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Editorial Desk

Surround yourself with good people who practice strict discipline, because discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishment - Jim Rohn. They are your only 'True Friends' in this Life you could ever bargain for. For doing this, You always have a choice as quoted by Jim Rohn- 'Suffer the pain of discipline or you will suffer the pain of regret'.

Sometimes the hardest person for you to correct is yourself. There is no shame in being wrong, the shame is in choosing to stay on the wrong.



Yesterday many thought that they would see today, and today many will think they will see the tomorrow. We all take tomorrow for granted because we believe tomorrow will always be there. We all fail to realize, tomorrow may be there, but we may not.

We may be rich, famous or have a high status in life, but shouldn't fail to realize, one day we'll just be a memory and a lesson to others.

We wouldn't throw away a diamond to pick up a rock, so in the same way, don't throw away the good chasing the evil. How do you expect to get the better of you when you haven't worked for it? That's like expecting to pass an exam you never took a class for it.



Mr. Abdul Nazer Ali, Editor-in-Chief, AIMST e-Bulletin.

Cover Page Story

'National Seminar on Sustainable Environment and Health & WED Events 2016'

Globally, World Environment Day (WED) is a great annual event celebrated on June 5, to create positive awareness to preserve the environment and the planet earth. As per the recent record, there are 8.7 million species of organisms estimated to exist in the earth and we are one among them. Further we are the only species enjoying all the privileges utilizing almost all the existing group of organisms from bacteria, algae, mushrooms, vegetables and plants including primitive invertebrate animals to highest vertebrate mammals as food and medicine.

The burgeoning population growth and economic development with high exploitation of natural resources in various countries continuously damages our planet's environment and thereby causing a lot of environmental consequences and challenges to combat. Genetically, all the organisms are related to one another. All the plants and organisms are our relatives and some percentage of our genome sequences are similar to even bacteria, plants and animals. It is our responsibility to preserve the fellow living organisms on the earth and conserve the environment. This year's theme for WED 2016 is "Go Wild for Life" high-lights the fight against the illegal trade in wildlife. The theme also encourages us to explore all those species under threat and take necessary action to help safeguard them for future generations. We need to protect the native indigenous species.

Like forests, wildlife is also a national resource, which not only helps in maintaining the ecological balance but also beneficial from economic, recreational and aesthetic point of view. There was a time when human interference was minimum, the number of wild animals was quite high and there was no problem for their protection or conservation. But, with the expansion of agriculture, settlement, industrial and other developmental activities and mainly due to greed of man, the number of wild life gradually became lesser and lesser. As a result, several species of animals have become extinct and several, others are on the verge of being so. Deforestation, one of the main reason followed by mass killing of wild animals for their meat, bones, fur, teeth, skin, etc., are going on throughout the world. Therefore, the need for wildlife conservation has now become very imperative. To commemorate and celebrate the World Environment Day, we in AIMST University have initiated and scheduled several environmental protection activities and events to create a more positive awareness about the global environmental issues to our students and common public. WED committee, AIMST University organized a one day National Seminar on "Sustainable Environment and Health" & WED events 2016 on 22 September, 2016.

The environmental campaign started with planting of trees in our campus on 6th June, 2016 and a slogan writing competition. We also organized inter-school environmental quiz, intervarsity debate and trash to treasure - innovation competition for school students. The WED - 2016, AIMST University organizing committee chairman, Dr. K. Marimuthu welcomed all the invited speakers and delegates.

Continued...

Cover Page Story

The opening ceremony was officiated by Honorable **Dato Dr. Leong Yong Kong**, Member of the Executive Council and Chairman of the Committee on Environment & Health, Kedah, Malaysia. Honorable Vice Chancellor, AIMST University **Senior Professor Dr. M. Ravichandran**, highlighted the carbon foot print and importance of planting trees in the earth and healthy living in his opening remarks.

The 13 eminent environmentalists and researchers from Malaysia and India delivered the awareness talks on different aspects of environmental conservation. Prof. Dr. Sultan Ahmad Ismail, Managing Director of the Eco science Research Foundation, Chennai, India delivered a talk on 'For earth's sake'. Dr. Fadzil bin Abd Kadir, secretary, Sungai Petani municipal council delivered a talk on Natural Resources and Conservation. Prof. Dr. Sudesh Kumar, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang presented a topic on Biodegradable Plastics for a Sustainable Environment. Prof. Dr. Kannan Narayanan, Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Applied Sciences, AIMST University, highlighted the application of Molecular Marker Techniques in Environmental Forensic Studies. Hj. Mohd. Zaini bin Abdul Rahman, Director, Department of Chemistry Malaysia, Penang Branch delivered a talk on Environmental Forensics: An overview of selected cases. Prof. Dr. P. K. Rajesh, Faculty of Medicine, AIMST University stressed to reduce wastage, reuse, and recycling concepts to the participants. Prof. Quamrul Hasan, Universiti Utara Malaysia, delivered a talk on Sustainable Agriculture and Organic Farming: The Case in Paddy Farming in West Malaysia. Dr. Md. Aminur Rahman, Universiti Putra Malaysia, discussed the Integrated Rice-Fish Farming: A New Avenue for Sustainable Agricultural Production in a Eco-friendly Environment. Mr. N. V Subbarow, Consumers Association of Penang, Malaysia, delivered a talk on Natural farming in Malaysia. Mr. Don Theseira, Green Crusaders, Penang, Malaysia, demonstrated the Recycling of household wastes (Resources) for cleaner environment and income generation to the students and participants. Dr. Haslinda Binti Mohd Anuar, from Universiti Utara Malaysia, discussed the Environmental Law in Malaysia: A Protection to Public Health. Dr. P Arulselvan, from Universiti Putra Malaysia, delivered a talk on Environmental pollution and its biological impacts. Dr. Suresh Kumar, Universiti Putra Malaysia, highlighted the Impact of environmental alteration and human infectious diseases.

Chairman, WED events Dr. Marimuthu thanked **Dato' Seri Utama Dr. S. Samy Vellu**, Chancellor and Chairman, AIMST University and **Senior Prof. Dr. M. Ravichandran**, Chief Executive and Vice-Chancellor & **Dr. S. Kathiresan**, Registrar, AIMST University for their support and encouragement to organize these events during his opening remarks. He also extended his appreciation to **Mr. Khanna**, **OTA Tunnel Sdn Bhd**, Malaysia, co-organizer for this seminar. The following are the winners of slogan writing competition: Champion (FOM) - Dr. P.K Rajesh -"**Nurture Nature**, **The Next Generation's Future'**. First runner up (FOM) - Dr. Kailash Kharkwal - "**Earth is a divine expression**, **don't spoil it with carbon impression"**. Second runner up (SGFS) Ms. Ashadeep Kaur Vidwan - "**Pollution is not an illusion, it is your creation"**.

