



This Issue's Must-reads:

**JCSMHS 10th
Anniversary Dinner**

AMC Visit 2017

Staff Workshop 2018

It is with great pleasure that I introduce the first JCSMHS newsletter. The newsletter provides a summary of our activities over the last year with some plans for the coming year. We are planning three issues a year.

Last year has been a successful year for the School.

We graduated 121 medical students last year and had one of the largest number of graduates getting internship positions in Australia. We recruited 11 graduates to start their Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours), BMedSc (Hons). One of our BMedSc (Hons) student, Dr Victoria Tan, came out as a top student among the more than 80 students across Malaysia and Australia.

The Psychology program has been going from strength to strength with strong growth in student numbers. The Masters of

Professional Counselling and Bachelor of Psychology are growing very well and the Department is in an enviable position of catching up with the recruitment of staff and improving teaching facilities.

The most important event last year was the AMC reaccreditation exercise. The outcome was better than we had hoped. We have been accredited up to 2022 for the MBBS (Hons) program and 2024 for the BMedSc/MD program. Congratulations to all involved.

Financially, we broke even last year. This was achieved through a combination of improving efficiencies, recruiting younger staff when more senior staff retired or left, getting more adjunct lecturers on board and reducing subsidies by the School.

And now, the challenges. The healthcare education environment continues to be a challenge although student numbers for 2018 are holding. We continue to be nearly completely dependent on the medical program. Our research output in terms of grants, HDR students and publications had dropped and need to be improved.

This year we will be focusing on looking for solutions to these three issues. I am confident that we will get there. I encourage and hope all staff will engage on these issues.

Prof Shajahan Yasin, Head of JCSMHS



Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah and Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam launching JCSMHS 10th commemorative book

JCSMHS 10th Anniversary Dinner

2017 marks JCSMHS's 10 years of achievements.

In conjunction with Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences' (JCSMHS) 10th Anniversary, JCSMHS hosted a commemorative dinner in Sunway City on 6th October 2017, followed by a dinner at Johor Bahru the next day.

To mark its 10th year, JCSMHS launched two books – a commemorative book, celebrating its milestones, as well as 'On Becoming a Doctor', which contains a collection of stories and musings of alumni, who are now doctors and specialists.

Since its concurrent establishment in Johor and Selangor in 2007, JCSMHS is the first medical school outside of Australia and New Zealand to be accredited by the Australian Medical Council. The school is also accredited by a number of medical councils such as

the Malaysian Medical Council, the Sri Lanka Medical Council and the Medical Council of Thailand.

A research-intensive private medical school, JCSMHS is involved in major research in the areas of public health, brain research, dengue virus infection, diabetes, obesity as well as cancer.

Publications by academicians have increased over the years, with over 800 publications in high impact journals such as Nature, Lancet and JAMA.

"Just as we envisioned, we are now one of the premier private medical schools in the country. We have recruited excellent staff, enrolled highly talented students, and are progressively increasing our research output. In fact, our intense focus on research is one of our widely acknowledged attributes," Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Jeffrey Cheah AO, Founder and Chairman of Sunway Group, stated.



(from left to right) Prof Shah, Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah, Dr HJH and Prof Andrew Walker launching 'On Becoming A Doctor' book at Johor Bahru

Head of School for JCSMHS, Professor Dr Shajahan Yasin, has seen the school producing numerous graduates of high calibre, especially notable in 2012 and 2013 where JCSMHS students took top honours, ahead of their counterparts in Monash University Australia.

“This is testament to our focus on delivering quality education and promoting an environment for sustainable development. We are proud of the fact that we are producing high-quality doctors who are as good as any in Australia or from around the world,” he said.

JCSMHS is one of the first medical schools to include postings in private hospitals in Malaysia such as Sunway Medical Centre (SMC), Tropicana Medical Centre, Darul Ehsan Medical Centre, as well in rural hospitals and a large public hospital for students’ pre-internship.

Additionally, all students spend a compulsory 12-week clinical posting in Australia, gaining international exposure and experience.

“Nearly 200 of our 600 graduates over the last ten years have obtained internship positions in Australia; this means they can begin their careers within two weeks of graduation. The year-long internship in Australia also allows students an earlier start to their specialist training,” Prof Shah added.

