

https://science.utm.my/biosciences/

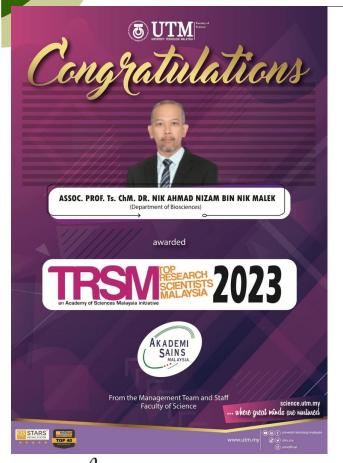


Bil 4/2023

#### OKTOBER- DISEMBER 2023

#### Jabatan Biosains, Fakulti Sains, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

#### **Staff Corner**



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# little one

Tahniah diucapkan kepada staf-staf yanag telah dikurniakan cahaya mata baru: Dr. Siti Halimah (Muhammad Rahimi bin Muhammad Naeim; 12/11/2023), Puan Evayusni (Muhammad Al Haidar bin Muhammad Helmi; 17/11/2023), Puan Norsyuhada (Muhammad Syariz Iskandar bin Azrizan; 16/12/2023) dan Dr. Wan Fatin Amira (Deen Yousuf bin Romie Erika; 26/12/2023).

#### **Biobuzz Team**

PENASIHAT: Prof. Madya Dr. Alina Wagiran
PENGERUSI: Dr. Nurzila Ab Latif
AHLI: Prof. Madya Dr. Nor Azimah Mohd Zain, Dr.
Wan Rosmiza Zana Wan Dagang, Prof. Madya Dr.
Razauden Mohamed Zulkifli, Prof. Madya Dr.
Norahim Ibrahim, Dr. Siti Halimah Hasmoni,
Hamidah Mat Arif, Norsyuhada Jaafar



OKTOBER	
YUSNIZAM SAMSUDIN	1 OKTOBER
ABDUL FATTAHA. SAMAD	3 OKTOBER
NOR AZIMAH BT MOHD ZAIN	4 OKTOBER
SALEHA BINTI SHAHAR	8 OKTOBER
NOR ANIZAH KARIM	12 OKTOBER
FAZILAH BINTI ABD MANAN	14 OKTOBER
FAEZAH BINTI MOHD SALLEH	19 OKTOBER
SYAZWANI ITRI BINTI AMRAN	31 OKTOBER
NOVEMBER	
FARAH WAHIDA ZAIMUDIN	6 NOVEMBER
HARYATI BINTI JAMALUDDIN	7 NOVEMBER
NORAHIM BIN IBRAHIM	9 NOVEMBER
NOOR HIDAYAH MD NOOH	24 NOVEMBER
DISEMBER	
NURLIYANA BINTI AHMAD ZAWAWI	20 DISEMBER
ZAIDAH BINTI RAHMAT	23 DISEMBER
ZULFAUZI ZAKARIA	8 DISEMBER

#### BIOBUZZ

#### Pertandingan Projek Pernyelidikan Inovasi Nanoteknologi (PIN) 2023

Congratulations to Kuek Jin, a final-year Biology Industry undergraduate student, who was the consolation winner of named the 'Pertandingan Projek Penyelidikan Inovasi Nanoteknologi Peringkat Kebangsaan 2023' (PIN 2023). The competition took place at Bangi Resort Hotel in Selangor from October 9 to 10, 2023. Kuek received a monetary award, a trophy, and an achievement certificate for his project, "Fabrication and Antibacterial Properties of Electrospun Polyvinyl Alcohol Membrane Incorporated with Biosynthesized Silver Nanoparticles (AgNPs)", supervised by Dr. Nurliyana Ahmad Zawawi. Well done to both student and supervisor!!