The 24 school teams participated in the inter-school environmental quiz competition and the following schools were the winners. Champions: SMK KHIR JOHARI, Kedah, 2nd place, SMK KOTA KUALA MUDA and 3rd place, SMK SIN MIN, Kedah. Six teams participated in the inter-varsity environmental debate competition and the champions were Multimedia University Malaysia, 1st runners up, Multimedia University Malaysia and 2nd Runners up University Malaysia Pahang.

22 school teams participated in the inter-school trash to treasure innovation competition and the Champion: SMK ST GEORGE (GIRLS), PULAU PINAG, 2nd place - MRSM TRANSKRIAN NIBONG TEBAL, PULAU PINANG and 3rd place - SMK IBRAHIM, KEDAH. All the winners were awarded with

certificate and cash prizes during the closing ceremony.







Contributed by: Dr. K. Marimuthu, Chairman, WED 2016 Events, AIMST University, Malaysia.

Journey of Faculty of Medicine (FOM) at AIMST

The Asian Institute of Medicine, Science and Technology (AIMST) was officially approved on the 15th March, 2001. The School of Medical and Health Sciences (FMHS) was the first faculty to be set up at the AIMST University in the temporary campus at Amanjaya, Sungai Petani, Kedah state, Malaysia. The School of Medicine (SOM) launched the MBBS programme in 2002 and registered 32 students on the 25th and 26th January, 2002 as the first intake. The provisional accreditation of the MBBS programme was confirmed by LAN on 14th November, 2002. Later, in the year 2004, LAN approved the increase of intake for MBBS course to 120 students.

- The school of Medicine shifted to the new campus, Semeling on 1st April, 2007 and the first batch appeared for their final MBBS examination in August 2007 with 19 graduates.
- The Joint panel of MQA-KPT-MMC visit for full accreditation was scheduled during April, 2007 and the MBBS programme was approved for 3 years, till August, 2010.
- The School of Medicine was upgraded as Faculty of Medicine in November, 2007.



- Based on the review by MQA-MMC in July 2008, the intake for MBBS was further increased to 200 per year and 60 JPA scholars were nominated per annum to join MBBS.
- The state-of-the-art, 'Clinical Skills Centre' organized an international workshop on "High Fidelity Simulation in Medical Education" in November, 2008.
- The MBBS programme of AIMST University was officially recognized by ECFMG (Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduates) of USA to take the medical licensing examination (USMLE) conducted by them on January, 2009.
- The MBBS programme of AIMST University was recognized by the Avicenna directory of world medical schools in September, 2009.
- After a major earthquake in Padang, Indonesia, 40 students registered for MBBS in UNANAD, were transferred to AIMST University on compassionate grounds in October, 2010.
- The MQA-MMC-KPT joint panel revisited for re-accreditation of the MBBS course in November, 2010 and approved the programme till December, 2013.
- FoM The preclinical quiz which tested the cognitive, psychomotor and affective domains was organized by FOM, AIMST University and was held on 8th and 9th April, 2011. Ten universities from all over Malaysia and NUS Singapore participated in the quiz.
- RED (Reach out, Embrace and Deliver) an association to care for the needs of the less fortunate hospital patients was launched by the medical students of FOM on April, 2011.
- FoM organized and conducted the 'TB and HPV workshops' with MMA CME points in July and August, 2012.
- M.Sc. courses in Human Anatomy, Medical Physiology, Medical Biochemistry and Medical Microbiology were provisionally approved by KPT and MQA with the first intake in August, 2011.
- AIMST University won third prize in the International Microbiology, Parasitology and Immunology medical quiz at Sri Mahidol University, Thailand in March, 2012.

Continued...

Journey of Faculty of Medicine (FOM) at AIMST

- The poster winners of both the 'TB and HPV' CME's presented their paper at Cambodia on world TB day in March, 2012.
- The medical students from AIMST University, University of Malaya and Universiti Sains Malaysia collaborated to create history by organizing the inaugural 'National Medical Student's Convention 2012' at AIMST University on the 7th and 8th of April, 2012. Over 300 students from 12 universities participated in this convention. PALs was conducted involving all the delegates in the great hall.
- The Cadaveric workshop on 'Disc Nucleoplasty' was conducted by Dato Dr. Vasan Sinadurai and his team of orthopaedic surgeons at AIMST in April, 2012.
- The 4th Malaysian International Medical Students Conference was organized and conducted at AIMST University. Over 250 SMMAMS (Society of MMA Medical Students) and IMFS (International Medical Students Federation) participated in this conference in May, 2012.
- AIMST University was categorized Tier 4 for Medicine, Pharmacy and Dentistry for the D-SETARA ratings in January, 2013.
- The Masters programs in Microbiology and Biochemistry have been fully accredited by MQA on March, 2013.
- AIMST University won second prize in the International Microbiology, Parasitology and Immunology medical quiz held at Sri Mahidol University, Thailand in March, 2013. The success was dedicated to the 'Peer Assisted Learning Strategies' and PALs club was officially registered as a University club.
- FoM acquired a FRGS grant for RM 142400 (FRGS/1/2013/SSK01/AIMST/02/1).
- FoM conducted a curriculum review workshop with Hospital Sultan Abdul Halim, SP doctors, alumni students and faculty staff on March, 2013 and subsequently with Hospital Sultana Bahiya, Alor Setar doctors on April, 2013.
- The Cadaveric workshop on 'Total Knee Replacement' was organized by Dato Dr. Vasan Sinadurai and Dr. Rami Sorial from Australia on May, 2013.
- FOM team started their official training in pursuit for ISO Accreditation in June, 2013.
- FOM signed a MoA with 'Hygiea innovations' a stem cell centre based at Putrajaya on December, 2013.
- Faculty of Medicine partnered and signed a MoU with Queen Mary College, University of London in February, 2014.
- Faculty of Medicine signed a MoU with FoM, Prince of Songhkla University, Thailand on February, 2014.
- Dr Kishor, Psychiatrist from JSS Medical College and Hospital, India came as visiting faculty to AIMST University under staff mobility program in February, 2014.
- Dr. Sam Annie Jayachristy, from FoM secured a FRGS grant for RM 200,000 in June, 2014.
- The MMC MQA panel re-accredited FoM for a period of 3 years starting February, 2014.
- The Deputy DG of Health, Y.Bhg Datuk Dr Jeyaindran Tan Sri Sinnadurai visited FOM on April, 2014.
- AIMST along with HSAH, SP jointly conducted the MRCP (UK) mock exams on April, 2014.
- Dr. John Brecknell from Queen Mary University, London visited AIMST as overall external examiner in September, 2014.
- Interactive research session on developing collaboration between FOM, AIMST University & QMUL with Prof. Olwyn Westwood, Associate Dean of Medical Education, Queen Mary University, London was held at AIMST in October, 2014.
- Faculty of Medicine progressed to Level 8 of the Academic rung. PhD Microbiology was provisionally accredited by MQA (MQA/ PA 6185) on January, 2015.



