

IOES Bulletin

Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences,
University of Malaya



Contents

- ❖ Director's corner: Welcome message
- ❖ Launching of SAMUDERA Journal
- ❖ Conferment of Prof Phang Siew Moi as Emeritus Professor
- ❖ Events from Sept – Dec 2019
- ❖ GRA Vacancy



Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences (IOES)
C308, Institute for Advanced Studies Building
University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Tel : 603-7967 4640/6995
Fax : 603-7967 6994
E-mail : admin.ioes@um.edu.my
Website : <https://ioes.um.edu.my>
Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/loesUM>

Bachok Marine Research Station (BMRS)
Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences (IOES)
University of Malaya
16310 Bachok, Kelantan, Malaysia
Tel : 609-7785001/5002/5004/5005
Fax : 609-7785006

Directors' corner: Welcome on board the third issue of IOES bulletin



Assalamualaikum w.b.t and warm greetings.

Welcome to the 3rd Issue of IOES Bulletin.

In this edition, we would like to share our latest research activities and achievements by IOES from the month of September to December 2019.

We are very honoured to announce the launch of a new, open-access journal, [SAMUDERA-Journal of Maritime and Coastal Studies \(SAMUDERA-JMCS\)](#) which is an online journal covering research activity in the broad area of maritime and coastal studies. The journal aims to promote and amplify the voices and ideas of the research community in the social science, humanities and scientific research community today. IOES Maritime Community, Law, Policy and Governance Unit Head, Associate Professor Dr Hanafi Hussin will be in charge as Editor in Chief for this journal.

We also proud to announce and congratulate our beloved Professor Dr Phang Siew Moi, IOES Honorary Advisor on her conferment as Emeritus Professor during 59th UM Convocation Ceremony.

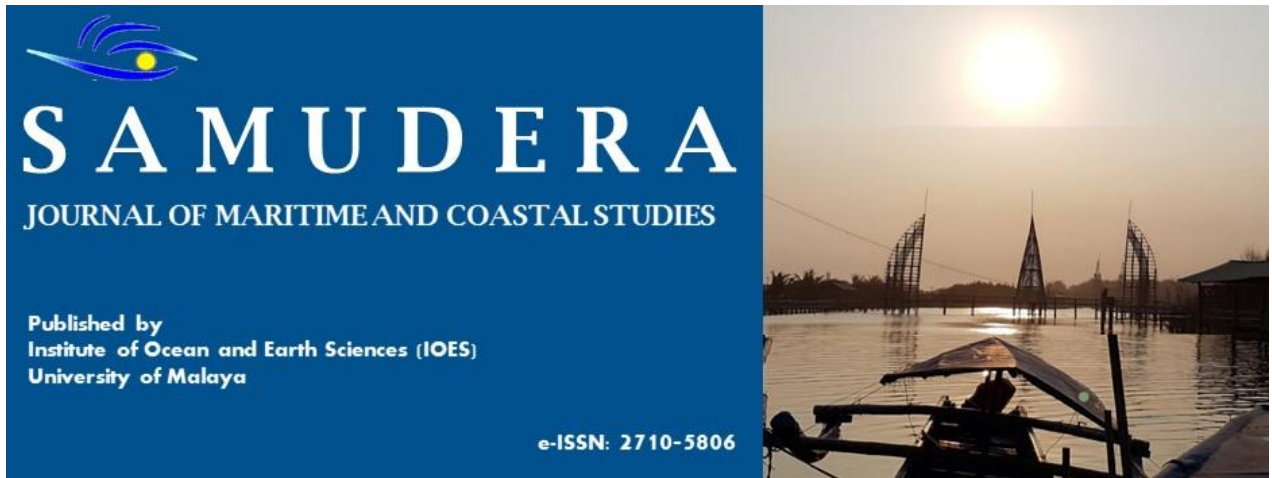
For last 4 months, various workshops and seminar series were successfully carried out which includes jointly organized seminar with British High Commission Kuala Lumpur on 'Introduction to Commonwealth Clean Ocean Alliance (CCOA) and Networking session with Malaysian Researchers on Marine Plastics Research and Innovation' to discuss the issue of marine plastics in Malaysia, 'Second National Workshop on Ocean Accounts' which witnessed the gathering of researchers discussing progress of projects funded by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), and 1st National Marine Geology Workshop which gatherplatform for marine geology researchers to share information and research findings.