## **PINKTOBER 2023**

Breast Cancer Awareness Month or also known as Pinktober 2023 was successfully organised at SMK Taman Universiti on the 14th October 2023. The program was organised by Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Health and Wellness Research Alliances, and Cancer and Infectious Diseases (CAID) research group. The opening ceremony has been launched by Director of Biosciences Department, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alina Wagiran. The special talks were delivered by Dr. Nor Amilia Farahin Abu Bakar from Klinik Kesihatan Taman Universiti. During the event, a variety of sticker designs were available for only RM4 to show support and appreciation for the cause. In conjuction to that, another webinar with the title of "Atasi Masalah Hormon" was delivered by Dr. Siti Aishah Md Yunos from Klinik Pakar Aishah, Langkawi on the 17th of October 2023. Well done to the team lead by Dr. Praseetha!!



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#### Karnival Kimia Malaysia



Tahniah di ucapkan kepada Team Jabatan Biosains kerana terpilih menyertai Karnival Kimia Malaysia (K2M) Johor 2023 yang telah diadakan pada 14 Oktober 2023 di Blok N24, UTM Johor Bahru. Program ini adalah anjuran Institut Kimia Malaysia Cawangan Selatan dengan kerjasama Jabatan Kimia, Fakulti Sains, UTM, Jabatan Kimia Malaysia Negeri Johor dan Jabatan Pendidikan Negeri Johor (JPNJ). Team Jabatan Biosains diketuai oleh Dr. Raihana Ridzuan, yang turut dibantu oleh Prof. Madya Dr. Alina Wagiran, Dr. Nazrin Abd Aziz, Dr. Abdul Fatah A. Samad, Dr. Azman Abd Samad, Noor Hidayah Md Nooh dan Adina Frank Peter. Syabas diucapkan!!



#### Sesi Penerangan MyRoadmap



Program Myroadmap peringkat Jabatan Biosains telah berlangsung pada 19 Oktober 2023. Ia telah dirasmikan oleh Prof. Madya Dr. Alina Wagiran selaku pengarah Jabatan. Objektif program ini adalah berlainan untuk pelajar tahun 1 hingga 4. Bagi pelajar tahun 1, objektif program adalah untuk memupuk DNA UTM di kalangan pelajar. Bagi pelajar tahun 2 dan 3 pula adalah, pembelajaran pengurusan majlis dan bagi tahun 4 lebih kepada persiapan ke alam pekerjaan. Terima kasih diucapkan kepada Dr. Mohd. Aizuddin selaku pengerusi JKPP Jabatan Biosains atas taklimat yang diberikan.

#### BIOBUZZ

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#### First Year Experience & 7 Habits Program



On October 31st, 2023, the Department of Biosciences inaugurated a groundbreaking initiative: the First Year Experience & 7 Habits program. This pioneering endeavor marks a significant milestone in the academic journey of every first-year student, as participation is mandatory. The program boasts an impressive lineup of distinguished speakers: Dr. Mira Panadi, Dr. Nazrin Abd Aziz, Dr. Fazilah Abd Manan, Dr. Muhammad Helmi Nadri, and Dr. Mohd. Aizuddin Mohd Lazaldin. Their expertise and insights promise to enlighten and inspire participants on their educational voyage. Kudos to all involved in this commendable endeavor!



### Pertandingan Debat Statistik

Congratulations to undergraduate student Nadratul Huda Ahmad from the 4SSCG programme on her outstanding performance as one of the top ten debaters in the famous Debat Statistik Antara Institusi Pendidikan Tinggi. A round of appreciation is also owed to her committed PA, Dr. Syazwani Itri, whose advice and encouragement surely contributed to Nadratul Huda's accomplishment. Cheers to their combined efforts to promote academic success!





## Spritual Quotient (SQ) Forum 14th November 2023

Valuing the Spiritual Quotient (SQ) is one of the key points in the implementation of FS MyRoadmap in the Department of Biological Sciences specifically for first year students. This program is designed to enhance the spiritual aspects and mental and emotional balance of students. It is expected that this program will produce noble and balanced personalities among students in addition to high intellectual achievement.