AIMST University

Journey of Faculty of Medicine (FOM) at AIMST

- Faculty of Medicine organized the 'OMR workshop' to enhance evaluation/validity of MCQ/EMI on March, 2015.
- Faculty of Medicine organized 'Train the Trainers' workshop to enhance assessment skills of the examiner, to reduce inter-examiner variability and to comply with the directives of Malaysian Medical Council by Dato' Dr. Raymond Azman Ali, Dean, UKM Medical faculty and Director, UKM Medical Center on the 13th of March, 2015.
- The Faculty organized the 'National ECG conference' with the participation of delegates from ten different universities in Malaysia on 25th April, 2015.
- RED association organized the charity show at AIMST University's Great Hall 'Music of Hope—IV Metamorphosis, Travel through time' on April, 2015.
- A workshop on 'Standard Setting' was organized with the support of expert panel from Royal College of Medicine Perak, Ipoh. on July, 2015.
- Faculty of Medicine signed MoU with International Medical College, Bangladesh on August, 2015.
- A Memorandum of understanding was reached between AIMST University and University of Dhaka on August, 2015.
- Dr. Heera Rajandas from FoM obtained a FRGS grant for RM 155,500 on October, 2015.
- FoM staff and students participated in the 'World Alzheimer's day and World Heart Day' awareness campaigns organized by the RED association on 21st and 29th September, 2015.
- The Faculty of Medicine organized an 'Antibiotic Awareness Program' as advocated by the Ministry of Health, on 20th November, 2015.
- Medical Students Association of AIMST University (MedSA) in collaboration with Society of Malaysian Medical Association's Medical Students (SMMAMS) organized a mini marathon of 10 km walk with about 400 participants on 12th December, 2015.
- Prof. M. Ravi, Pediatrician from JSS Medical College and Hospital, India came as visiting faculty to AIMST University under staff mobility program in March, 2016.
- RED association organized its annual charity show 'Music of Hope-V' in March, 2016 at AIMST University's Great Hall which was attended by over 2000 guests. RED has helped around 300 patients to a tune of RM 200,000 locally and internationally.
- National Medical Conference (NMC) 2016 with the theme of "Bridging Medical Education into Clinical Practices" was organized by Medical Students' Association (MedSA) of AIMST University in collaboration with Society of Malaysian Medical Associations' Medical Students (SMMAMS) on 6th - 8th May, 2016.
- The Medical Education Unit of FoM organized the PBL workshop on facilitation in two phases on 24th and 29th June, 2016.
- Prof. Dr. Basavanna Gowda, Dean, JSS Medical College, Mysore, India visited AIMST as external examiner in August, 2016.

• The FoM curriculum review process in November, 2015 was concluded with Dr Gowda's inputs in September, 2016.









Contributed by: Dr. P. K. Rajesh, Dr. Gokul Shankar and Dr. T. Pandurangan, AIMST University, Malaysia.

'Corporate Governance'

Corporate governance is a mechanism that controls and monitors the actions of the important players such as shareholders, employees, managers, suppliers, customers, executive management, and the board of directors in the market (Morin & Jarrell, 2001). Hence, corporate governance in Asia has received more attention after the Asian Financial Crisis (AFC) in 1997. The AFC exposed the ineffectiveness of the mechanisms put in place to monitor governance practices which led to failures of many companies (Radelet & Sachs, 1998). Moreover, corporate scandals such as Enron in the US, Parmalat in Italy, HIH Insurance in Australia, and Air New Zealand's revealed the ineffectiveness of corporate governance processes (Weekend Herald, 2003). Basically, several countries from around the world issue guidelines and recommendations for best corporate governance practice (Cadbury, 1992; Combined Code, 2003; OECD Principles; Higgs Report, 2003; ICGN Principles, 1999; Preda Code, 2002). Furthermore, the Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance (MCCG, 2000, 2007, 2012, and 2016) issue and consist with principles and guidelines for best governance practice to improve the performance of Malaysian listed companies.

Most of the recent research on the relationship between corporate governance and company performance in Malaysia so far have been paying attention on different corporate governance' variables (for example, Amran & Ahmad, 2010; Chaghadari, 2011; Johl, Kaur & Cooper, 2015; Tauringana, 2015; Kakanda, Salim & Chandren, 2016). Additionally, my research aims to investigate the relationship between corporate governance and company performance using a sample data of 190 Malaysian listed companies over a period of 10 years (2000 to 2009). Generalized Least Square (GLS) method is used to test the data selected. The results of GLS show that the impacts of founder-Chief Executive Officer (CEO), board independence and board size are positive on company performance while the impact of board ownership is negative on company performance, indicating that founder-CEO, board independence and board size can control managers and enhance company performance while increase board ownership is not beneficial to company performance. In contrast, the results show that the impacts of outside directors and CEO duality is not associated with company performance.

In practical perspectives, this research contributes to the literature on the impact of corporate governance by investigating the relationship between important outside directors that are made-up of non-executive / independent and non-executive/non-independent directors, board of directors and company performance

in Malaysia. The result provides evidence that a higher percentage of outside directors on the board is not associated with company performance.

Furthermore, this study is important to shareholders, managers and investors. To shareholders and managers, the study provides evidence that a large board leads to better performance, while to investors, the study provides evidence that investors may invest in the companies that are managed by a founder-CEO and have a large board size. The theoretical implication of this research is that the agency problems may be eliminated in companies with board independence, board size and founder-CEO, while it may increase in companies with board ownership.