Throughout these spectacular months, we are very honored to be visited by numerous visitors and collaborators from distinguished universities and institutions especially from this region. Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone especially our future collaborators to be continuously engaged and embarked on an interesting scientific journey with IOES; one of the Higher Institution Centres of Excellence (HICoE) in Malaysia.

Professor Dr. Sumiani Yusoff

Director

Launching of SAMUDERA-Journal of Maritime and Coastal Studies (SAMUDERA-JMCS)



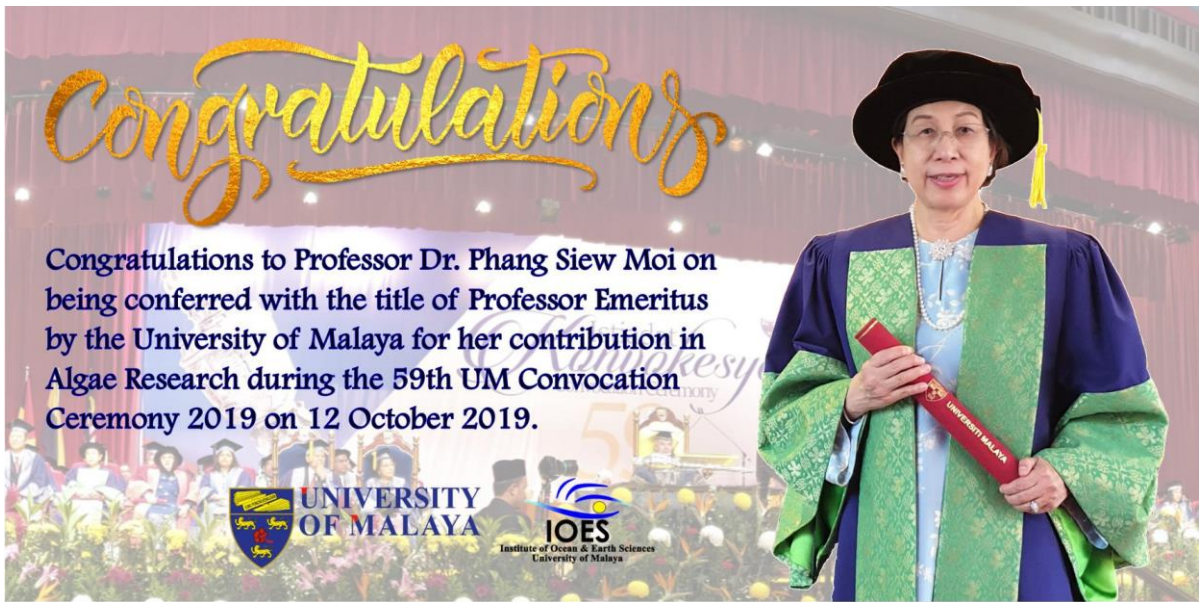
The Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences (IOES), University of Malaya is pleased to announce the launch of a new, open-access journal, SAMUDERA-Journal of Maritime and Coastal Studies (SAMUDERA-JMCS) is an online journal covering research activity in the broad area of maritime and coastal studies. The journal is providing authors with a more convenient and efficient process to communicate research findings and discussions to the global maritime and coastal research community. The journal aims to promote and amplify the voices and ideas of the research community, SAMUDERA-Journal of Maritime and Coastal Studies will put your work at the heart of the conversations taking place in the social science, humanities and scientific research community today.

A streamlined double-blind peer-review process, overseen by a panel of experts, ensures a fair and regular publication experience. All published article enable research results to be freely communicated between authors and readers where the copyright of the original work remains with the author.

The large Editorial Board of SAMUDERA-Journal of Maritime and Coastal Studies is interdisciplinary and multinational that the journal will serve. This journal which is a fully open access format enables the manuscripts to be easily accessed by the other researchers. The journal is free of charge, which the authors only will be responsible for managing their copy editing manuscript with the suggested professional editor(s).

We welcome your submissions via the journal's submission and peer review website at <https://samudera.um.edu.my/> . Please visit the Journal's website to learn more about this journal at <https://samudera.um.edu.my/about> .