#### **Biotechnology in the Sustainability of Science and Technology Education Innovation 15th November 2023**

The Asean Federation of Biotechnology Malaysia Chapter (AFOBMC), in collaboration of UNESCO Malaysia National Commision has conducted a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) programme emphasize on Biotechnology. This event was fully funded by UNESCO Malaysia National Commision, involved 60 students and teachers from 5 selected secondary schools in Muar, Johor. The program took place at the Universiti Tun Hussein Onn (UTHM Pagoh Campus) on 15 November 2023. During the event, group activities, such as yogurt making and DNA extraction from strawberries, were carried out. These activities are designed to stimulate and capture the interest of students in the STEM field. The program concluded with a presentation session covering the learning outcomes and reflections from participating school students. The primary objective of the program was successfully achieved, as students were exposed to a variety of intriguing knowledge and activities related to biotechnology and STEM. The facilitators had the opportunity to connect with the students and share their experiences, contributing to a fruitful exchange of insights. Our beloved Bioscience staff, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Madihah joined this team as the facilitator. Well done Dr.!



## FYUP Proposal Symposium 14th & 21st November 2023

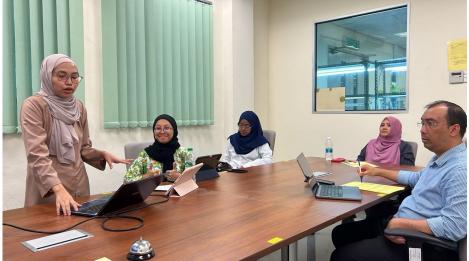
Congratulations to our fantastic final year students who successfully presented their proposals on November 14 and 21, 2023! Your dedication and hard work was reflected in your presentations. We would like to sincerely thank the reviewers for their valuable time and constructive comments. Their insightful feedback is vital to the future success of our students.

A special thank you goes to the task force behind the Proposal Symposium. Your hard work and dedication made the event a success and provided a platform for our students to showcase their projects.

To our final year students, keep up the good work and know that we are proud of your accomplishments. We wish you continued success in your final year!







#### Bio Outdoor Survivor (BOS) 17th and 18th November 2023

50 students from the Biosciences department of the Faculty of Science participated in Bio Outdoor Survival (BOS) between 17th and 18th November 2023. A team of Symbiosis members (Biosciences Students Club), as well as academics and non-academics from the department, organized the event at UTM's Recreational Forest (Hutan Rekreasi). The program's advisor, Dr. Farizal Kamaroddin, spearheaded the program in accordance with the Faculty of Science's Roadmap planning (MyRoadmap@FS). The program's primary goal was to help students build their soft skills, such as leadership and teamwork, as well as their survival skills.

This program practiced survival learning and living for new and senior students in the current bioscience department at UTM. Through this program, new students were taught learning skills through 7 habits so that they could develop self- confidence, perseverance and fighting power to follow learning at UTM through skills and certain learning strategies in the Faculty of Science. In addition, this program also aimed at training communication skills, leadership skills, innovative and inspirational thinking skills, and a cooperative attitude among life science students, despite the differences in age, years, and programs. In addition, this program simultaneously strengthened the relationship between new and old students by helping new students to get advice from senior students to adapt to UTM and overcome the challenges related to academics and life on campus.



## **Discussion session with UNAIR researcher 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

On December 4, 2023, researchers from the University of Airlangga (UNAIR) engaged in fruitful discussions with researchers from the Department of Biosciences to explore potential collaborations. The meeting aimed to leverage expertise from both institutions to address pressing challenges in biosciences. Both parties expressed enthusiasm for the collaboration, which holds promise for advancing scientific knowledge and fostering innovation in the field. Special thanks to Dr. Nazrin Abd Aziz for arranging the meeting, and gratitude to the Biosciences academic staff who participated.



