

PROFESSOR DR. YVONNE LIM NAMED ONE OF THE 10 "SCIENCE STARS OF EAST ASIA" BY NATURE

Professor Dr. Yvonne Lim, parasitologist at the Department of Parasitology and Deputy Dean (Research) of Faculty of Medicine, has been named one of the 10 "Science Stars of East Asia". Professor Yvonne was singled out for her success as "a parasite researcher in Malaysia who works to improve the lives of indigenous people". The 10 "Science Stars of East Asia" featured in Nature included outstanding scientists from Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan.



Credit: Ian Teh for *Nature*

Her research interest focus on neglected tropical diseases primarily among the marginalised populations (Orang Asli and migrant populations) coupling conventional and advanced tools to understand these diseases. More recently, using multidisciplinary approaches, she began exploring the molecular mechanisms that underpin the interactions between parasitic infections, gut microbiota, nutritional status and inflammatory responses.

Prof. Yvonne's work has shown scientific impact too. In 2016, she and her collaborators from New York University had revealed a flip side to helminth worms: that a low-level infection protects people against inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) by regulating the immune system and gut bacteria. The study was published in Science and is in the top 1% of the most-cited papers in immunology for 2016.

(Source: Science Starts of East Asia, Nature 2018, 558: 503-510)

"This study is unique in that it highlights the potential benefit of low levels of worm infections"



SOUTHEAST & SOUTH ASIA AND TAIWAN UNIVERSITIES (SATU) PRESIDENTS' FORUM LOCAL CHAPTER WORKSHOP - OBESITY AND HEALTH

Overweight and obesity are strongly associated with diseases such as diabetes, hypertension (HTN), cardiovascular disease (CVD) and the metabolic syndrome. Obesity is a complex condition that affects virtually all age and socioeconomic groups. Rising rates of obesity is an epidemic in most Asian countries. Prevalence of childhood obesity is also increasing in Malaysia, Singapore, China, India and other Asian countries.

Since obesity has become a major public health issue, the National Cheng Kung University (NCKU), through SATU (Association of Southeast and South Asia and Taiwan Universities) Presidents' Forum co-hosted with University of Malaya and organized SATU Local Chapter Workshop on Obesity and Health to gather professionals to discuss on this topic and bring awareness for a healthier lifestyle. The event took place at Research Management and Innovation Complex on 19 July 2018, and was officiated by Prof. Dr. Noorsaadah Abd Rahman, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research & Innovation). A total of 61 participants participated in this program; University of Malaya, Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, National Kidney Foundation Malaysia, MS New Symphony Exercise Clinic, Universiti Teknologi Mara, International Medical University, Universiti Putra Malaysia and Taylors University.





The program consists of 5 keynotes from researchers of National Cheng Kung University (NCKU) and University of Malaya (UM), as well as a technology showcase from Malaysia and Taiwan.

i- "Lipid Lowering and Cardiovascular Disorder Prevention" by Prof. Dr. Ping-Yen Liu (NCKU);

ii- "Shifting Obesity Trends in Malaysia" by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Noran Naqiah Mohd Hairi, (UM);

iii- "Association between Obesity and Dengue Severity" by Prof. Dr. Sanjay Rampal A/L Lekhraj Rampal (UM);

iv- "Obesity and Dentistry: The Body Strikes Back" by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nor Adinar Baharuddin (UM);

v- "Hemodynamic Analysis of Cardiovascular Diseases from Engineering Perspectives" by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chia-Yuan Chen (NCKU)



Prof. Dr. Noorsaadah Abd Rahman presenting token of appreciation to Prof. Dr. Ping-Yen Liu.



Registration



Group photo session of the SATU President's Forum Local Chapter Workshop on Obesity and Health.

THE SUMITOMO FOUNDATION – JAPAN-RELATED RESEARCH GRANT BRIEFING

A briefing session on the Sumitomo Foundation - Japan-related research grant was conducted at the Auditorium, Research Management and Innovation Complex (RMIC) on 9th July 2018. Mr. Kenichi Hamaya, representative from The Sumitomo Foundation promoted and encouraged researchers to apply the available grants for non-Japanese researchers. The grant for Japan-related research aims at enhancing mutual understanding between Asian countries and Japan through promoting research projects in the field of the social sciences or humanities that are related to Japan. The 1- hour briefing was attended by a total of 113 participants.



Mr. Kenichi Hamaya, representative from The Sumitomo Foundation.

Eligible Projects for Application:

i. Any research project to be carried out by individual or a group in the field of the social sciences or humanities that is related to Japan.

ii. Applicant of Asian Nationality (non-Japanese) who is living outside Japan.

iii. Awarded researcher must conduct the proposed research by him/herself.

iv. Proposal can be in English OR Japanese language.