“A number of students who have completed their specialist training in Australia are now returning home. This will help address the increasing need for specialists in Malaysia.”

Moving to the future, JCSMHS is focusing on potential opportunities for collaboration with local medical schools as well as foreign universities in Australia, Indonesia, Thailand, Europe and

the United States.

“JCSMHS is also collaborating closely with top medical schools in the world such as those at Harvard and Cambridge universities. Both of these world-renowned institutions are keen to establish a presence here, especially in research and postgraduate training, in Sunway City, recognising that the infrastructure and the ecosystem are already in place to make this integrated township a vibrant and sustainable centre of excellence for research and education,” Tan Sri stated.



AMC Accreditation Team at JCSMHS

AMC Visit 2017

An 8-member team from the Australian Medical Council (AMC) visited Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences (JCSMHS) in Sunway City, Segamat and Johor Bahru from the 30th July to the 2nd August 2017, to assess its medical curriculum and clinical teaching sites.

The visit is part of the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Science's endeavour to seek reaccreditation of its medical program. The AMC has accredited the Malaysian Medical Course at Sunway along with the Clayton course until the end of 2017.

UPDATE: AMC has granted accreditation for the Bachelor of Medical Science/Doctor of Medicine (BMedSci/MD) medical program of the Faculty of Nursing, Medicine and Health Sciences to **31 March 2024**.

The BMedSci/MD will replace the MBBS (Hons) program as of 2019 entry. This change is in line with upgrading the MBBS (Hons) from a Bachelor Honours Degree (Level 8) to a Master's Degree (Level 9) according to the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF). Most Australian universities have already transitioned to this qualification.



Staff Workshop 2018



Jeffrey Cheah School Medicine of Health Sciences (JCSMHS) organised an all-day, staff workshop on 6th January 2018 at the SWAN Convention Centre, Sunway City followed by one on 13th January 2018 at the Thistle Hotel, Johor Bahru.

These workshops were an opportunity for academic and professional staff to contribute to strategic plans that will drive JCSMHS forward.

The workshop sought to gain academic staff's input on these main concerns: 1) to generate additional sources of income in addition to MBBS fees, 2) to improve research output, 3) to implement new educational innovations and programs, and 4) additional training to improve staff morale, staff productivity and develop paths for career progression.

For professional staff, current challenges and strategies to overcome the issues and future improvement of the respective units were discussed.

Some of the key strategies highlighted by the academic staff including, but not limited to, organising short courses and workshops for income generation, trainings for staff on learning spaces and teaching tools (for e.g. Moodle), peer reviews for students' feedback, seminars and trainings on how to publish in high impact journals, and industry collaboration for research grants.

Professional staff presented their strategies which covered the areas of Course Management, School Management Office, Technical Team and School Research Office in Sunway, while in CSJB presentations were in the areas of Course Management Office, Student Experience, Student Services, Facilities, ITS, Security, Library, Technical Team and School Management Office.

The workshop has received constructive feedback from the staff. The senior management will review the proposals and conduct a meeting for further discussion.



BRIMS Autism Symposium 2017

On 14 October 2017, the Brain Research Institute Monash Sunway (BRIMS) organised the International Symposium on Autism 2017.

The event gathered experts in autism from Australia, Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Singapore and Malaysia to give insights into some of the advanced therapeutic, clinical and basic knowledge about autism.

In his opening remarks, Dr Takayoshi Ubuka, Senior Research Fellow at BRIMS, said the number of children with autism had increased dramatically over the past 30 years, partly due to changes in diagnostic practice, adding that “the possibility of environmental risk factors cannot be ruled out”.

Prof Andrew Walker, President and Pro Vice-Chancellor, Monash University Malaysia also welcomed the participants, stated that “we have some great brains working on brains” when speaking about BRIMS, the university’s main institute for neuroscience research.

He opined that Malaysia and Southeast Asia is a good place to study autism due to its rapid social, economic and industrial changes.

“I think that a rapidly changing environment provides a good basis for investigating the relationship between environmental and genetic factors that lie behind autism. Southeast Asia is also a very good place to investigate how to best support people with autism,” the anthropologist said.

