

e-Lingua 1/2025

JANUARY 2025



Academy of Language Studies
UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang



Table of contents



| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| <u>From the Editorial Team</u> | 3 |
| <u>Department News & Reports</u> | 4 |
| <u>Club News & Report</u> | 27 |
| <u>Self-Love First</u> | 39 |
| <u>Travelling</u> | 46 |
| <u>Home Garden</u> | 58 |
| <u>Teaching & Learning</u> | 64 |
| <u>Lecturer's Contribution</u> | 68 |
| <u>Creative Writing</u> | 81 |
| <u>The Team</u> | 90 |

Greetings to all our readers, and a very Happy New Year! As we step into 2025, we reflect on the remarkable year that 2024 has been for the E-Lingua community. This past year has been a testament to the hard work, resilience, and dedication of our department members, many of whom have achieved extraordinary milestones in their academic and professional journeys. We hope this new year brings even greater opportunities, success, and inspiration to everyone. A big thank you to everyone who has contributed to this issue—it wouldn't have been possible without your support and efforts. Looking ahead, we're really hoping to see a steady stream of contributions from all of you to keep our bulletin vibrant and thriving. On behalf of the editorial team, I hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as we enjoyed putting it together for you!



From

the

EDITORIAL



DEPARTMENT News & Reports

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------|
| <u>Microsoft Hackathon</u> | ==> 5 |
| <u>Penang Goes Orange 2024</u> | ==> 8 |
| <u>Talk Series at Politeknik Sultan Azlan Shah</u> | ==> 11 |
| <u>Free Market 8.0: Generosity and Sharing</u> | ==> 12 |
| <u>International Joint Seminar</u> | ==> 13 |
| <u>Enhancing French Curriculum</u> | ==> 14 |
| <u>Experience from a Collaborative Program</u> | ==> 15 |
| <u>Crafting Industrial Grants</u> | ==> 17 |
| <u>Gerobok Rezeki 2024: Sharing Sustenance</u> | ==> 19 |
| <u>Hari Kualiti dan Inovasi UiTM CPP</u> | ==> 20 |
| <u>Motivasi SMKPP</u> | ==> 23 |
| <u>Kursus Urutan Sukan</u> | ==> 24 |
| <u>Anugerah PKT</u> | ==> 26 |

From Penang to Jakarta: Competing in the AI TEACH for ASEAN Hackathon

By: Muhammad Aiman Abdul Halim

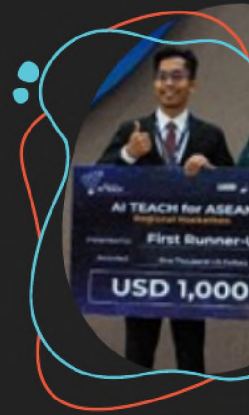
From Virtual Training to International Stage: My AI Journey

I am very thankful for the opportunity to join the 2-day 'Microsoft AI TEACH Train the Trainers' held virtually from 14th to 15th August 2024, involving around 200 lecturers from UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang. During this session, we were introduced to the application of generative AI, ethical considerations in AI use, and practical usage of several Microsoft AI tools. Being fascinated by technology, I enjoyed the process and participated actively in all activities. One notable activity involved integrating AI into our current educational practices. My team was tasked with integrating ethical AI use, and I led the discussion, proposing a solution that combined UiTM's ADAB Model with Microsoft's six principles of responsible AI. Presenting our ideas to all participants and receiving positive feedback from the facilitators was a highlight for me.

Little did I know, I would soon be working with these facilitators again.

I was honoured and thrilled to be personally contacted and informed that I had been chosen to represent Malaysia in the AI TEACH for ASEAN: Regional Hackathon held in Jakarta on November 14th, 2024. Only three representatives were chosen from Malaysia: myself from UiTM and two educators from Institut Latihan Perindustrian (ILP).

All expenses were covered by Microsoft, including the flight, accommodation, and even a car and driver to pick me up from the airport. Given this incredible support, I was determined to make the most of this opportunity to test my skills. Having taught public speaking and pitching for nearly three years, I was eager to apply these skills in a real-life setting.



