



# Global Initiatives

By: Syahirah Mansor

## Benchmarking Visit to



On 18th August 2016, the Faculty of Civil Engineering UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang conducted a benchmarking visit to aid as a Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) for Bachelor of Civil Engineering (Infrastructure) program (EC221). The benchmarking course was held at the University Sains Malaysia (USM) Engineering Campus, Nibong Tebal, Pulau Pinang.

The main objective of the benchmarking was to make sure the courses offered in EC221 program are sufficient in terms of the breadth and depth covered within the courses when compared to establish and well-known university such as USM and Universiti Teknologi MARA. On a side note, both of the universities had obtained full 5 years accreditation for the civil engineering program. The benchmarking includes operation of the system in the university and

detail comparison of the courses offered with analysis on the similarities and differences that may encountered during the visit.

The analysis of the benchmarking can be observed as a valuable and constructive input for the next curriculum review at the end of December 2017. If there are courses with more than 50% differences in the analysis, hence it is required for possible amendment in the next curriculum review



*“Benchmarking means finding out who is the best in an area, studying how they work, and adopting the best practices that are suitable to your own organization.” Dew, J. & Nearing, M (2004), Continuous Quality Improvement in Higher Education*



## Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)



A signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Universiti Teknologi MARA Cawangan Pulau Pinang (UiTMPP) and King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMIL) has been tentatively held on the 28th August 2017 at the President KMIL Building, King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang, Bangkok, Thailand. Five delegates from UiTMPP attended the MoU signing ceremony including Associate Professor Ir. Dr. Ahmad Rashidy Razali, Associate Professor Ir. Dr. Yee Hooi Min, Associate Professor Dr. Haji Mohd Fozi Ali, Dr. Koay Mei Hyie and Ir. Dr. Salina Budin. The MoU was established to promote international collaboration that may include exchanging ideas, knowledge, expertise, technologies and culture through persistent communication between both parties.

King Mongkut's Institute of Technology Ladkrabang (KMIL) is an internationally well-known for its research and innovation where the university is particularly proud in offering



excellent academic standards combined with extensive facilities. Each faculty features specialized research centres and laboratories as a leading-edge research venue in various fields. With numerous cooperative activities from the industry, KMIL also extends to high level of research and development to the local industries.

According to the QS World University Rankings 2016 carried out by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) – the world's famous educational business, KMIL is ranked to be one of the world's first class universities. As such, KMIL's Departments of Electrical and Electronics Engineering are ranked at the 251st – 300th place, reflecting the international reputation of KMIL as pioneer in the field of science and technology.



In addition, KMIL has involved in numerous international research collaborations of more than 50 countries around the world in 2012. Recently, KMIL, Carnegie.

Mellon University and Tokyo Institute of Technology have joined hands in organizing and coordinated projects and exchanging academic knowledge.



At present, KMITL is regarded as the largest educational institute of engineering and is highly renowned for serving practical engineering graduates in science and technology for industry.

The MOU aims to promote; 1) Institutional exchanges between the faculty and staff members from each of the institution, 2) Acceptance of undergraduate and graduate students from each of the institution to experience an allocated period of study and/or research activities, 3) Exchange of information pertaining to developments in teaching, student development and research institutions, and 4) Cooperation in any other areas as agreed by the both parties from time to time.



It is hoped that both universities are able to explore all possibilities for enhancing the educational and research opportunities for our students, staff and universities through the implementation of future activities.

### Benchmarking Visit from



On 17th January 2017, Politeknik Sultan Azlan Shah (PSAS), Behrang lead by Nor Mazana Ismail (Head of Diploma Program) visited the Faculty of Civil Engineering UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang for benchmarking with the purpose of preparation for Engineering Technology Accreditation Council (ETAC). The benchmarking was attended by ten staff members from PSAS to review the implementation of teaching and learning processes especially in the development of curriculum, student evaluation process, as well as the process of collaboration with the industry in the Faculty of Civil Engineering UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang.



PSAS is the 15th polytechnic in the country and is set up to build a new polytechnic venture to develop the country's human resources to meet the needs of the New Economic Model (MBE) which emphasizes on innovation and creativity. It is hoped that through this benchmarking PSAS will be passing the embarking on ETAC accreditation this year.

## Memorandum of Agreement (MoA)



The Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) were signed between Faculty Of Civil Engineering (UiTM CPP) & Farid Ahmad Consultant Engineering Sdn.Bhd (FACE) on 18th August 2017, and the signing was witnessed by Dr Farid Ahmad, the Deputy Director of Farid Ahmad Consultant Engineering.

*In these memorandums, FACE as a leading local engineering company will cooperate with UiTM CPP to exchange technology in engineering especially in Civil Engineering.*



area of project management, geotechnical, and civil & structure work. They also are equipped with the up to date original software for word processing, drafting and engineering. The objectives of this memorandum, UiTM CPP will cooperating with channelling expertise and providing advisory services to develop technology in the field of civil engineering to the company. any fields related.



FACE is a 100% Bumiputera consulting firm established on 4th July 2011 to meet the aspiration of a strong Muslim community in a developed Malaysia. They are a Board of Engineers Malaysia registered CIVIL engineering consulting firm with key personnel having background strength in the

Besides, the company will strive to open space for staff engagement in projects that can benefit both parties. The company will also provide a place for students and lecturers to conduct industrial training. FACE and UiTM CPP agreed to establish research and consultancy cooperation in the field of civil engineering, especially in the field geotechnical, structural, environmental, infrastructural, technology development and any fields related.