Jochebed Isaacs, Director and Senior Supervisor, Early Autism Project Malaysia (EAP) started the symposium with her talk titled “Diagnosis and Therapy for Autism”.

Isaacs explained that EAP, a service provider for individuals with autism, are pioneers of Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) treatment in Malaysia.



She added that ABA has been effective in treating children with autism, with research showing children increase an average of 25 IQ points within a year while over 70% of children in the research learn to speak in phrases.

She also stated that they have seen self-injurious and aggressive behaviours in autistic children reduce drastically.

Despite achieving success, Isaacs highlighted that the ABA treatment is resource-heavy and costly.

“Effective ABA therapy costs thousands (of ringgit) per child, per month in Malaysia which majority of people are not able to afford,” Isaacs explained. In light of that, EAP launched The Hope Project, a non-profit initiative to make world-class services for autism accessible to all.

During the clinical research session, Prof Valsamma Eapen spoke on the “Diagnosis and early intervention in autism: Lessons from co-morbidities” which included tracing the pathogenesis of neurodevelopmental disorders from genotypes through endophenotypes to clinical phenotypes using the example of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Shifting gears was Prof Masaru Mimura, Keio University School of Medicine, Japan, who studies geriatric psychiatry. His presentation, titled “Autism and organic brain damages: Symptom similarities and differences”, discussing the characteristic patients with late-life ASD who were initially misdiagnosed as having behavioural variant frontotemporal dementia.

Contemporary Issues in Quality Assessment Workshop

The Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences (JCSMHS), in collaboration with the Monash Institute for Health and Clinical Education (MIHCE), organised an assessment workshop - Contemporary Issues in Quality Assessment - from 30th September to 1st October 2017 at Clinical School Johor Bahru (CSJB).

The facilitators consisted of Professor Margaret Hay, (Director, MIHCE), Dr Victor Lee (Co-Director of Emergency Medicine Training, Australia) and Professor N Parasakthi (Head of Assessment, JCSMHS).

The objective of the workshop was to enable course participants to gain an understanding of the value of a systems approach to assessment, the various frameworks of assessment currently applied, the theory and practice of workplace-based assessment, the importance



of standardisation of assessment tools and practice, and challenges to achieving this standardisation when assessment is work-place based.

A total of 32 clinical educators and health professionals from local and private universities as well as Monash University Malaysia (MUM) participated. The workshop was very well-received among its participants.

Delegates from Southeast University



On 15 and 16 January 2018, delegates from Southeast University (SEU), Suzhou, one of China's key national universities, visited Monash University Malaysia to explore the campus and opportunities for research collaboration.

JCSMHS' research team met the delegates to discuss about research opportunities.

Monash is the first Australian university to receive a licence to operate in China, offering postgraduate degrees at the masters and PhD levels.

The SEU-Monash partnership consists of the Joint Graduate School and Joint Research Institute.

The Suzhou Industrial Park (SIP) is one of the largest innovation precincts in China and recognised as one of the world's most dynamic places for turning cutting edge research into valuable industrial processes and products. It is a hub of 21st century brainpower for more than 100 Fortune 500 companies and 15 international universities and research institutes. Suzhou is half an hour by high speed train from Shanghai.



U.S. Embassy officials visit JCSMHS

Diplomats from the United States Embassy in Kuala Lumpur travelled to Johor to meet with U.S. companies, discuss the state's economy and engage with local education leaders and students during the inaugural visit of Deputy Chief of Mission Dean Thompson on 30th November 2017.

Mr. Thompson visited the Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences (JCSMHS) at the Clinical School Johor Bahru (CSJB) to learn about the areas of research and collaboration with U.S. universities.

A highlight was the dengue fever research project, a joint collaboration between JCSMHS together with the Ministry of Health Malaysia and the U.S. Naval Medical Research Centre, based in Singapore.

The project which has commenced in January 2018, looks into the comparison of rapid diagnostic tests performed at the clinic with the confirmatory Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) analysis at the CSJB laboratory.

BMedSc (Hons) graduates win awards at international conferences

Two Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences (JCSMHS) Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours) graduates have won awards at two different international conferences last year.

