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INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL LECTURES COLLABORATION (IILC) SESSION BETWEEN CIVIL ENGINEERING STUDIES, UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA CAWANGAN PULAU PINANG, MALAYSIA AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING, UNIVERSITAS MALIKUSSALEH, INDONESIA

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This article elucidates an international academic collaboration between the Civil Engineering Studies at the College of Engineering, Universiti Teknologi MARA Cawangan Pulau Pinang (UiTM), Malaysia, and its memorandum of understanding (MOU) partner, the Department of Civil Engineering, Universitas Malikussaleh, Aceh (UNIMAL), Indonesia. This endeavour was undertaken as a component of a series of academic lecture sessions between the two institutions over the course of 2023.

1. PREAMBLE OF THE COLLABORATION

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UiTM and UNIMAL was officially ratified by the executive management of the main campus in Shah Alam on May 21, 2021. Subsequently, a number of collaborative initiatives have been meticulously planned and implemented primarily through online platforms by the principal proponents of the MoU, namely Ts. Syahrul Fithry Bin Senin (UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang) and Dr. Ir. Khairullah Yusuf (Universitas Malikussaleh). These activities encompassed strategic online meetings, collaborative research paper composition and publication, as well as a series of international lectures. The focus of this article, however, is to report on one particular instance of the online international lecture series held on May 3, 2023.

2. IIDC EVENT DETAILS

The IIDC (International Interactive Discussion Conference) was a meticulously planned academic forum conducted via online platforms, aimed at disseminating contemporary insights into civil engineering topics. In particular, the session focused on the Finite Element Method, with presentations delivered by the designated speaker and moderated by an individual as outlined in Table 1 below. The event's poster was publicly disseminated across various online channels, as illustrated in Figure 1.

Table 1: The key person involved in the IIDC event

Speaker's Name	Sharing Topic/Function
Ts. Syahrul Fithry Senin (UiTM)	Moderator
Dr. Ir. Khairullah Yusuf (UniMAL)	Speaker: Finite Element Applications in Civil Engineering

The sharing session unfolded smoothly over a two-hour period, spanning from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon, leveraging the Google Meet platform. The event garnered participation from undergraduate students and academic staff representing both universities. A total of 74 undergraduate students from UiTM and 15 from UNIMAL were estimated to have attended this online session. Additionally, 10 academic staff members from both institutions voluntarily joined the session.

The event concluded successfully with an engaging Question-and-Answer session, adeptly moderated by Ts. Syahrul Fithry Senin. During this segment, the speaker delved into various inquiries surrounding the practical applications of the Finite Element Method, addressing the concerns raised by participants. Topics such as the method's efficacy in real-world scenarios and its implementation challenges were thoroughly explored, fostering a comprehensive understanding among attendees.

