

Beyond

PAPRSB Institute of Health Sciences Newsletter

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Visiting Post-Doc.....	2
MoU Signing with Nopparat Rajathanee Hospital.....	2
PhD Research Focus	3
Telemedicine Advancement	3
MMed Programme	4
Nursing Seminar	4
IHS Strategic Workshop.....	5
Higher Education Expo.....	5
Medical Education Conference	6
Zika Virus Cross-sectional Study	6
Students Meeting Partner Medical Schools	6
10th Medical Sciences Conference	7

UBD's President of Students' Representative Council, Mohammad Ashmeer S/O Imtiaz Ahmad, our Biomedical Science student seen here with our Assistant Vice Chancellors, Assoc Prof Dr Ayub Sadiq and Prof David Koh representing UBD at the 33rd National Day.

Visiting Post-Doc

Dr Sujitha Elavally



In January 2017, PAPRSB Institute of Health Sciences was joined by Dr Sujitha Elavally, our visiting post-doctoral researcher. Dr Sujitha is currently pursuing her Post-Doctoral Fellowship under Professor Munikumar Ramasamy Venkatasalu, PAPRSB I.H.S and is funded by Sigma Theta Tau International, USA and International Network of Doctoral Education in Nursing (INDEN). Her postdoctoral research work includes a project on understanding carers of dementia as well as a project on developing an ASEAN model of doctoral education.

Dr Sujitha Elavally completed her doctorate in nursing from Sri Ramachandra University, Chennai, India. She worked as a lecturer since 2007 at Sri Ramachandra University, India. Prior to that she has worked clinically at emergency and cardiac critical care settings for several years. She has also received two FAIMER fellowship award from the Foundation for the advancement of International Medical Education and Research, Philadelphia, USA. Her previous work includes examination of large sample of RCT in order to design and set up home-based intervention to reduce blood pressure among hypertensive patients.

IHS Signs MoU with Nopparat Rajathanee Hospital, Thailand



PAPRSB Institute of Health Sciences (IHS), Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) and The Occupational and Environmental Institute of Nopparat Rajathanee Hospital, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 11th January 2017. Signing on behalf of UBD was Dr Hjh Rafidah Binti Haji Gharif, Dean of IHS, while Nopparat Rajathanee Hospital was represented by its Director, Dr Somboon Tosborvorn M.D. Also present to witness the signing were Professor David Koh, Assistant Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation) and Dr Theerapol Topanthanont M.D., Director General of Department of Medical Services, Ministry of Public Health.

The MoU signing brings in more active collaboration from UBD and Nopparat Rajathanee Hospital. It builds on an ASEAN project to develop Diagnostic Criteria for Occupational Diseases and reciprocal visits between Professor David Koh,

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation to Thailand and the leadership of Nopparat Rajathanee Hospital to Brunei. It will give the two establishments a framework for further collaboration in terms of staff and student exchanges, waived charges for reciprocal attendance on relevant short courses, joint seminars and development of joint research projects.

Nopparat Rajathanee Hospital is a leading national Occupational Health centre in Thailand. Its emphasis is on diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease by working with other agencies and serving as a National Health Authority. Their work focuses on diagnosis of occupational and environmental diseases, formulating national guidelines, setting standards for monitoring health (such as driver's license physical check up every two years), establishing training courses and building capacity.

PhD Research Focus: Cigarette Smoking Initiation in Adolescents



Siti Tajidah is currently in the second year of her PhD in Public Health at the Universiti Brunei Darussalam, under the Graduate Research Scholarship (GRS). She is due to complete her studies in April 2018. Her research focus is in “The Estimation of Factors Influencing Intention to Smoke and Initiation among Adolescent Males in Brunei Darussalam Using Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) Approach”.