Dr Ooi Hean Sun (right pic) has won the Young Investigator best poster award at the Pan-Asian Committee for Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis (PACTRIMS) that was held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam from 23 to 25 November 2017.

Dr Ooi presented a poster on his team's research – Gut Microflora: Association Between Appendectomy and Multiple Sclerosis and Neuromyelitis Optica. His poster was selected out of 138 posters for the award.



(L-R) Dr Sivakumar (Monash Malaysia), DCM Dean Thompson (US Embassy), Assoc Prof Nor Azim (Monash Malaysia), Sona Ramesh (Economic Officer, US Embassy)

It also aims to identify the causes of dengue-like illnesses such as chikungunya, zika, leptospirosis, Japanese encephalitis and influenza.

"I've been eager to visit Johor since arriving a few months ago," Thompson said. "The state's booming economic growth – beginning with the Iskandar Development Region – provides a great opportunity to promote trade. And as an education hub, Johor has shown tremendous innovation with their schools at all levels of learning."



Dr Hardesh Singh (left pic), on the other hand, was awarded the third prize in the Professor Mustaffa Young Investigators' Award category at the Diabetes Asia Conference 2017 held recently in Kuala Lumpur.

His research on the "Impact of Diabetes Complications and Severity, Medication Adherence, and Psychosocial Well-being on the Quality of Life of People with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus" competed against several projects conducted across Asia.

With a strong interest in endocrinology, Dr Hardesh took up the project under the supervision of Dr Amutha Ramadas and Professor Rusli Nordin for the BMedSc (Hons) program. His passion and hard work led him to graduate with a first class honours.

Top in BMedSc (Honours)

On 24 January 2018, Dr Victoria Tan Phooi Kei received the 2017 Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours) prize from Professor Wayne Hodgson, Deputy Dean (Education) and Professor Michelle Leech, Deputy Dean (MBBS), Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences.

Dr Tan was recognised for her outstanding achievement of being the top student in the BMedSc (Hons), across all cohorts, both in Monash University Malaysia and Monash University Australia.

Dr Tan is interested in the field of neurology. Her project, 'Investigation of Molecular Mechanisms of Parkinson's Disease', was supervised by Prof Ishwar Parhar, Head of Neuroscience (BRIMS) and Dr Shogo Moriya.

She explained that Parkinson's disease is a neurodegenerative condition which currently has no available cure.

However, through her research, she figured that by looking at the biological mechanisms of it, different targets can be determined to develop different drugs.



(L-R) Dr Victoria Tan, Professor Shajahan Yasin and Professor Michelle Leech.

Dr Tan comes from an MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery) background, so she has been exposed to more clinical work and seeing patients.

This is her first foray into laboratory medicine and she has always wanted to do lab research to meld both lab work yet still have a clinical aspect to it.

She is currently waiting for her housemanship and looking to specialise in neurosurgery.



Prof Anuar Zaini giving a speech during the course



Prof Nafeeza Mohd Ismail, Chairman and President of MSPP, speaking at the seminar

MSPP Teacher Refresher's Course

The Malaysian Society of Pharmacology and Physiology (MSPP) Teacher' Refresher Course, jointly organised by the MSPP and Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences (JCSMHS) was successfully held on the 18th of November 2017.

Physiology and pharmacology are key disciplines in medicine and any undergraduate courses dealing with biomedical sciences.

However, teaching these disciplines effectively can be very challenging as they often involve complex and abstract concepts and principles.

This course aimed to provide an opportunity for academic staff teaching these disciplines to gain knowledge and share experience to grow as teachers.

The main program consisted of two keynote speeches by Professor Khalid Kadir and Professor Anuar Zaini and three workshops facilitated by Associate Professor UmaDevi Palanisamy, Dr Amreeta Dhanoa, Dr Lee Learn Han, Dr Goh Beh Hing, Associate Professor Arkendu Sen and Dr Priya Pusparajah.

A total of 35 participants attended. Feedback for the workshop was generally positive.