Editor-in-chief: Assoc Prof Dr Hanafi Hussin



National Marine Geology Workshop

Date : 19 Sept 2019

Venue: Main Lecture Hall, Department of Geology

The first National Marine Geology Workshop was conducted on 19th September, 2019, at the Geology Lecture Hall, Department of Geology, Faculty of Science, University of Malaya (UM). The workshop is co-organized by the Department of Geology and Institute of Ocean and Earth Science (IOES) UM, Department of Minerals and Geoscience (JMG), the Geological Society of Malaysia (GSM), University of Malaysia Terengganu (UMT), University of Malaysia Kelantan (UMK) and University Technology PETRONAS (UTP). The workshop was envisioned as a platform for knowledge sharing and networking on marine geology-related research in Malaysia and Southeast Asia.

The objectives of the workshop were:

- (1) to provide a platform for marine geology researchers to share information and research findings
- (2) to discuss the numerous problems related marine geology in the region
- (3) to strengthen cooperation amongst marine geology researchers in the region.

The workshop was officiated by Mr. Kamal bin Daril, Deputy Director General (Operations) of the Department of Minerals and Geoscience Malaysia. The eight talks given during the workshop covered a variety of topics, including progress in marine geology research and way forward by Mr. Abdullah Sulaiman (JMG), environmental pollution by Prof. Dr. Mohamad Pauzi Zakaria (UM), delineation of maritime spaces by Dr. Mazlan Madon (UN), paleoenvironmental changes by Assoc. Prof. Hasrizal Shaari (UMT), geo-radiochemistry by Prof. Dr. Che Abd. Rahim Mohamed (UKM), continental shelf studies by Dr. Vijayan A/L V.V. Rajan (IGM), sea level rise by Ir. Hj. Mohd Radzi Abd Hamid (NAHRIM) and marine geohazards by Ms. Norhasliza Kasim (PETRONAS Carigali).

A total of 105 participants attended the one-day workshop, which included academics, researchers and students from numerous universities (UM, UMK, UMT, UKM, UTP, UPM, UiTM), officers from several government agencies (JMG, MIMA, JMM, IGM, NAHRIM), staff from GLCs and private companies and members of the public.



IOES Scientific Seminar Series: Introduction to Commonwealth Clean Ocean Alliance (CCOA) and Networking session with Malaysian Researchers on Marine Plastics Research and Innovation

Date : 25 Sept 2019

Venue: Anggerik Room, Institute for Advanced Studies

IOES and British High Commission, Kuala Lumpur jointly organized this seminar to gather scientists, environmentalists and policy makers to exchange information and discuss the issue of marine plastics in Malaysia. The main talk is presented by Mr Stephen Harris who leads the international engagement for the Commonwealth Clean Ocean Alliance (CCOA). In response to the threats of plastic pollution in marine environments, the UK and Vanuatu have brought together a group of member states to form the Commonwealth Clean Oceans Alliance (CCOA). Besides Mr Stephen Harris, Dr. Fauziah Shahul Hamid from Institute of Biological Sciences also delivered a talk entitle “Linkages between marine plastics and microplastic pollution: A Malaysian case study”

The objectives of this seminar:

- i) Sharing of outlook on CCOA’s aspiration, deliverables and outcomes and international perspectives on achieving the CCOA ambition.
- ii) Discussion on the role of research and innovation to support the tackling of Marine Plastic pollution challenge and understanding Malaysia’s research and innovation landscape in addressing oceans pollution and plastics waste impact and management.



Visit from Institut Penyelidikan Marin Borneo (IPMB), Universiti Malaysia Sabah

Date : 1 Oct 2019

Venue: Bachok Marine Research Station

A total of 17 delegates from Institut Penyelidikan Marin Borneo (IPMB), Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) had visited Bachok Marine Research Station. The delegates consist of academic staff, professional and management officer and support staff. The visit was started with BMRS laboratory tour visit, followed with a discussion about future collaborations plans, internship program opportunities and sharing facilities in both institutes.

Objectives of the visit:

- To discuss and share BMRS research activities in HABs, Atmospheric and Seaweed mariculture
- Seek the potential collaborative research project and internship program opportunities between IOES and IPMB,UMS



Visit from Faculty of Bioresources and Food Industry, Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin

Date : 6 Oct 2019

Venue: Bachok Marine Research Station

A total of 16 undergraduate students from Faculty of Bioresources & Food Industry, UniZSA led by Dr. Connie Fay Komilus, Dr. Nadzifah Yaakub and En Mohamad Hafizi Mohamad Roni have visited BMRS. The aim of this tour study trip is to expose the undergraduate students with the scientific oceanography instrument and laboratories at BMRS. All the BMRS staffs, academic staff and postgraduate students at BMRS were involved and became the facilitator for this study tour.