"Before you speak, let your words pass through three gates. At the first gate, ask yourself

"IS IT TRUE ?"

At the second ask,

"IS IT NECESSARY?"

At the third gate ask "Is It KIND ?"

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- Contributed by: Dr. Sami RM Musallam, AIMST University, Malaysia.



'Tooth for Truth (Role of Dentists as Forensic Odontologists)'

The professional services of dental surgeon is not only examining and diagnosing diseases of mouth and teeth and their treatment, but also includes social obligation to law and justice by giving evidence from tooth and jaw to determine age and gender, identifying living and dead persons, detect criminals and other legal aspects. Dental specialist helps the police, lawyers, investigators, and judges in court of law to restore truth from tooth. Thus, he is an indispensable professional to the government.¹

The journey of forensic dentistry starts from Agrippina, the mother of Roman Emperor Nero, in 49 A.D. when she recognized her rival Lollia-Paulina's discolored front teeth after her assassination. Forensic odontology or forensic dentistry was defined by Keiser-Nielson in 1970.²

Success of Forensic dentistry could be achieved totally only if the dental specialist and the dental institutions maintain antemortem records of their patients with information like name, age, gender, number of teeth present, filled teeth, dentures and other restorations, morphological variations of teeth and mucosa with photographs and radiographs, etc. This antemortem record will help to identify deceased persons and criminals by comparing with the postmortem record which will be prepared during criminal investigation, examining deceased person in homicide and dead people in mass disasters.³

Dental specialist as a Forensic odontologist has the following professional and social obligations to law and justice:

1. Identifying unknown human remains through dental records & cranio- facial bones.

Teeth are the most durable parts in the body and can be heated to temperature of 1600°C without appreciable loss of microstructure. Teeth can survive virtually intact long after other soft tissue and skeletal tissue have been destroyed by decay or incineration.⁴

- 2. Age estimation of both the living and deceased.
- 3. Recognition and analysis of bite marks found on victims.

The American Board of Forensic Odontologist (ABFO) has created a bite mark methodology guideline to collect and preserve the marks. The study of the investigation of bite marks and lip prints, which may be produced in both sexual and non-sexual assaults, homicide, and also in non-biological materials and objects left at crime scenes, requires the employment of specialized techniques of photography, impression taking, and electronic microscopy.

- 4. Analysis of oro-facial trauma associated with person abuse.
- 5. Determining the gender of an unidentified individual.
- 6. Eliciting the ethnicity.

Ancestry can be accessed by studying the facial skeleton and comparing the features with the main characteristics of three racial groups: Mangoloid, Negroid, and Caucasoid. If the gender of a bone is successfully determined, approximately 50% of the population is immediately eliminated.⁵

- 7. Assisting in building up a picture of lifestyle and diet of skeletal remains.
- 8. Analysis of dental malpractice claims.
- 9. Presenting evidence in court as an expert witness.

High profile cases were solved...

• Ted Bundy was identified from a bite mark.



Ted Bundy was suspected of having abducted and murdered 30 women over a period of 10 years

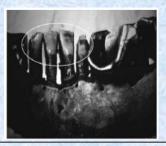


An intra-oral photograph of Ted Bundy. The lower front teeth proved to be useful at trial to link him to a bite mark found on a murdered college student.

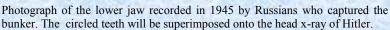


Courtroom exhibit showing the injury pattern is actually two bite marks nearly superimposed in the same area. The wooden ruler was used to allow the picture to be enlarged to life size. Two hand drawn outlines of Bundy's lower teeth are placed just below a corresponding portion of the bite mark.

- John Wilkes Booth was identified by a "gold plug" on the right side of his jaw.
- Elaborate dental records including radiographs and spare crowns identified the body of Adolf Hitler.
- Another famous case involving the use of forensic dentistry for identification was that of Czar Nicholas II.









The head x-ray of Adolf Hitler taken in 1944, which matched the Hitler's teeth

Forensic dentistry is a fine subject and the dentist has got a great social obligation in law and justice.

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Contributed by: Dr. Veena Naik and Dr. Saurabh Prakash, AIMST University, Malaysia.

'How to Dispose Unused/Expired Medication?'

Medicines save our lives in many life-threatening health conditions and play a most vital role in the quality of life. However, excessive medicine stored at home due to change in therapy by physician, non-compliance or self-medication may cause accidental exposure of medicines to other members of family. To avoid the harmful effects of such unused, expired or unwanted medicines, an awareness is required to be created among all citizens towards proper disposal procedures for such medicines.

Ministry of Health, Malaysia (MOH) lunched 'Return Your Medicine program' in 2010. This facilitates patients to return excessive or unused medicines at all MOH hospitals and health clinics in return box or at pharmacy counter.² There are specific color boxes available to drop off medicines. The Blue box is assigned for unused medicines and yellow box is for expired medicines.³

The 'Return Your Medicine Program' supports the government not only recycling of unexpired medicine to right patients but also helps in avoiding poisoning to children and pets due to accidental exposure or intentional misuse by unused medicines stored at home. The Pharmaceutical Services Division, MOH, Malaysia deals with the Return Your Medicine program that provides an appropriate platform for disposal of medicines which need to be well known to every individual of community since right disposal of medicines saves humans as well as animals lives and keep away from water and soil pollution.⁴

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) have own drug disposal methods as below:5

- 1. Drug Take Back Programs' that are held a couple of times in a year by municipalities.
- 2. Safe disposal of expired and unused medications in household trash by SmaRxt Disposal method.
- 3. Mail back programs.

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Contributed by: Mr.Sunil K. Prajapati and Dr. M. Z. Iqbal, AIMST University, Malaysia.





'Tongue in health and disease'

Healthy Tongue

Tongue commonly known as the 'Organ of taste', is also the muscular organ of speech, mastication, gustation and deglutition. Tongue is an easy diagnostic tool to read, is often the best place to begin the art and science of learning regarding any abnormalities in the human body. Changes in this organ reflect various physiological / pathological conditions both locally and systemically. Healthy tongue possesses numerous intrinsic and extrinsic muscles to coordinate its functions. Also, richness in vascularity and nerve supply calls it to be a specialized organ of the mouth. In addition, tongue also holds small pinpoint structures termed as papillae (namely, circumvallate, fungiform and filiform) and taste buds that help in the mastication of food and taste perception.¹

How does a healthy tongue look?

