

1st EDITION UiTM GLOBAL PENANG Newsletter

GLOBAL INSIGHTS: NAVIGATING UNIVERSALITY WITH UiTM PULAU PINANG



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UiTM Global @ Office of International Affairs,
Academic Affairs Division,
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Malaysia.

Collaborative Visit from Bali Tourism Polytechnic, Indonesia to Universiti Teknologi MARA for QS Ranking Insights and Best Practices

***Noorsuhada Md Nor, Hashim Fadzil Ariffin, Anderson Ngelambong, Nor Azlan Othman, Nor Khadijah Mohd Azhari and Nor Salwa Damanhuri**

From 2–3 November 2023, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Pulau Pinang Branch, Malaysia, hosted a delegation from Bali Tourism Polytechnic (BiTP), Indonesia, for a courtesy visit and benchmarking session. The focus of the session was to enhance institutional strategies, particularly in relation to the prestigious QS World University Rankings. This visit highlighted UiTM's dedication to strengthening its international partnerships and improving global competitiveness.

The BiTP delegation was led by prominent figures, including Dr. Ida Bagus Putu Puja (Director of BiTP), Dr. Luh Yusni Wiarti (Deputy Director for Cooperation), and Ms. Lukia Zuraida (Head of Quality Assurance), and Ms. Dewa Ayu Made Lily Diana Sari (Coordinator of the Tourism Destination Programme).



The delegation from **BiTP** and **UiTM** signed a Memorandum of Understanding at **UiTM Pulau Pinang**



Their primary objective was to engage in a comprehensive benchmarking exercise, particularly focused on improving institutional performance in the QS Rankings, which serve as a global benchmark for academic excellence.

From **UiTM Pulau Pinang Branch**, six key members participated in the discussions, led by Professor Dr. Hashim Fadzil Ariffin, Head of the Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Management (FPHP).

He was joined by key members of UiTM, including Dr. Anderson Ngelambong (Head of Bachelor's Programme, FPHP), Associate Professor Ir. Dr. Nor Azlan Othman (Head of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering), Associate Professor Dr. Noorsuhada Md Nor (UiTM Ranking Champion), Dr. Nor Khadijah Mohd Azhari (Coordinator of International Affairs), and Associate Professor Ir. Dr. Nor Salwa Damanhuri (an expert in Solar Engineering). Their combined expertise provided valuable insights into the discussions on institutional strategies and international rankings.

On 3 November 2023, an interactive exchange session took place at **UiTM Shah Alam's** UiTM Global Meeting Room. During this session, BiTP delegates engaged in productive discussions on the implementation of QS rankings and broader institutional strategies. Chaired by Professor Dr. Ahmad Naqiyuddin Bakar, Director of Strategic Partnership, the session covered a wide range of topics, including QS University Ranking, QS Ranking by Subject, and strategic planning for academic growth.

The benchmarking exercise proved highly valuable for both institutions. UiTM Pulau Pinang Branch gained new insights into **BiTP's** approach to international ranking management, particularly in the fields of tourism and hospitality. Additionally, these exchanges provided UiTM with innovative strategies to improve internal processes, such as quality assurance, global outreach, and programme development- key areas outlined in the Malaysia Education Blueprint.



Discussion and presentations regarding **UiTM's** QS ranking were held at **UiTM Global**.

As a result of this benchmarking exercise, UiTM significantly enhanced its international visibility, further demonstrating the university's commitment to upholding global standards of excellence. The collaboration with **BiTP** underscored UiTM's strategic efforts to strengthen its global presence, positioning the institution more competitively within the QS rankings and solidifying its reputation as a globally engaged academic leader.

One of the main highlights of the visit was a presentation by Ir. Dr. Amirul Abd Rashid, Director of the Ranking Department at UiTM, who provided an in-depth overview of UiTM's strategic direction for improving its QS rankings. He emphasised the importance of fostering internal collaboration, building external partnerships, and implementing a structured framework to drive these improvements.

The visit concluded with a reception hosted by UiTM's Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Internationalisation), Professor Dr. Shahriman Zainal Abidin. During the reception, he expressed his appreciation for the collaboration and reinforced the significance of such exchanges for knowledge sharing and developing long-term partnerships. These efforts, he noted, would benefit both institutions and their students, aligning with UiTM's strategic goals for global engagement.



Ir. Dr. Amirul delivering a presentation on UiTM's strategic roadmap for enhancing its QS ranking



The delegation from **BiTP** being escorted to Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA)

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