Gearing Up: Mentorship and Preparation for the Big Day

The three Malaysian representatives received mentoring from the team at Biji-biji Initiatives, a local nonprofit associated with Microsoft. We had frequent online meetings via Microsoft Teams, almost 4 to 5 times per week in the month leading up to the competition. With their guidance, we refined our ideas, prepared for challenging questions during the competition's Q&A session, polished our slides (or pitching decks), and rehearsed our delivery to ensure a high-quality presentation within the 10-minute time limit.

An Exciting Journey: From Penang to the Heart of Jakarta

The schedule was packed, leaving little time to explore Jakarta. I boarded the plane from Penang International Airport on 13th November 2024 at 3:50 PM. The journey took around 2 hours and 30 minutes. Upon arriving at Soekarno-Hatta International Airport in Jakarta, it was still a one-hour journey to the ASEAN Secretariat building, where my hotel was located. This is where I learned my first Indonesian word: "macet", meaning traffic congestion. The driver shared interesting insights about Indonesia, particularly Jakarta.

After a quick check-in at the hotel, I met the other contestants, and we walked to the ASEAN Secretariat building for the rehearsal session. Security was very strict, even more so than at an embassy, due to the presence of representatives from 10 different countries. After the rehearsal ended at around 11:00 PM, we headed back to the hotel to rest.



The Big Day: Showcasing Innovation at the ASEAN Hackathon

We arrived at Nusantara Hall in the ASEAN Secretariat early the next morning at 8:00 AM. The day was packed with the opening ceremony and delegate speeches in the morning, followed by the hackathon pitching competition from 10:00 AM until noon. The hackathon aimed to showcase educators' innovations in utilizing AI in their teaching practices. I presented my latest innovation: the SpeakSmart Ethical AI Toolkit for Public Speaking (SEAT:PS), a module integrating AI ethically into public speaking education. Each presenter had 10 minutes to pitch, followed by a 10-minute Q&A session with four esteemed judges. The evaluation criteria included use of AI tools, relevance, impact, scalability, and presentation.

All six participants (three from Malaysia and three from Indonesia) presented well. The pitching session ended at noon, followed by a networking lunch. After lunch, there were two forums, which concluded around 4:00 PM. Then came the moment we had all been waiting for—the announcement of the winners. The prizes were substantial: USD 1,500 for first place, USD 1,000 for second place, and USD 500 for third place.



All six participants (three from Malaysia and three from Indonesia) presented well. The pitching session ended at noon, followed by a networking lunch. After lunch, there were two forums, which concluded around 4:00 PM. Then came the moment we had all been waiting for—the announcement of the winners. The prizes were substantial: USD 1,500 for first place, USD 1,000 for second place, and USD 500 for third place.

Triumph and Gratitude: Celebrating a Well-Earned Victory

I felt incredibly thankful and happy when my name was called as the second-place winner. Winning second place in the Microsoft AI TEACH Regional Hackathon is an incredible honour. It is a testament to the hard work and dedication I put into refining my innovation. This achievement is not just a personal milestone but also a validation of my vision to integrate ethical AI practices into education. I sacrificed many late nights and time with my family, and I am grateful for their support and encouragement. Special thanks to the team from Biji-biji Initiatives for their guidance and mentoring, as well as UiTM staff for their support and understanding.

My innovation, a toolkit that helps university students use AI ethically while honing their public speaking skills, addresses a crucial need in today's educational landscape. Moving forward, I plan to further refine the toolkit based on the insights and feedback I gained from the competition. Additionally, I plan to use a portion of the prize money to copyright the toolkit, protecting its intellectual property and ensuring its proper use and distribution.



Overall, the hackathon experience was incredibly rewarding. It provided me with the opportunity to improve my skills in AI application, collaborate with other passionate educators, and create tangible solutions that benefit students and educators. The hackathon was both challenging and inspiring, and I am grateful for the opportunity to participate.