New Staff

Name : Dr Goh Pei Hwa
Designation : Lecturer
Qualifications : Honours Degree in Psychological Science and Business (Monash), PhD in Psychology (Switzerland)
Location : Department of Psychology
Tel (O) : 03-554 61368
Email : goh.peihwa@monash.edu

Dr Goh Pei Hwa completed her undergraduate studies on Scholarship at Monash Malaysia and was among the first batch of graduates of the Honours program at Monash Malaysia. She then pursued her PhD at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland under the Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship. Upon graduating from her PhD studies, Pei Hwa joined the Department of Psychology at Monash Malaysia as a lecturer in July 2017.

Name : Dr Karim Bettache
Designation : Lecturer
Qualifications : PhD, MSc in Psychology, BSc in Psychology
Location : Department of Psychology
Tel (O) : 03-551461369
Email : karim.bettache@monash.edu

Dr Karim Bettache obtained his BSc in Psychology from the University of Groningen, Netherlands. He went on to obtain his MSc in Psychology from the same university and PhD in Psychology from the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Dr Karim's previous employments include the University of Groningen, Netherlands and The Chinese University of Hong Kong. He has also served as the Managing Editor for the Asian Journal of Social Psychology.

Dr Karim's research interest lies in the areas of Cultural Psychology, Political Psychology and Social Psychology. While at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Dr Karim won the Distinguish Teaching Award 2014 for attaining the highest departmental average of student evaluations scores. He was awarded with the Hong Kong PhD Fellowship for excellent postgraduate research proposal and Hendrik Muller Research grant which is a PhD grant from the Dutch Royal Family for excellent Master's graduates.

Dr Karim is multilingual with proficiency in Dutch, English and Frisian.

Name : Dr Choon Siew Eng
Designation : Associate Professor (Practice)
Qualifications : MBBS (University of Malaya)
Location : Department of Dermatology
Tel (O) : -
Email : siew.choon@monash.edu

Dr Choon Siew Eng joined JCSMHS in 2007 as a sessional academic staff. Now, a fractional staff, Dr Choon specialises in dermatology and genitourinary medicine.

Prior to her current position in JCSMHS, Dr Choon was the Head of the Department of Dermatology and Senior Consultant Dermatologist at Hospital Sultanah Aminah in Johor Bahru. Since 2000, she is a member of National Committee for dermatological drugs and helps to assess new dermatology-related drugs for registration in Malaysia.

She is also a member in a number of prestigious professional societies and bodies such as Asian Academy of Dermatology and Venereology, Dermatological Society of Malaysia, Academy of Medicine, Malaysia, and Royal College of Physicians United Kingdom.

Name : Dr Najnin Ahmed
Designation : Lecturer
Qualifications : MBBS, M.Med
Location : Clinical School Johor Bahru
Tel (O) : 07-2190 609
Email : najnin.ahmed@monash.edu

Dr Najnin Ahmed obtained her MBBS in 2009 and Master of Emergency Medicine in 2016. She is multilingual and was professionally trained at the best and most well-funded hospital in Malaysia in a vast array of specialties. She has years of clinical and teaching experiences as an expert and Emergency physician with a focus in clinical, academic and research division.

She is a certified instructor of ACLS, BLS and PALS by American Heart Association (AHA), Provider of ATLS. She was also a guest speaker at a conference at an international conference organised by the Bangladesh Society of Emergency Medicine. She is also a trainer of Basic Emergency Ultrasound.

Her current research work are "Factors associated with non-urgent utilization of emergency department" (awaiting publication) and "Torsemide vs Frusemide in Acute Pulmonary Oedema".

Her ongoing research works include "Utility of assessing shock index in patients presenting with sepsis in ED for early prediction of hyperlactatemia and 28 days' mortality" and "Factors associated with patients' decision on DAMA (discharge on medical advice) in a corporate hospital of Bangladesh".

New Staff

Name : Dr Raja Zarina Binti Raja Ismail

Designation : Senior Lecturer

Qualifications : BSc (Med Sc), MBChB, MRCS (England), DFFP, MRCGP (England)

Location : Clinical School Johor Bahru

Tel (O) : 607- 2190 600 (ext 617)

Email : Raja.Zarina@monash.edu

Dr Raja Zarina completed her BSc (Med Sc) at University of St Andrew's, Scotland in 1994 and MBChB (with Distinction in Pathology) at the University of Manchester in 1997. She completed her Diploma of the Faculty of Family Planning (DFFP) at the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in 2004. She is also a member of the Royal College Surgeon (England).