Despite the increasing efforts to reduce cigarette smoking, there has been relatively less success in reducing cigarette uptake among adolescents. Alarmingly, the prevalence of adolescent smoking cigarettes increases from 8.9% in

2013 to 12.3% in 2014, with higher prevalence found in males (13.9%) compare to females (4.3%). In order to develop and design more culturally efficient and proactive measures to reduce the smoking incidence rate, it is of utmost importance to first understand factors associated with intention to smoke and smoking initiation among the adolescents. For this reason, Siti Tajidah aims to identify factors associated with intention to smoke and smoking initiation among the Bruneian adolescents, targeting 13 - 16 year old males. This project is also in response to Ministry of Health Vision 2035 to reduce the smoking prevalence by 30% by 2018.

She has developed a conceptual hypothesized model of smoking intention and initiation based on two preliminary studies: (1) A systematic review on factors influencing smoking intention and initiation among Asian adolescents and (2) Focus group discussion on 43 secondary school students aged 13 - 16 years. Next, she will conduct a 1-year prospective cohort study using structural equation modelling (SEM), whereby data will be collected in the form of a survey and saliva samples. The hypothesized model will be tested to

interpret the significance of some components in the developed model system and their internal relationship in explaining the smoking intention and initiation among Bruneian adolescents.

The outcome of this study will contribute significantly to improving smoking cessation activities at an individual as well as at the population level. For instance, findings can help relevant authorities to create tailored and targeted interventions for vulnerable populations who are at increased risk but underrepresented in existing smoking cessation interventions. Subsequently, this will also help to alleviate the Government’s financial burden caused by smoking-related illness and diseases.

Her publications list:

Tajidah Talip, Zaidah Murang, Nurolaini Kifli, Lin Naing (2016). A systematic Review of Factors Influencing Smoking Initiation among ASIAN Adolescents, 2005-2015: Utilizing the Frameworks of Triadic Influence and Planned Behavior. Asian Pac J Cancer Prev, 17(7), 3341-3355.

Tajidah Talip, Nurolaini Kifli, Zaidah Murang, Lin Naing (2016). Smoking initiation and continuation: A qualitative study among Bruneian male adolescents.

IHS Lecturers attended Telemedicine Forum in Tokyo, Japan

IHS lecturers, Dr Nik Ani Afiqah binti Hj Mohamad Tuah and Dr Hj Fazean Irdyati binti Hj Idris, participated in the ASEAN - Japan Healthcare ICT Forum in Tokyo from 19-23 February 2017. The forum aims to promote the use of Internet Communication Technology (ICT) in the ASEAN Health Care Sector. The forum program included sessions on telemedicine beyond national borders, ICT activities in healthcare, telepathology diagnosis and ICT utilization in regional healthcare system. Site visits to Tochigi, Gunma and Kagawa areas were also included.

Dr Nik and Dr Hj Fazean gave an oral presentation on the application of ICT in teaching, learning and research at UBD. They highlighted topics that included global classroom, Canvas,

Turnitin, simulation-based learning and C3L blended learning. The Brunei delegates agreed that ICT is one of the key drivers to achieve excellence in healthcare service, and that there are research and training opportunities in tele-medicine, tele-education and mHealth. They also commented that Japan is the leading country in the successful development and implementation of tele-health and tele-medicine such as the Olive Nursing Program at Ayugawa Sue Hospital, Takamatsu. Brunei can learn from Japan and other ASEAN countries in order to develop tele-health and tele-medicine to improve its healthcare delivery to the people of Brunei and for training and educational purposes.

NEW: Master of Medicine (MMed) Programme at IHS



Surgery, Paediatrics, Emergency Medicine, Critical Care Medicine CCM, Anaesthesiology, Public Health, Psychiatry). This programme will allow graduates to achieve expert skills in critical appraisal and research evaluation; evaluate evidence based medicine and enhanced skills in knowledge and competencies in their clinical discipline, perform sophisticated analysis and critical peer review of clinical consultations, integrate knowledge of educational

A significant milestone has been made with the introduction of the Master of Medicine Programme at the PAPRSB Institute of Health Sciences in UBD this year.

