

Institute of Medical Molecular Biotechnology Newsletter



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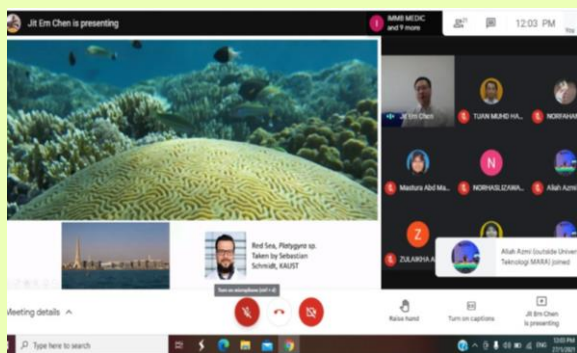


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VISIT FROM RECTOR OF UiTM SELANGOR on 12 January 2021. IMMB is proud to receive a visit from Rector of UiTM Cawangan Selangor, Prof. Dato' Dr. Abu Bakar Abdul Majeed. This visit was also attended by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Fadzilah Mohd Nor (Faculty of Medicine, UiTM) & Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohamad Huzaimy Jusoh (Faculty of Electrical Engineering, UiTM). A lot of matters were discussed for IMMB improvements including the internationalization as well as the research collaborations and linkages.

IMMB INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES 01/2021. Our very first international webinar series was conducted on 27 January 2021. The invited speaker was Dr. Daniel Martin Vega from Universidad de Alcalá, SPAIN. In this webinar, he shared his research findings on "Micro-CT-based Virtual Histology in Forensic, Medical and Veterinary Entomology Research". This webinar was successfully organized and attended by around 60 participants from both inside and outside of the country.



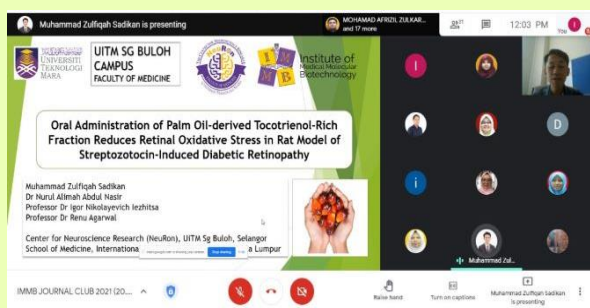
IMMB JOURNAL CLUB with an invited external speaker was conducted on 27 January 2020. We were lucky to have Dr. Chen Jit Ern from Sunway University as speaker. He is a Research Fellow at the Jeffrey Sachs Center on Sustainable Development and a Senior Lecturer in the School of Biological Sciences at Sunway University. His primary research interest is in the development and utilization of genetic engineering techniques and molecular tools on various microalgae. In this slot, he shared his research findings on "Turning up the heat on Reefs and Retrotransposons".

Dr. Azlina A. Razak, who is the Trial Coordinator for Nottingham Research Group (2015-2016) has presented her study called "Eat Less Meat" in our weekly **IMMB JOURNAL CLUB**. 40 healthy participants were recruited in this study. The participants needed to reduce their red and processed meat intake by 50% in 12 weeks. She also shared her experience in conducting and managing the trial, media coverage as well as the scientific findings on the analysis of carbon footprint and the food diaries from the main industrial partner of this study.

The EAT LESS MEAT (ELM) study (2015-2016)



Azlina A. Razak
The Trial Coordinator



PhD student, Mr. Muhammad Zulfiqah bin Sadikan, who is under the supervision of Dr. Nurul Alimah Abdul Nasir had presented his research findings on "Oral Administration of Palm Oil-derived Tocotrienol-Rich Fraction Reduces Retinal Oxidative Stress in Rat Model of Streptozotocin-Induced Diabetic Retinopathy". This sharing session was held in our weekly **IMMB JOURNAL CLUB** on 20 Jan 2021. Two assessors from Faculty of Medicine, UiTM, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Damayanthi and Dr. Nurul Raudzah were invited to share their comments and experiences on the shared topic.

ACTIVITIES, INITIATIVES & INVOLVEMENT

MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY. At the beginning this laboratory was established with the collaboration between IMMB and Medical Microbiology Unit, CPDRL, UiTM as an initiative to curb COVID-19. Currently, this laboratory has been operating as HUiTM COVID-19 Laboratory which has tested more than 17, 000 samples from Ministry of Health (MOH) and HUiTM using the RT-PCR method. This laboratory will expand its services to run various types of tests in the near future.



The Hall of Fame of **MERDEKA AWARD & NOBEL LAUREATE** winners. Posters with brief information on the Merdeka Award and Nobel Laureate winners had been placed around the strategic path of the laboratory as one of the initiatives to motivate IMMB users and to appreciate the achievements of the research figures.



