

MoU UiTM and Alpro Pharmacy sign MoU to expand pharmacy students' experiential learning and employability

On May 23, 2023, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Alpro Pharmacy Sdn Bhd, Malaysia's largest prescription pharmacy chain. This collaborative initiative aims to enhance pharmacy students' experiential learning opportunities and improve their employability prospects upon graduation.

The MoU establishes a framework for cooperation between Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM and Alpro Pharmacy, focusing on various areas such as internships, industrial training programmes, research collaborations, and knowledge sharing. Both institutions recognise the importance of bridging the gap between academia and industry, particularly in the field of pharmacy, to prepare students for the demands of the professional world. According to UiTM Vice-Chancellor Professor Datuk Ts. Dr Hajah Roziah Mohd Janor, the collaborative partnership with Alpro Pharmacy is in line with UiTM's vision of global marketability. "It is pertinent for the university to remain relevant and competitive by offering programmes that resonate with the needs and demands of the market. To understand these needs, the university must establish strong relationships with industries and employers, collaborate on projects, and strategically share expertise and academic discovery. Therefore, collaborations with the industry, such as the one we are about to embark on today with Alpro Pharmacy Sdn Bhd, are necessary".

Through this partnership, UiTM pharmacy students will be able to participate in internships and industrial training programmes at Alpro Pharmacy locations throughout the country. This hands-on experience will enable students to apply their theoretical knowledge in real-world scenarios, gain practical skills, and develop a deeper understanding of the pharmaceutical industry's operations. Additionally, the collaboration will facilitate research collaborations between UiTM faculty members and Alpro Pharmacy experts. This exchange of knowledge and expertise will foster innovation in pharmaceutical research and contribute to the development of new products and services that address the healthcare needs of the community.

The collaborative effort between UiTM and Alpro Pharmacy signifies a commitment to nurturing well-rounded pharmacy graduates who are equipped with practical skills, industry knowledge, and a strong foundation in academic principles. By expanding students' experiential learning opportunities and emphasising employability skills, this partnership sets a new standard for pharmacy education in Malaysia. It is hoped that future collaborative work between UiTM and Alpro Pharmacy will address some of the current key global challenges based on the diverse research expertise and interests between the two institutions.

Ms. Zakiah Mohd Noordin, Dr. Gurmeet Kaur Surindar Singh
Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM

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Illustrator:

Ms. Norazua Ahmad


PRESCRIPTION

Faculty of Pharmacy,
Universiti Teknologi MARA,
Kampus Puncak Alam,
42300 Bandar Puncak Alam, Selangor.


CONTACT US

 @pharmacyuitm




 @pharmacy_uitm




 Faculty of Pharmacy UiTM



 <https://pharmacy.uitm.edu.my/>



 +603-3258 4645

 korporatff@uitm.edu.my