During the study tour, all the undergraduate students from UniZSA have given an opportunities to expose with all the scientific oceanography sampling instruments such as plankton net, van-dorn water sampler, core sampler, Ekman grab, YSI multi-parameter and scuba diving equipment. They also have the chances to understand more about scientific instruments such as Thermal cycler, flow-cytometer, microscope, CHN Elementar Analyzer, Real-Time PCR System, TOC-TN analyzer, CO Analyzer and Optical Particle Counter, Ozone(O3) Analyzer . Besides that, the undergraduate students also have given the chance to visit all the laboratories in BMRS and know all the research activity in BMRS such as: Harmful algal blooms (HABs) research, atmospheric research and seaweed research.



Second National Workshop on Ocean Accounts Malaysia

Date : 17 Oct 2019

Venue: Anggerik Room, Institute for Advanced Studies

Second National Workshop on Ocean Accounts Malaysia was successfully held and more than 40 participants has attended this workshop including Department of Statistics Malaysia and representative from United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP).

The Second National Workshop on Ocean Accounts Malaysia is intended to serve as a platform for the knowledge sharing and exchange of information related to research finding on Ocean Account in Malaysia. The aim for this workshop is for the consultants, led by Prof Dato' Dr Azizan Abu Samah, to present their findings of the project, which is funded by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). In this workshop, stakeholders of the project have provide feedback and input during the discussion session. This workshop is organized after the first national workshop which discussed on ocean accounts/SEEA training, review and discuss scoping report and develop work plan.



IOES Scientific Seminar Series - The 5 Ws of marine microbial communities in the tropics: who, what, when, where and why

Date : 24 Oct 2019

Venue: Anggerik Room, Institute for Advanced Studies

This scientific seminar was delivered by Assoc Prof Dr Federico Lauro. He is currently Associate Chair (Students) at Asian School of the Environment, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. He presented data that links the structural and functional changes in the environment to the ecological processes driven by equatorial microbial communities. He also showed how microbial signatures can be used to detect anthropogenic impacts and to document prehistorical coastal hazards events that are essential to assess the risk and vulnerability of present-time coastal communities.



Study tour visit from SMUA Al-Falah, Pasir Mas, Kelantan

Date : 24 Oct 2019

Venue: Bachok Marine Research Station

A total of 40 school students and 5 teachers from SMUA Al-Falah have participated in this study tour trip. The main objective of this tour trip is to foster student's interest in oceanography science.

All the participants had given a warm welcome from the Head Station, Assoc Prof Dr. Lim Po Teen, and all the staffs in BMRS. During the study tour, all the participants were divided into four small groups to attend four session of short courses: Scuba Equipment and Demonstration, Microorganism under Microscopy, Seaweed Mariculture and Atmospheric Observation. They have given an opportunity to expose and learn how to handle the scientific oceanography sampling and analysis instruments such as plankton net, van-dorn water samples, core sampler, Ekman grab, YSI multi-parameter, scuba diving equipment, PCR, flow-cytometer, microscope, CHN Elementar Analyzer, Real-Time PCR System, TOC-TN analyzer, CO Analyzer, Optical Particle Counter and Ozone(O₃) Analyzer. They also managed to visit all the laboratories in BMRS and know more about the research activity in BMRS, such as Harmful algal blooms (HABs) research, atmospheric research and seaweed research.



Visit from Technical Committee, Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia

Date : 21 Nov 2019

Venue: Bachok Marine Research Station

A group from technical committee, Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia (east coast branch) visited BMRS led by Sr Mustafa bin Hj Mohd Kasim.

During the visit, the visitors have given an opportunities to expose with all the scientific oceanography sampling instruments such as plankton net, van-dorn water sampler, core sampler, Ekman grab, YSI multi-parameter and scuba diving equipment. They also have the chances to understand more about scientific instruments such as Thermal cycler, flow-cytometer, microscope, CHN Elementar Analyzer, Real-Time PCR System, TOC-TN analyzer, CO Analyzer and Optical Particle Counter, Ozone(O₃) Analyzer . Besides that, the undergraduate students also have given the chance to visit all the laboratories in BMRS and know all the research activity in BMRS such as: Harmful algal blooms (HABs) research, atmospheric research and seaweed research.