For Fiscal 2018 Program:

Application period: September 1 ~ October 31, 2018

Duration: 1 year (April 2019 through March 2020)

Grant budget: ¥50 million in total, with 80 projects to be selected. The amount can be within ¥400,000 to ¥2,000,000.

For more information, kindly visit: http://www.sumitomo.or.jp/e/



TECHTARIK SESSION MOVING THE INDUSTRIES INTO THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

The "TechTarik Session — Moving the Industries into the Fourth Industrial Revolution" which was organized by Penang-based Collaborative Research in Engineering, Science and Technology (CREST), took place at the Auditorium of Research Management and Innovation Complex (RMIC) on 5 July 2018. The dialogue was aimed to gather industry practitioners to share their views and thoughts to raise Malaysia's global trade efforts and standing.

The dialogue featured a panel discussion on the topic: "The impact of the 4th Industrial Revolution on international trade and Malaysian industries" moderated by Khairul Anwar (Executive Director & Certified Coach DT LEADERSHIP) with panelists: YB Darell Leiking (Newly-minted Minister of International Trade and Industries), Mr. Jaffri Ibrahim (CEO of CREST) and Mr. Adam Brimo (Cofounder & CEO at OpenLearning.com).

YB Leiking said that the ministry and industry stakeholders will be able to collaborate for the benefit of the nation, and are prepared to face 4th Industrial Revolution.



In addition, he also said that the looming trade war that might be happening between the U.S. and China may present an opportunity for Malaysia to be a more significant trading partner with China.

(Source: Emir Zainul. " Trade war between US and China may be an opportunity for Malaysia, says MITI minister." The EDGE Markets. 5 July 2018)

"There is a blueprint on Industry 4.0 that the ministry will put out soon" YB Leiking.





EXPO ON UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INVENTION, CREATION & INNOVATION (EUREKA) 2018

This year, University of Malaya (UM) hosted the 14th Public Universities Creative and Innovative Circle (KIK) Convention, and has successfully organised EUREKA #UM2018, incorporating with research exhibitions and presentations. The programme was held from 14th till 16th of August 2018 at the Dewan Tunku Canselor (DTC) in collaboration with Yayasan Guru Tun Hussein Onn (YGTHO) and Institut Pendidikan Guru Malaysia (IPGM). The 3-day event has attracted more than 1,300 participants from across Malaysia and overseas.

EUREKA #UM2018 comprised of: (i) the Creative & Innovative Circle (KIK) Convention, and (ii) the International Research Innovation Invention Solution Exposition (IRIISE). The KIK was meant for public universities, while IRIISE serves as a platform for exhibitions and presentations of research projects related to innovation, creativity and discoveries. IRIISE was open to all educational levels and emphasized original research projects in the field of Arts & Humanities, Engineering & Technology, Life Sciences & Medicine, Natural Sciences and Social Sciences & Managemnet.

A forum entitled "IR 4.0 Dalam Agenda Pendidikan Mapan: Cabaran dan Halatuju" was held on 15 August 2018 moderated by Dr. Mohd Rozi, IPGM. The featured panelists are: Professor Dr. Rofina Yasmin Othman from University of Malaya; Mr. Norazmi Alias from Collaborative Research in Engineering Science and Technology (CREST) Center; and Madam Low Ngai Yuen from the Global Entrepeneurship Movement Malaysia (GEM).



Featured panelists: Professor Dr. Rofina Yasmin Othman; Mr. Norazmi Alias; and Madam Low Ngai Yuen.

The objectives of EUREKA #UM2018 are:

- 1. To encourage and explore new ideas in design and innovation;
- 2. To implement creativity in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of management;
- 3. To promote great sport and competition through innovation, science, and technology;
- 4. To create and offer a platform for sharing best and effective practices which apply to general management and administration;
- 5. As a catalyst for the generation of superior research, innovation and creativity; and
- 6. To enhance the visibility and branding of the University of Malaya as a leader in high-quality research, innovation and higher education in line with the image of a research university.







UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA RESEARCH CARNIVAL (UMRC 2018)

RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP FOR SOCIETAL IMPACT

15 - 17 November 2018 Dewan Tunku Canselor https://umconference.um.edu.my/UMRC2018

The University of Malaya Research Carnival 2018 (UMRC 2018) which will be held from 15-17 November 2018, is a great opportunity to find out what research is really all about, meet the researchers, ask questions and discover how research affects and changes our lives!

UMRC 2018 aims to showcase outstanding UM researches and highlight its impact on society and nation, build meaningful networks and linkages between researchers and communities, and to foster multidisciplinary discussion among researchers.

Join us at UMRC 2018. Come and see what it's like to be a RESEARCHER!

Highlights:

- Junior Pitch It Challenge
- Photo Competition
- Essay Competition
- Forum "Perspectives: Roles in Research Sustainability & Societal Impact"
- Forum "Industry & Academia two worlds apart or two halves of a pod?"
- Carnival Run
- and much more