Her previous employments include Residence Physician at the National Healthcare Group Polyclinic in Singapore and Senior Clinical Lecturer at the Newcastle University.

Dr Raja Zarina's general practice experiences include clinical, teaching and management commitments. She also completed two years basic surgical training with more than 4 years of experience in Urology. She also has considerable experiences in the management of surgical presentations and various musculoskeletal injuries. She also has working experience in the areas of oncology and obstetrics and gynaecology.

Dr Raja Zarina's poster presentations include "Loco-regional recurrence after nephrectomy for renal cell carcinoma – is further surgery worthwhile?" presented to the British Association of Urological Surgeon (BAUS) and "Maternal obesity and pregnancy outcome– a prospective study to look at complication risks related to maternal obesity." She also has audit experiences during her previous employments.

Name : Dr Adriana Ortega

Designation : Lecturer

Qualifications : PhD, Applied Psychology (Nottingham), MSc, Occupational Health Psychology (Nottingham), BA, Behavioral Science (USA)

Location : Department of Psychology

Tel (O) : +603 – 55145874

Email : adriana.ortega@monash.edu

Dr Adriana Ortega is an Occupational and Organizational Psychologist with experience in Teaching, Training, and Research in Southeast Asia, Europe, the UK and South America. She is a highly motivated and enthusiastic individual with a passion for empowering and enabling people to become the best version of themselves. She advocates for conservation, recycling & upcycling, sustainability and ethical consumer behaviour. Her work as researcher, lecturer, and trainer as well as her volunteering activities have provided her the opportunity to share knowledge and develop links with communities, Universities, and industries, in different countries; and in areas related to Applied Psychology, Cross-Cultural Communication, Leadership and Empowerment, Well-Being, Social Health, Community Sustainable Development, Human Resource Management, Organizational Behaviour and Occupational Health.

Name : Dr Muhamad Noor Alfarizal bin Kamarudin

Designation : Research Fellow

Qualifications : BSc (Biochemistry, UM), PhD (Biochemistry, UM), Assoc. Diploma (IMEB, Australia)

Location : BRIMS

Tel (O) : +603 5515 9664

Email : MuhamadNoor.Alfarizalemonash.edu

Dr Muhamad Noor Alfarizal Kamarudin has recently joined BRIMS as Research Fellow. He completed his Bachelor Degree (Biochemistry, Hons) from University of Malaya (UM) and pursued his Masters studies of which he successfully converted into a doctorate program (UM, 2012) with specialization in molecular biology, neuroimmunology, neuroprotection, cancer biology and natural products. He developed an immense interest and in-depth knowledge on the modulation of neuroinflammation, particularly innate immunity in neurons and glia cells in neuroprotection, neuritogenesis and anti-inflammatory.

His technical expertise lies in molecular signaling in neuroinflammation with special attention to cytokines and chemokines where he identified a potential novel role of CCL21/exodus in neuronal differentiation and key regulator of microglia activation. Being a new addition to BRIMS, he is currently aiming to unravel the complex and intriguing role of inflammation in GBM and several other neurodegenerative diseases. Upon completing his Ph.D (2016), he obtained a postdoctoral researcher position under a three way collaboration between UM, Taibah University of Medina and Lincoln College University on Glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) project. He is also an active reviewer for several journals such as Journal of Ethnopharmacology and Journal of Functional Food.

He was awarded with Best Thesis Award & Amersham Biosciences Prize by Malaysia Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (MSBMB), 1st Prize Oral Presenter at InPRAS Conference UM 2014 and 1ST Prize Poster Presenter at World Congress on Healthy Ageing 2012. He has been involved and hold the key role in obtaining various research grant such as High Impact Research (HIR) UM, Fundamental Research Grant Scheme (MoHE – Best FRGS Project Award 2014) and University Malaya Research Grant (UMRG).