Healthy tongue appears uniformly pink, oval in shape, moist, transparent and straight on examination. Healthy tongue is also free of any discomfort such as pain, burning, stinging, numbness or swelling. Scientists measured the features of the tongue to be an important indicator of health and disease.

Diseased Tongue:2,3

Developmental disorders	Aglossia, Microglossia (Starvation & Facial hemiatrophy), Macroglossia (Down syndrome, Acromegaly, Myxoedema, Angioedema and Tumours), Ankyloglossia, Fissured tongue, Bifid tongue, Hairy tongue, Lingual thyroid, Lingual Varicosities.	
White lesions - tongue	White sponge nevus, Idiopathic leukoplakia, Hairy leukoplakia, Candidiasis, Lichen planus, Lichenoid lesions, Oral submucous fibrosis, Human Immunodeficiency syndrome.	
Red lesions - tongue	Erythroplakia, Haemangioma, Purpura (Petechiae & Ecchymosis), Sturge-weber angiomatosis, Hereditary hemorrhagic teleangiectasia, Lichenoid drug reactions, Candidiasis (Candidal leukoplakia, Anti-biotic sore mouth, Denture stomatitis), Speckled Erythroplakia, Squamous cell carcinoma (Commonly Cancer), Vitamin B Deficiency, Scarlet fever, Anaemia, Pellagra, Lupus erythematosus, Kawasaki disease, Toxic shock syndrome.	
Pigmented lesions — tongue	Melanoplakia, Ephelis (Freckle), Tobacco associated Pigmentation (Smokers Melanosis), Nevus, Malignant Melanoma, Peutz-Jeghers Syndrome, Addisons's Disease, Amalgam Tattoo.	
Atrophic lesions	Central papillary atrophy of tongue, Erythema migrans, Epidermolysis bullosa, Vitamin B deficiency, Anaemia.	
Verrucal papillary lesions	Squamous papilloma, Oral verruca vulgaris, Focal epithelial hyperplasia, Verrucous hyperplasia, Verrucous xanthoma, Squamous cell carcinoma.	
Swellings – tongue	Benign – Fibroma, Pyogenic granuloma, Lipoma, Granular cell tumor, Hemangioma, Lymphangioma, Lingual thyroid, Focal fibrous hyperplasia, Mucosal neuroma, Neurofibroma and Neurofibromatosis, Lipoma and lipomatosis, Salivary gland tumors, Cystic lesions, Fibrous histiocytoma, Malignant – Sarcomas & Carcinoma.	
Syndromes associ	ated with tongue - Neurofibromatosis Cowden / multiple hamartomas syndrome Autoimmune	

Syndromes associated with tongue - Neurofibromatosis, Cowden / multiple hamartomas syndrome, Autoimmune Polyendocrinopathy Candidiasis Ectodermal Dystrophy Syndrome, Peutz Jegher syndrome, Albright syndrome.

Other conditions affecting tongue - Osteoid choristoma, Cyanosis (Blue), Polycythemia Vera (Purple), Jaundice (Yellow), Fungal infection/Iron (Black), Kaposi sarcoma, Necrotizing sialometaplasia of tongue, Morsicatio linguarum.

What should we do next if we see any one of the above changes on the tongue?^{4,5}

- Tongue is examined in two aspects 'Body of the tongue' (Nutritive/structural variation based on texture, size and colour) and 'Tongue coat' (Imbalances in the body is noticed based on thickness, colour, texture, moisture, size, location, nature of papillae, movements and tongue ulcers). Dorsal, ventral, lateral surfaces and tip of the tongue should be examined for all the above changes.
- If the mucosal lesions are evident, try to remove the local factors that could have contributed to the lesion and commence anti-inflammatory treatment for two weeks.
- If the mucosal lesions still persist after two weeks following the above treatment Perform investigations (Biopsy/Adjunct methods) as the diagnosis based on clinical appearance alone is usually not sufficient. Biopsy of persistent lesions can help in diagnosis and appropriate management.

Tongue Care:

- Entrapped bacteria on the surface of the tongue yield bad taste and smell. Hence, we must make it a habit to thoroughly clean our tongue on regular basis. Reverse end of the tooth brush and tongue cleaners are normally used to scrape the tongue surface and keep the tongue clean. Scrape it in a downward motion at least two to three times. Usage of toothpaste to coat our tongue before scraping is permitted.
- Rinse your mouth with mouth rinses/saline water/lukewarm water with half a teaspoon salt in it (5-6 times a day).
- Avoid tongue piercing procedures as they may damage nerves and alter taste.
- Drink lot of water in order to prevent dehydration.
- Always check your tongue in the mirror for colour or texture changes. Consult a dentist immediately in the event of any changes observed during examination.

Conclusion:

Tongue lesions can present a diagnostic and therapeutic dilemma for the dental practitioners. Knowledge about the proper anatomy, functional significance and structural variations lead us to the identification and diagnosis about the pathologic changes occurring in the tongue and its consequences. Tongue can be thus considered as a gateway to various conditions and also a very important means of distinguishing normal from pathology.

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Contributed by: Dr. Sivadas G and Dr. Vaishnavi Vedam, AIMST University, Malaysia.





'Are you ready for your golden age???'

Retirement is a process that occurs over a span of time and that involves a series of reflections and decisions concerning timing and form of retirement. Leading a comfortable and stress free life will be the ultimate goal or desire of all the retirees. The duration after retirement of an individual carries the major period, compared to any other stages in life. Consequently, it is very important to have a proper retirement plan to achieve the expected goal and quality of life. Preparing an adequate income in golden age is essentially a way of managing the financial needs. It is clear that retirement planning is not a compulsory but relatively an option of personal choice on financial preparation and management partly based on how an individual strategize his or her income for savings, investments and spendings. The table below shows the Life Stages of Malaysian Residents for the Year 2015. Based on 2015 statistics, the Department of Statistics of Malaysia estimated that all Malaysians need to spend an average of 20 years in retirement (based on retirement age of 60 years), hence sole dependence on either government pension funds or Employees Provident Fund will not provide adequate retirement income for future retirees. A study shows 79% of Malaysians are not prepared for retirement. Among the misconceptions, individuals should avoid are that the EPF is sufficient, the need to settle loans first or that there is not enough money to save for retirement. Statistics also show that people are going to live longer and the youth have low financial literacy with no planning

or protection for themselves to mitigate unforeseen events. Some of the realities of today include rising cost of living and increasing issues with elderly poverty because Malaysia is set to become an aged nation by 2030, when the elderly account for 14% of the population. While bankruptcy rates are increasing with 25,000 declared bankrupt yearly and 55 cases