FREEZER & REFRIGERATOR USAGE SYSTEM. We are also looking forward and take serious action in the issue of storage and safety of the research samples. All research samples that have been stored should be recorded to enable the capacity and compatibility monitoring activities and housekeeping. To be more effective and organized, Mr Mohd Ameer Azezy (Assistant Science Officer) had created QR codes and online forms as part of the refrigerator and freezer usage system to replace the use of log books. This approach has proven successful in facilitating students and in line with the digitization of IMMB operation.

POSTGRADUATE STUDENT'S LOUNGE DONATION CAMPAIGN. We were organizing Postgraduate Student Lounge Donation Campaign starting from January 2021. This campaign is **limited to the members of Faculty of Medicine (FOM), UiTM only**. This campaign is held to design and furnish the student lounge in order to create a comfortable space for our postgraduate students to relax and take a break in between their lab works. Research has shown that small breaks in between works could spark creativity and increase productivity in the long run. The student lounge needs study tables, bookshelves, printers and may be even some bean bags. To date, we have received some goods to make the lounge an inviting space. If you are a FOM member and wish to donate used furniture and other necessities, please scan the QR code. If you have any enquiries, please contact Mr Melonney Patrick: melnymell@yahoo.com/Ms Amirah Ariff: amirahariff@gmail.com.



“The reward of the young scientist is the emotional thrill of being the first person in the history of the world to see something or to understand something. Nothing can compare with that experience.” – Cecilia Payne-Gaposchkin

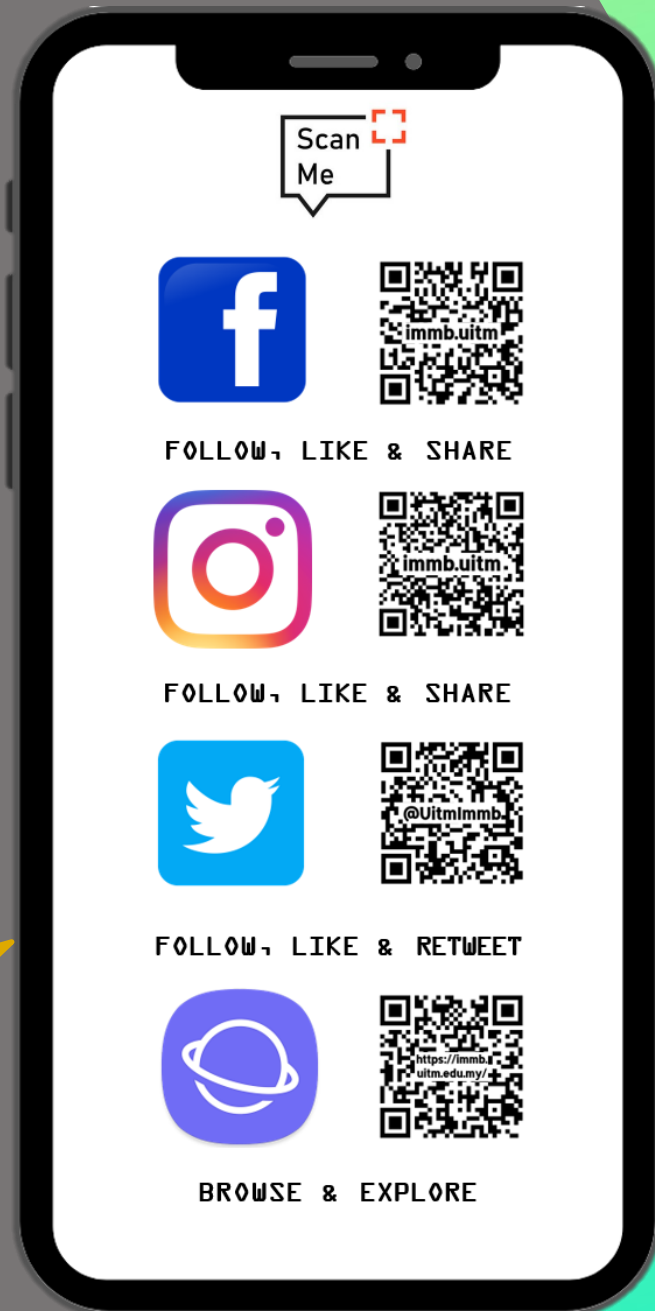
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5. Lab Housekeeping
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... and everything else that you will need to know about IMMB on our media social platforms.

Don't Miss Out:
24 FEB 2021, 11.00am,
FUN INTERNATIONAL
WEBINAR Series 04 with
Dr Lauran Weidner,
Arizona State University.



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