Visit by Japan scientists from Euglena Co. Ltd and Real Tech Fund

Date : 29 Nov 2019

Venue: Anggerik Room, Institute of Advanced Studies

Dr Kengo Suzuki from Euglena Co. Ltd and Real Tech Fund visited IOES to discuss regarding potential research collaboration. Euglena Inc. is an excellent example led by one of the researchers and this company began as a start-up, subsequently had already went public with \$81 million IPO for additional funding a few years ago. Euglena Co. Ltd and Real Tech Fund focuses on agrifood which sits well with IOES strengths in algae research, sustainability and green technology.



Visit by Guangzhou Municipal Ecological Environment Bureau (GZMEEB), China

Date : 4 Dec 2019

Venue: Azalea Room, Institute of Advanced Studies

6 delegates from Guangzhou Municipal Ecological Environment Bureau (GZMEEB), China lead by Yang Liu, Director General of GZMEEB visited IOES and having research collaboration discussion. GZMEEB delegations consists of Yang Liu (Director General), Jian Yang Jian (Director of the Eco-environment Monitoring & Technology Division), Zu Zhao Huang (Director), Wen Wu Xie (Deputy Chief of Law Enforcement), Zhao Zhu Li (Vice President) and Da Wei Liu (Section Chief).



Venture Workshop: " People, Plastic and Our Planet: Venturing for Solutions"

Date : 16 – 20 Dec 2019

Venue: Seri Pacific Hotel, Kuala Lumpur

This venture workshop was jointly organised by Ministry of Energy, Science, Technology, Environment and Climate Change (MESTECC), British High Commission, Yayasan Peyelidikan Antartika Sultan Mizan, British Antarctic Survey, Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences and Value in Enterprise.

'People, Plastic and our Planet: Venturing for Solutions' offers the unique opportunity for the participants from Circular Solutions for Plastics such as researchers, policy makers, educators, communicators and entrepreneurial individuals from the business and NGO communities to come together to develop and test ideas around solving the challenges that plastics pose in our environment.

The participants work towards solutions to plastic challenge that exist in present times through an inter-disciplinary approach that would complement MESTECC's objective in realising the Malaysia's Roadmap towards Zero Single-Use Plastics 2018 – 2030.



GRA Vacancies

VACANCY : Graduate Research Assistant (GRA) - PhD and Master Programme

3 Projects Available:

- i) Air-ocean Interaction And Its Variability
- ii) Oceanography
- iii) Effects of Variability in Arctic and Antarctic on the Tropical Maritime Continent Weather and Climate under the Influence of Climate Change

Criteria:

- Bachelor/ Master's degree in Engineering, Physics, Mathematics or other related field.
- Good command of English (spoken and written)
- Selected candidate **MUST** register to pursue a MSc / PhD (by research) at the University of Malaya.
- Strong reporting and documentation skills
- Able to work independently and/ or in a diverse group of scientists

E-mail your cover letter including description of current research and accomplishments) and complete curriculum vitae containing academic qualifications, research experience, transcripts, etc. to Professor Dato' Dr Azizan Abu Samah (azizans@um.edu.my)

VACANCY: Graduate Research Assistant (GRA)

2 Projects Available:

- i) **Microbial and Chemical Contaminants: Assessment of Source, Distribution, Human Health and Environmental Implications**
- ii) **Potential of Barnacles as Biomonitors for Monitoring Persistent Organic Pollutants in Marine Aquatic Ecosystems**

Criteria:

- Malaysian citizen
- Bachelor or Master's Degree in a related discipline (Microbiology/Biology/Chemistry) or equivalent
- Candidate must be willing to register for Master by Research /PhD Program immediately upon appointment
- Proactive and able to carry out research independently
- Good communication skills both in spoken and written English and Bahasa Malaysia
- Hardworking, confident and be able to work on own initiative and with limited supervision
- Meticulous and accuracy in work is required
- Proficient in Word, Excel and PowerPoint

Salary :RM1,800 and above (Based on qualifications and experience)

Working hours: Monday to Friday

Employment Status: FULL-TIME

Application

If you meet the requirement outlined above and wish to join us, please send your Curriculum Vitae to cwbong@um.edu.my before **31st March 2020**. Only shortlisted candidates will be called for an interview.