Age	Category	Duration
0 - 17	Childhood	17 Years
18 - 34	Early Adulthood	16 Years
35 – 50	Middle Adulthood	14 Years
50 +	Later Adulthood	25 Years and More

daily and added it is important not to underestimate the power of compounding, so start saving at an early age. There are still a majority of the population still holding on to "wait and see" behavior diminishing the

effort of policy makers and financial institutions when the percentage of those planning for pre-retirement and post-retirement is still minimal. Consequently, this procrastination attitude will pose socioeconomic problems to Malaysia. These socioeconomic problems could include homelessness and higher crime rate, just to name a few. The chain reaction to these problems can be endless. Therefore, personal financial planning must be given the top priority.

Contributed by: Ms. Santhi Appannan and Kanahawalli, AIMST University, Malaysia.

'Proactive Stress Management - The need of the hour'

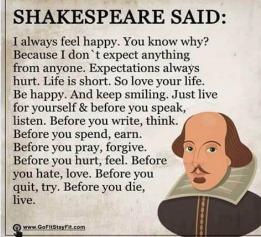
Some reasons why it is important to address stress from a proactive point of view is to take care of psychological well-being and avoid falling into a negative stress response. Stress has an important function in preparing us for the fight or flight response, as too much stress can have detrimental effects on both psychological and physiological functioning. Thus it is important to think how many times we have thought about taking care of our psychological health? How many times we felt, we had so many tasks and no time to relax, instead have prioritized ensuring all the chores or assignment or task were completed? It's time to be kind to oneself and factor self-care into your daily routine to maintain healthy levels of psychological health.

Thus, it is up to you to control your response to situations. By maintaining yourself in a more calm state of mind, you will be able to manage stress more appropriately and effectively. By proactively taking care of your psychological health, you are effectively putting yourself in a better situation to manage stress when it arises.¹

In a healthy state of mind, it's easier to think straight during potentially stressful situations and respond more appropriately, calmly and perhaps, not view that situation as stressful. It is exactly for this reason why we need to ensure that we are psychologically fit to face stressful situations that are an inevitable part of everybody's life. Sufficient sleep, interaction with family and friends and proper physical health are some of the simplest proactive approaches of psychological well-being. Other techniques include - time

and work management skills, relaxation exercises, cognitive restructuring exercises and self-awareness exercises. However, different situations and different stressors may call for different techniques, e.g. if you're feeling over aroused and irritable, a more relaxing technique is the best, or if you're feeling more withdrawn and isolated, then a more active approach like socializing or a long walk. We're all different, some, more resilient than others so we all need to look closely at ourselves and work out a plan that is best tailored to our unique needs. The key to effective stress management boils down to two principles:²

- 1. Being proactive with the things you have control over
- 2. Learning to let go those you don't have control over Many counselors use an approach called the ABC method to help people combat their distorted thoughts that lead to unnecessary stress.



Pain
makes you stronger,
Tear
makes you braver and
Heartbreak
makes you wiser,
So thank the PAST for a
better FUTURE

Adversity – represents the person, situation or event. Adversity can be almost anything-a traffic jam, a difficult relationship, financial problems, etc.²

Belief – is your belief about yourself, others or the circumstances. The beliefs are how the adversity is interpreted. They are the automatic thoughts that go through your mind during adversity or what you think to be an adversity. It isn't the adversity itself, but it's the perception of the threat or failure associated with them.²

Consequence or your reaction to the event. At first, it appears that adversity causes consequence but, it is actually your belief and perceptions about adversity that determine the outcome in consequence and create a lot of chronic stress.²

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Contributed by: Mr. Abdul Nazer Ali, AIMST University, Malaysia.

New Drugs Updates

'Recently approved drugs by the U.S. FDA'

On July 11, 2016, The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved 'lifitegrast' an ophthalmic solution (Xiidra) for the management of signs and symptoms of dry eye disease.¹ The common adverse effects of Xiidra include eye irritation, blurred vision and dysgeusia.¹

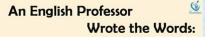
On the July 28, 2016, the U.S. FDA approved a once-daily injection of lixisenatide (Adlyxin) to improve glycemic control, along with diet and exercise, in adults afflicted with type 2 diabetes mellitus.² Adlyxin is a glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonist (commonly termed as GLP-1 receptor agonist). The common adverse effects of Adlyxin include nausea, vomiting, headache, diarrhea and dizziness.² Hypoglycemia may commonly occur in patients treated with combination of Adlyxin and other antidiabetic drugs like sulfonylurea and/or basal insulin.² Moreover, severe hypersensitivity reactions were noted in clinical trials.² On August 03, 2016, the U.S. FDA approved the first generic version of oseltamivir phosphate (Tamiflu), an extensively used drug for the treatment of flu (influenza A and B) in patients two weeks of age and older who have had the symptoms of flu for no more than 48 hours.³ Tamiflu was initially approved in 1999.³ The common adverse effects of oseltamivir phosphate reported in clinical trials include nausea and vomiting.3 On August 30, 2016, the U.S. FDA approved etanercept-szzs (Erelzi) for the management of multiple inflammatory diseases.4 Erelzi injection is administered for the treatment of moderate to severe rheumatoid arthritis (either alone or in combination with methotrexate [MTX]); moderate to severe polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis in patients ages two and older; active psoriatic arthritis (including use in combination with MTX in psoriatic arthritis patients not responding adequately to MTX alone); active ankylosing spondylitis; and chronic moderate to severe plaque psoriasis in adult patients of 18 years or older who are candidates for systemic therapy or phototherapy. 4 FDA advises that Erelzi should not be administered to patients with sepsis.4 The most serious adverse effects noted with Erelzi include infections, neurologic events, congestive heart failure and hematologic events.⁴ Of note, infections and injection site reactions ate the most common expected adverse reactions with Erelzi.4

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Contributed by: Dr. Pitchai Balakumar, AIMST University, Malaysia.





"A woman without her man is nothing" on the chalkboard. He asked the students to punctuate it correctly.

