signing of the MoU by the President of UO, Jacques Fremont and the Vice Chancellor of UiTM, Professor Datuk Ts Dr Hajjah Roziah Janor. Looking on are Prof Sanni Yaya from UO, Her Excellency Datin Paduka Anizan Siti Hajjar Adnin, the Malaysian High Commissioner to Canada in Ottawa and Prof Yamin Yasin from UiTMNS.



The Witnesses to the MoU, Prof Sanni Yaya from UO, and Prof Yamin Yasin from UiTMNS, signed the document. Standing behind and looking on are President Jacques Fremont, Her Excellency Datin Paduka Anizan Siti Hajjar Adnin, the Malaysian High Commissioner to Canada in Ottawa and Vice Chancellor of UiTM, Professor Datuk Ts Dr Hajjah Roziah Janor.



Prof Yamin and our Vice Chancellor at UO

Note: our VC purchased and is wearing the UO t-shirt. This is camaraderie, and collaboration!



The UiTMNS team at UO