The new programme was established in response to the Ministry of Health wish to introduce structured, accredited and appropriately certified training programmes for medical graduates locally to develop high quality and comprehensive training from graduate to consultant, which is effective, efficient, responsive, affordable, equitable and accessible. It formalizes their training and enables greater collaboration in expertise and resources from the both the Ministry of Health and Universiti Brunei Darussalam.

This programme is an extension of (and replacement for) the MSc in Primary Health Care which has been running successfully for more than 10 years, and brings in other medical specialties (including General Internal Medicine GIM,

theory into Continuing Medical Education and health education, as well as enhance leadership and management skills as appropriate to their discipline.

This is a three-year part time Masters programme, where trainee doctors will attend classes in the Institute for taught modules in a block release mode (4 days / 5 times a year). The rest of the time they will be rotating around their clinical specialty and undergoing work based assessments as part of their vocational training scheme (as defined by appropriate professional bodies / Royal Colleges).

The first cohort of 16 doctors from specialties such as Critical Care Medicine, Emergency Medicine, General Internal Medicine, Primary Health Care, Surgery and Psychiatry joined the programme in January 2017 and are expected to complete it by end of 2019.

International Seminar and Simulation for Nurses and Midwives

Dr. Khadzah Mumin, Assistant Professor from PAPRSB Institute of Health Sciences, Universiti Brunei Darussalam, and Hajah Norzihan Haji Ibrahim, Head of Nursing of Ministry of Health, Brunei Darussalam, were recently sponsored and invited by the organizers to represent Brunei at the International Seminar and Simulation for nurses and midwives on Sunday, 12th February. The seminar was held at Fave Hotel, Cilacap, Central Java, Indonesia and was organized by Nursing Academy of Serulingmas (Akademi Perawatan - AKPER) and Institute of Health Paguwarmas (Sekolah Tinggi Kesehatan - STIKES) in Cilacap under the auspices of Paguwarmas Foundation. The seminar was officiated by the chairman of Indonesian Nursing Association, Cilacap Branch, and attended by 650 participants from Java Island made up of student nurses and midwives, nurses, midwives and other allied health care professionals. The seminar was hoped to impact awareness, knowledge and skills on the management of patients' safety, particularly the geriatric, children and maternity.



Towards 2020: IHS Strategic Workshop

On 14th January 2017, IHS organised the annual faculty retreat/workshop whereby, the Dean of the Faculty shared with faculty members on future directions of UBD for 2020, after reflecting on the achievements of the Institute in the past five years. The workshops which was facilitated by Deputy Deans and Programme Leaders, aims to identify initiatives to fulfil the faculty's key performance indicators (KPIs) and execute the faculty's strategic action plans which are aligned with UBD's strategic initiatives. The 5 key strategic areas are on:

S1 - Nurture Innovation and Translate into

Enterprise

S2 – Mobilise Research Centres and Institutes Towards Global Impact

S3 – Foster Innovative Teaching and Learning with a Global Perspective

S4 – Promote UBD as a Global Brand of Excellence

S5 – Enhance Governance to Cultivate Leadership and Enterprise in the University

All faculty members were present to contribute in the workshop and were supportive of UBD's

future direction towards achieving UBD's Vision 2020. Small group sessions were formed to identify the appropriate KPI's. As UBD approaches 2020 with the aim of becoming a university of innovation and enterprise, IHS will continue its mission to provide high value education, to conduct high impact research and to extend outstanding community service, while facilitating UBD's efforts to produce visionary leaders with leadership, innovative and enterprising qualities.

IHS Represents UBD at Higher Education Expo



Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) participated in a two-day Higher Education Expo 2017, which took place on February 11 and 12 at the BRIDEX Hall, Jerudong. The ceremony was officiated by His Royal Highness Prince Doctor Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office. The event gathers government, private and international post-secondary and higher education institutions under one roof.

Glasgow Caledonian University, RMIT University, Michigan State University, INTI College, University of Nottingham, Osaka University, Kagawa University and

Asia Pacific University of Technology and Innovation were among the major international institutions of higher education that participated.