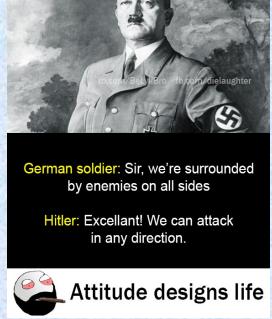
All of the males in the class wrote:

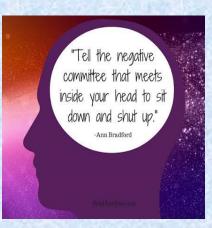
"A woman, without her man, is nothing"

All of the females in the class wrote:
"A Woman: without her, man is nothing"

PUNCTUATION IS POWERFUL.

M. Manth Tine





Awards and Achievements

'IMU Science Discovery - Chemistry Fiesta'

International Medical University (IMU), Kuala Lumpur organized the "Chemistry Fiesta" at their university campus. The aim of the fiesta was to create interest in chemistry and science among the Malaysian youths and also at various levels of society. It was organized by the IMU in collaboration with the government, semi-government and private agencies such as:

- Institut Kimia Malaysia (IKM)
- Malaysian Oil Scientists' and Technologists' Association (MOSTA)
- Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC)
- Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MOPB)
- Lembaga Getah Malaysia (LGM formerly known as RISDA)
- Institut Jantung Negara (IJN), etc.

The event was held on the 18th June, 2016 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Among the programs, the noticeable were, science discovery challenge; forums / talk by distinguished local scientists; workshops; hands-on activities; documentaries; kahoot interactive sessions; IMU marketing desk; exhibition from the government, semi-government and private agencies; poster competition and medical exhibition by IMU.

The programs were designed in such a way that the participants and visitors were free to move around and view, collect information about IMU and experience the overall environment and facilities. School children, school leavers and students from various pre-university programs around Malaysia represented the participants while the visitors were teachers, lecturers, professionals, parents etc.

AIMST University sent 3 teams of 9 students from SGFS foundation programs to participate in the IMU Science Discovery Challenge. This was the first experience for the students who took part in the quiz competition, gained multiple experience and exposure in the world of science. The team from July batch, Ivin Wong Bing Wei, Joshua Wong Chung Chen and Ooi Chin Yang managed to reach the semi-final round. It was a big challenge as there were more than 120 teams participating from all over Malaysia.

















Contributed by: Mr. Nashri Yakob and Ms. Tan Saw Hong, AIMST University, Malaysia.

'Good Clinical Practice (GCP) Workshop - August, 2016'

Good clinical practice (GCP) is a standard for the design, conduct, performance, monitoring, auditing, recording, analyses and reporting of clinical trials that provides assurance of data and the reported results are credible and accurate. In addition, the rights, integrity and confidentiality of trial subjects are protected. By looking at the demand of the need of GCP in order to carry out any research involving human subjects, the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) committee of Faculty of Pharmacy, AIMST University, jointly organized its first GCP workshop with the Clinical Research Centre (CRC), Hospital Sultan Abdul Halim, Sungai Petani at AIMST University. This two and a half day event took place from 24th to 26th August, 2016 at the AIMST University campus and was officiated by our Honourable Vice Chancellor, Senior Professor Dr. M. Ravichandran.

Among the total of 60 participants, 44 were from AIMST University and 16 from Ministry of Health personnel. This event received positive feedbacks from all the participants. Participants learnt how to ensure that drug-related trials in Malaysia are conducted in accordance with international ethical and scientific standards. Furthermore, the participants were also exposed in details to the quality processes required in the conduct of clinical trials and ensure that the human subjects participating in the trial are well protected and thus conducted studies are based on good science background and are well-designed.

The rules and regulations pertaining to conducting a clinical trial in Malaysia were shared with all the participants on the last day of the event. The workshop ended with a one hour written exam. We hope that this will increase the awareness of GCP amongst the researchers and promote meaningful clinical research in Malaysia. This shall pave the way for our researchers to achieve excellence in clinical research.















Contributed by: Mr. Ng Yen Ping, AIMST University, Malaysia.

'SIRIM Certified Programmes at AIMST'

AIMST University in collaboration with SIRIM STS Sdn Bhd conducted two programmes SIRIM Certified Quality Professional (SIRIRM CQP) and SIRIM Certified Business Continuity Management System Practitioner (SIRIM BCMS). Mr. P.K. Karuna, Head of Centre for Life Long Learning has secured grant of RM 520,000 from Human Resource Development Fund under 1Malaysia Globally Recognized Industry and Professional Certification (1MGRIP) programme in September, 2015. The said training programmes were conducted in AIMST University. SIRIM CQP programme started on 17th October, 2015 and completed on 25th March, 2016. A total of twenty (20) participants attended the training, where fourteen (14) were from external and six (6) were AIMST staff. All the candidates have successfully completed the programme. SIRIM BCMS programme started on 18th December, 2015 and completed on 25th March, 2016. Total of twenty two (22) participants attended the training where fifteen (15) were AIMST staff and seven (7) were external participants. Total of 15 participants successfully completed the programme.

The certificate presentation ceremony was held at AIMST University on 26th August, 2016. The certificates were presented by Senior Professor Dr. M. Ravichandran, Chief Executive and Vice Chancellor of AIMST University and Dr Mohd. Azman Idris, Senior General Manager of SIRIM STS Sdn Bhd. This was the

pioneer batch in Malaysia to be recognized as SIRIM CQP and BCMS.



Dr. Mohd Azman Idris, Senior General Manager of SIRIM STS Sdn. Bhd., delivering his speech

Senior Professor Dr. M. Ravichandran, Chief Executive and Vice Chancellor of AIMST University, delivering his speech



SIRIM CQP



SIRIM CQP AND BCMS



SIRIM BCMS

Contributed by: Mr. P. K. Karuna, AIMST University, Malaysia.

'Faculty of Dentistry Events'

Faculty of Dentistry organized a two days hands-on workshop about Problem Based Learning on 2nd and 3rd August, 2016 at Dental Building, AIMST University. The workshop was attended by all dental academic staff and was facilitated by Dr. Nurul Aida Ngah and Dr Budi Aslinie Md Sabri from UITM.









A two days hands-on ICDAS Training and Calibration Workshop was organized by Faculty of Dentistry on 23rd and 24th August, 2016 at Dental Building, AIMST University. The trainers were Dr.Chew Hooi Pin from IMU and Dr. Norazlina Mohammad from USIM.