#### **Bio-reunion Forum And Hi-tea 2023**

Majlis Alumni Hi-Tea Bio-Union 2023 telah dijalankan di Dewan Seminar Al-Dinawari Blok T02 bertujuan untuk mengumpul-alumni daripada program Biosains sejak tahun 2001 hingga 2022. Tujuan utama program ini dijalankan adalah untuk memperoleh pandangan dan cadangan daripada alumni Biosains berkaitan keperluan semasa dalam meningkatkan mutu kurikulum dan program akademik serta aktiviti pelajar bagi meningkatkan kualiti graduan Biosains sebelum memasuki pasaran pekerjaan. Alumni Biosains merupakan pemegang taruh (stakeholders) atau duta bagi program akademik di Biosains. Alumni Biosains juga boleh berfungsi untuk promosi program akademik Biosains secara global. Majlis hi- tea ini diharap akan menjadi platform bagi kerjasama dua hala antara Jabatan Biosains dengan Alumni dalam menggerakkan pelbagai aktiviti yang secara langsung memberi faedah kepada para pelajar di Jabatan Biosains dan pembangunan kerjaya Alumni Biosains UTM. Tahniah kepada Jawatankuasa program yang diketuai oleh Dr. Haryati.



#### **3 Minutes Presentation (3MP) 12 Disember 2023**

Program Three minutes Proposal (3MP) merupakan program yang melibatkan pelajar Tahun 4 yang sedang menjalankan PSM1. Tujuan program ini adalah untuk memberi galakan kepada pelajar memahirkan diri dalam teknik pitching yang dapat meningkatkan keyakinan pelajar dalam kemahiran berkomunikasi. Ia juga diharapkan dapat mengembang dan memupuk kemahiran pelajar bagi melengkapkan diri di alam pekerjaan kelak. Pelajar akan melaksanakan pitching cadangan penyelidikan (research proposal) Projek Sarjana Muda 1 masing-masing. Antara perkara yang perlu dimasukkan sebagai bahan pitching 3MP ini adalah tajuk cadangan penyelidikan, kajian literasi, latar belakang masalah projek, objektif, skop projek, metodologi dan kesimpulan. Pelajar menggunakan kreativiti masing-masing bagi menghasilkan video yang menarik. Tahniah diucapkan kepada pemenang tempat pertama iaitu saudari Ho Wan Ying di bawah seliaan Dr. Fazilah. Tahniah juga kepada peserta-peserta lain atas kejayaan masing-masing.



#### SUKFAS 2023 15 & 16 Disember 2023

The SUKFAS 2023 program, organized annually by the Faculty of Science, adopts the theme "Sports for Unity" this year. Various games were conducted during the event, engaging both students and staff. The program is crafted to promote integration, fostering a sense of unity and togetherness among participants, irrespective of their racial or ethnic backgrounds. Through effective communication and leadership, the program endeavors to cultivate essential generic skills among both organizers and participants. Additionally, this year, the program is managed under the Department of Biosciences, with the program director being Adam Ismail bin Abdul Aziz from 3/SSCBH, and the advisor is Dr. Mohd Helmi bin Sani. Congratulations to the organizing team for their efforts in coordinating this event!



#### BIOBUZZ

#### Undergraduate Research Program (UGRP) 5th & 19th December 2023

The Biosciences Student Development Committee (JKPP Biosains) organized an undergraduate research program on December 5th and 19th, 2023. The event is in alignment with the Faculty of Science Roadmap planning (MyRoadmap@FS) directed by Dr. Raihana Ridzuan. The primary objective of the program was to provide students with the opportunity to engage in research at an early stage. During the session. lecturers delivered 5minute pitches on the research prospects they offered, aiming to attract potential students to participate in the Undergraduate Research Program (UGRP) under their supervision. The lecturers invited are based on voting by students, thereby establishing a platform for their students to broaden their academic experience intellectually and professionally. Special thanks to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alina for launching the session and gratitude to Dr. Aizuddin for the opening speech.



# The Industrial Talk program within the course SSCG 2713 21/12/2023



Genetic Engineering (+Lab) for the 2023/2024 -1 session aims to expose students to realworld applications in related industries. Themed "Applications of Genetic Engineering in Medical and Pharmaceutical Industries," the session covers topics such as recombinant DNA technology and relevant career pathways. Dr. Mohd. Anuar bin Jonet, Acting Director of Research at the Malaysia Genome and Vaccine Institute (MGVI) and a Bioscience alum of UTM, was invited as the speaker. Students have the opportunity to ask questions for feedback and understanding during and after the webinar.