The participating local higher education institutions were Universiti Brunei Darussalam, UBD, Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University, UNISSA, Universiti Teknologi Brunei, UTB, Seri Begawan Religious Teachers University College, KUPU SB, Politeknik Brunei and the Institute of Brunei Technical Education, IBTE. The participation of the local institutes of higher education makes it easier for interested students to interact and seek advice on opportunities and the enrolment process within a specific period.

Universiti Brunei Darussalam also introduced a new Bachelor's Degree programme offered by the university's LifeLong Learning Centre. The Bachelor of Science in Digital Business programme which provides a chance for the student to coordinate their studies in line with their individual education needs and career objective. In IHS, the new Pharmacy and Dentistry undergraduate programmes and Master of Medicine Programme were also introduced.

The expo also provides accurate and complete information on scholarships, Education Loan Schemes and the Higher Education Centralised Admission System, HECAS.

I.H.S represented at the Chinese University Medical Education Conference



Faculty of Medicine, Chinese University of Hong Kong has organised the 1st Medical Education Conference (CUMEC) with the theme “Bioethics, Professionalism and Workplace-based assessment (WBA)” from 10-11 March 2017 at the Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong. The key themes chosen were very relevant as accrediting body expected Medical schools to show some form of competencies on these important areas. The UK General Medical Council’s has set up guidelines to set out the professional values medical students should meet and gives advice on how to deal on students’ fitness to practice. The conference attracted over 250 participants from 15 countries. Dr Nurolaini Kifli was one of the participants representing the Institute for this conference. It was a very valuable experienced and networking platform for her.

Cross-sectional Study on Zika Virus Awareness

Dr Li Ling Chaw, a lecturer at IHS, and her team is currently conducting a cross-sectional survey on Zika Virus awareness. Knowledge, attitudes and practice (KAP) survey on Zika virus among the general adult population in Brunei Darussalam. The target is to enroll 450 adults and 200 pregnant women at all primary healthcare centres in Brunei-Muara district. The study aims to identify the current level of knowledge of Zika, their attitudes, and the current practices done for Zika virus prevention. Findings from this study would help Ministry of Health to plan effective strategies or campaigns against Zika. In an effort to increase public awareness, all study participants are given a leaflet on Zika virus at the end of the survey.



Medicine Students Meet Potential Partner Medical Schools



Left: Medical Students meet with Professor Juliette Hussey, Vice President of Global Affairs, Trinity College Dublin.

Right: Medical students meet with Professor Dame Anna Dominiczak, Vice Principle and Head of School of

10th Malaysia-Indonesia-Brunei Medical Sciences Conference 2017

“Current Healthcare Challenges in South East Asia”



26-28 July 2017
UKM Medical Centre
Kuala Lumpur MALAYSIA



The Pengiran Anak Puteri Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah (PAPRSB) Institute of Health Sciences

Since its inauguration in September 2000, UBD's PAP Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah Institute of Health Sciences has expanded beyond solely providing medical training. Graduate Programmes such as MSc in Primary Health Care, Master of Public Health, Masters of Medicine and Masters and PhD by Research as well as Undergraduate Programmes across five main disciplines – Medicine, Biomedical Sciences, Dentistry, Nursing & Midwifery and Pharmacy are now offered. We ensure the Institute remains relevant and sensitive to the rapidly changing needs of the country. Our programmes are products of a continuous review of our curricula, and indeed, all our undergraduate programmes have undergone major enhancements and are now also designed to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship, and for students to assume leadership roles, tempered with a keen awareness of the environment.

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You may freely distribute copies of this newsletter and information about the PAPRSB Institute of Health Sciences to any interested parties.

More details are available on the website: www.ppukm.ukm.my/mib

For potential participants from Brunei, you may contact Dr Siti Hanna Muharram as Conference secretariat via e-mail: hanna.muharram@ubd.edu.bn.

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