Contributed by: Dr. Jawahar Dhanavel, AIMST University, Malaysia.

'First Falling Walls Lab - Malaysia 2016'

First Falling Walls Lab - Malaysia 2016 was hosted by AIMST University, Malaysia at its Semeling campus on the 20th August 2016 as an independent partner of Falling Walls Lab Berlin, Germany. Falling Walls Lab Malaysia at AIMST University is supported by Academy of Sciences Malaysia and PlaTCOM Ventures Sdn Bhd as organizing partner. A total of 51 participants with diverse background participated and presented their innovative and inspiring ideas, ground-breaking research projects, initiatives and business models in front of high profile team of juries and audience with 3 minutes presentation time. The participants were from various nationalities Algeria, India, Iraq, Iran, Maldives, Pakistan, Yemen and Malaysia. The opening ceremony was officiated by Hon'ble Prof. Dr. Manickam Ravichandran, CEO & Vice chancellor, AIMST University. Prof. Dr. Mohd. Baidi. Bahari, Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy & DVC (R&I and Infrastructure), AIMST University led the team of juries along with 4 other renowned members from all disciplines.

Malaysian post doctorate researcher Dr. Umaiyal A/P Munusamy from Centre for Research in Biotechnology for Agriculture (CEBAR), University Malaya, Malaysia won the 1st place breaking the 'Wall of Food insecurity'. She developed plant growth promoting bacteria (PGPB) which induce positive effect in plant growth under stressful condition that will help farmers to overcome the problem of plant growth inhibition irrespective of climate conditions. She was awarded as the finalist entry to Falling Walls Lab, Berlin on 8 November, 2016 with a travel and accommodation sponsorship by AIMST University, Malaysia.

Mr. Mohd Yusof Mohamad from International Islamic University, Malaysia secured the second place for breaking the 'Wall of low back pain'. The 3rd place was gained by Dr. Jo-Han Ng from University of Southampton (Malaysia campus) for his winning idea of breaking the 'Wall of Biodiesel renewable energy'. Dr. K. Marimuthu, DVC (Academic & International Affairs), felicitated all the juries with certificates and tokens of appreciation. The programme concluded with award ceremony, vote of thanks by Dr. Mukesh Singh Sikarwar, the organizing secretary of the event and group photo.



Participants, Jury members and Falling Walls Lab Committee members



1st Winner Dr. Umaiyal Munusamy, CEBAR, University Malaya, Malaysia.



2nd Winner Mr. Mohd Yusof Mohamad International Islamic University, Malaysia



3rd Winner Dr. Jo-Han Ng University of Southampton (Malaysia Campus)





'AIMST University 9th Convocation Ceremony'

The AIMST University had celebrated its 9th convocation ceremony on Saturday, 8th October, 2016 in The Great Hall of AIMST University. The ceremony was officiated and presided by the Chancellor of AIMST University, YBhg. Dato'Seri Utama Dr. S. Samy Vellu. AIMST Board of Directors and representatives from AIMST Partner-Universities from Japan, France, and Malaysia. The AIMST honorary doctorate was conferred and awarded to Ybhg.Tan Sri Prof. Dato' Dr. T. Marimuthu, Adjunct Professor at the School of Education and Cognitive Sciences, Asia e University, Kuala Lumpur, for his excellent contributions in the fields of literature and education. The joyful event also witnessed the honoring our high achievers and award recipients among a total of 567 multi-national grandaunts from seven faculties.

The MoU signing ceremony between AIMST University and University of Nantes, France and Kanagawa University, Japan and commemorative plaque signing with the Institute of Internal Auditors, Malaysia were also conducted in conjunction with the convocation ceremony.

9th AIMST University Convocation 2016

S. No.	Faculty	No. of Students Graduating	Total		
400	Faculty of Medicine				
1.	MBBS	213	213		
	Post Graduate Human Anatomy	2	5		
	Post Graduate Medical Physiology	2			
	Post Graduate Medical Biochemistry	1			
2.	Faculty of Dentistry				
	Bachelor in Dental Surgery	71	71		
3.	Faculty of Pharmacy				
	B. Pharm (Hons) Programme	102	102		
4.	Faculty of Applied Science				
	Bachelor in Biotechnology	37	39		
	M.Sc. Biotechnology	1			
	PhD	1			
5.	Faculty of Allied Health Professions				
	Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Hons)	05	36		
	Diploma in Physiotherapy	19			
	Diploma in Nursing	12			
6.	Faculty of Business and Management				
	Business and marketing	40	91		
	Finance and management	44			
	Management Information Systems	5			
	MBA Health Care Management	2			
NEW Y	Faculty of Engineering and Computer Technology				
7.	Diploma in Electrical & Electronic Engineering	02	10		
	B. Eng (hons) in Electrical & Electronic Engineering	08			
	TOTAL		567		

POST GRADUATES	9
FOM	213
FOD	71
FOP	102
FAS	37
FBM	89
FECT	10
FAHP	36
TOTAL	567

Continued...



TAN YEE HANG - Faculty of Business & Management

Best Medical Student Award
DING BING JIAN

Best Dental Student Award LOI HSEAN ZHONG

Outstanding Student Awards

Faculty of Allied Health Professions

YONG XINNI (Physiotherapy)

NOR MANZRIL SHAHFIKA BINTI MANSOR (Nursing)

Faculty of Applied Sciences
ALIA AMALINA BT NORHARMI

Faculty of Pharmacy

PUSPAVATHY A/P KANNIAPPAN

Faculty of Engineering and Computer Technology
CHIEW SIEW MEE

Faculty of Business and Management
OOI KOK LOANG

MBBS with Monours Award
ARWINA DEVI A/P A.M. SOMASUNDARAM
ATHLYNN TAN SU WYE
CHUA ZI WEI
DING BING JIAN
MARCUS ONG SHI MING
S. ASHWINI REDDY A/P SUBRAMANIAM
SAW SUN YANG

SEOW CHEE KEONG SHOON LEI MAY



University Gold Medal Award

TAN YEE HANG
Faculty of Business & Management

Honorary Doctorate Recipient

YBHG. TAN SRI PROF. DATO' DR. T. MARIMUTHU





Contributed by: Mr. Christapher Parayil Varghese, Convocation Steering Committee, All University, Malaysia.

Disclaimer

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