#### Majlis Penghargaan, Suai Kenal dan Sambutan Hari Lahir Staf Jabatan Biosains

Badan Kebajikan Biosains (BAKEB) telah menganjurkan Majlis Penghargaan, suai kenal dan sambutan Hari Lahir sataf Jabatan Biosains bagi meraikan staf yang akan berpindah serta staf baru di Jabatan. Terima kasih dan selamat maju jaya diucapkan kepada En. Bakri serta selamat datang diucapkan kepada En Nor hafiz dan En Mohd Hafzan.

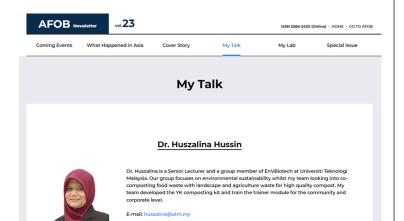




## Featuring in AFOB Newsletter

"Check out Dr. Huszalina, our superstar of compost, shining bright in the latest AFOB newsletter, Vol. 23! We're bursting with pride for you! Your compost skills not only help our environment but also put our department in the spotlight. You're like the superhero of sustainability, turning trash into treasure. Keep up the awesome work, Compost Queen! We're rooting for you!"

Read more at: <u>https://www.afob.org/</u> newsletter/vol23/my\_talk.php#tab1



tellol My name is Huzzilina Huzzilina nad pocole used to call me Huzzi. I graduated from Universit Teknologi Malayais with a PrD in Biocences. Current mplayed for Mix Mode MSG (Biotechnology) as a program coordinator. I have been appointed as an academic and consultant for the Islandar Puetr of ucultal spart of the Green Technology Application for the Development of Low Cathon Cites (GTALCC) program. This program was created in partnershi with the Grebal Environmental Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Development Porgamme (UNDP) to promote environment autainability an ommunity grader Initiatives. My research focuses on compose territorismes and environment autainability an ommunity grader Initiatives. My research focuses on compose territorismes and environment autainability an

The recent project, is developing the VR Composting kit, a mini-DP set that available in three distinctive packages. Composite, intermediate and Economy, tablende for divence composite production on each from plant based food wate. The kit includes sketed baset baset available and stript, centing a sustainable and efficient compositing ecosystem. By embacing the VR K Compositing terbinguity, users gain valuable indights in the efficient compositing unduction and are insigned to innovate which their low wates transgement practices, especially when it corrects food wates. We also help in developing the long term compositing and urban agricultual training program innovin as listandar Puteri Agriculturals for divention.

## **Meet Our Alumni**

## Alya Sorfina Binti Ramli

Course (BSc)	: Biology (2017-2021)
Position	: Former; Medical Lab Technologist
	Current; MMedSc (Medical Microbiology) candidate
Job scope	: Medical Laboratory Testing (Molecular, Immu-
	noassay, Microbiology, Urine Analysis, Hematol- ogy)
	Research project: Susceptibility test on car- bapenem- resistant <i>Enterobacterales</i>
Institution	: MediLabz (Johor Bahru)
	International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM,
	Kuantan)

## AT ONE'S OWN PACE

#### NUR FARHANI BINTI MOHAMAD

Course (BSc) : Biology (2016-2020)

Position : Lab Technician

Job scope	: Preparing reagents for intro diagnostic kit of infectious diseases such as nCoV,
	Mers, HIV-1, HBV and Dengue in compliance to GLP and GMP standard.
	Performing qPCR run and analysis to ensure all kit components met the ac-
	ceptance criteria for quality control.
	Preparing ISO related documents and lab protocols
Institution	: ADT Biotech



DO THE DIFFICULT THINGS WHILE THEY ARE EASY AND DO THE GREAT THINGS WHILE THEY ARE SMALL. A JOURNEY OF A THOUSAND MILES MUST BEGIN WITH A SINGLE STEP.

**OUTM** 

Bil 4/2023

## CONGRATULATIONS