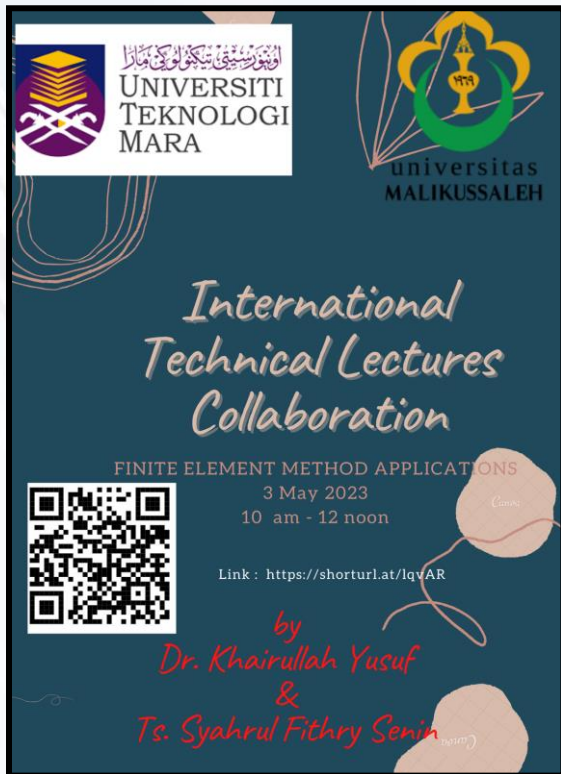


Figure 1: Poster of the event

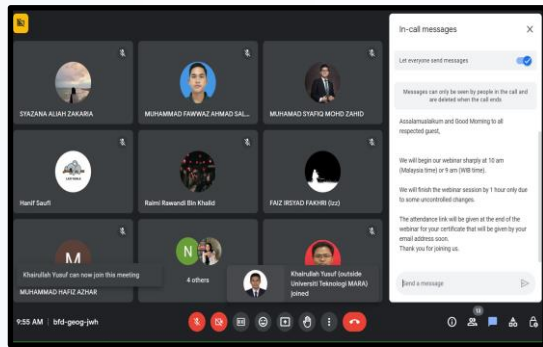


Figure 2 : Welcoming notification from the moderator to the participants

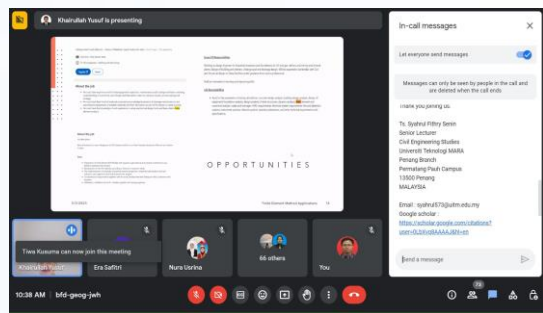


Figure 3: Ending session of the sharing session

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3. CONCLUSION

On May 3, 2023, both institutions orchestrated a highly successful technical sharing session, marking a pivotal moment in their collaborative endeavours. The event not only served as a platform for knowledge exchange but also infused renewed vigour and commitment into both parties, inspiring them to explore and strategize additional future activities. This fruitful engagement further solidified their partnership, laying the groundwork for continued collaboration and mutual growth in the days ahead.

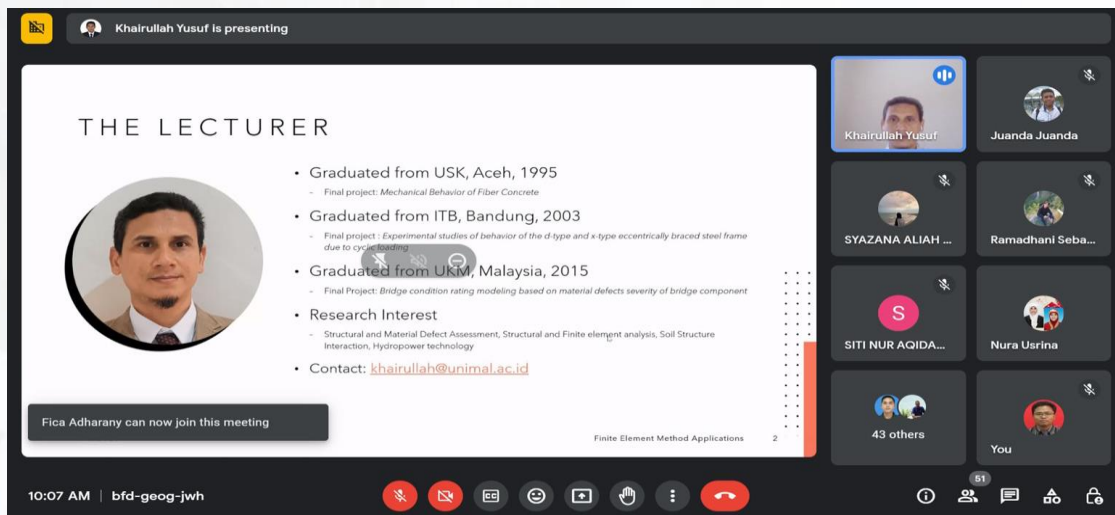


Figure 4: Speaker details