New Staff

Name : Dr Ting Sing Kiat (Rachel)

Designation : Senior Lecturer (Psychology)

Qualifications : Ph.D. Clinical Psychology, Fuller Graduate School of Psychology (APA accredited), USA

Location : Department of Psychology

Tel (O) : 03-55145862

Email : Ting.SingKiat@monash.edu

Dr. Ting holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan, a Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology from Wheaton College (APA accredited), Illinois, USA, a Master of Arts in Theology from Fuller Theological Seminary USA, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology from Fuller Graduate School of Psychology (APA accredited). She completed her graduate internship at University of California, San Diego, which is accredited by American Psychology Association.

Along with her current position in JCSMHS, she is a consultant psychologist at Inpsych Psychological and Counselling Services in Kuala Lumpur, and a licensed psychologist in California, USA. Dr Ting's previous professional employments include HELP University College and a number of universities in China and USA.

Her current research and focuses revolve around indigenous psychology research such as mental health of Chinese in Malaysia and China, HIV prevention from a culturally sensitive approach, psychology of religion among ethnic minority groups, disaster mental health from a community approach, sexual health in Malaysia, in particular on assessing functionality performance and acceptance of newly invented barrier contraceptive method.

Dr. Ting is a full member of the American Psychology Association (APA), the Asian American Psychology Association (AAPA), the Malaysian Society of Clinical Psychology, and Psychiatric Association (MPA).

Name : Daphne Goh Mei Chu

Designation : Administrative Executive (Psychology)

Qualifications : BA (Hons) Graphic Design

Location : Department of Psychology

Tel (O) : 03-55144957

Email : daphne.goh@monash.edu

Daphne Goh Mei Chu joined the Department of Psychology, Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences in September 2017 as the Administrative Executive.

After graduation, Daphne started her career with RND Chocolate Labs Sdn Bhd and later joined the education industry in May 2016. She has over 2 years working experience at KDU University College Sdn Bhd as the School Administrative for School of Engineering. She was responsible to monitor and coordinate matters related to international students. She assisted in planning, directing, coordinating the administrative and operations of the School and provide administrative support to the Head of School, Assistant Department Heads and their staff. She is also assisted in the implementation of academic policies, and procedures such as orientation briefings, student and subject registrations, payment of fees, time-tabling, venue requisitions for classes and/or other events that are organised by the School.

Name : Chitra Ponnusamy

Designation : Administrative Executive, Assessment (MBBS)

Qualifications : Bachelor of Business Administration

Location : MBBS Course Management Office

Tel (O) : 03-5514 6336

Email : chitra.ponnusamy@monash.edu

Chitra Ponnusamy, a professional with 15 years of Administration and Management experience in Education background. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Warrnborough University, UK and a Diploma in Computer studies, (NCC) from Informatics College.

Her career has mainly revolved around Education Industry, bringing extensive experience from Informatics College, Systematic College, Segi College and Monash University, School of Medicine. During her tenure with Segi College, she managed Undergraduate students for American Degree Program (ADP) from Upper Iowa University (UIU), USA.

Her job scope in Curriculum Department, School of Medicine, Monash University Malaysia, ranges in coordinating and assisting in Clinical Skills Tutorial and Practical, Clinical Site Visit, Geriatric Visit, Anatomy Practical and Lecture, Rural Visit, Transition Camp and St John First Aid Practical. With her ability to expand and take up new challenges, she was given a new responsibility in Assessment department in which she is coordinating and assisting in Written Examination, Clinical Examination (OSCE), Assignments, Project Presentations and Simulated Patients (SP). Participated in Open Days and handled parents/students course counseling.

We would like to bid farewell to the following staff:

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR TAN SIONG LUI

DR LIM TAK YEIN

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR PHUA KAI LIT

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR NERMINATHAN VEERASINGAM

NADZATUL HUDA BINTI NASURULHAKU

DR FADEL SHAHBEEB FADEL MADI

LAM MAY YIN

DR LU HOU TEE

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR MD SHAHROM BIN UJANG

MUHAMMAD THORIQ BIN SUPARMAN

PROFESSOR PASCALE ALLOTEY

EN GHAZALLI OTHMAN

MOHD IMRAN BIN MOHD NAING



The MBBS Young Scholars Program (YSP) is a short-term internship that offers unique experiences to a selected few of our most outstanding aspiring medical students before the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) course begins.

Successful candidates will have an opportunity to participate in research projects undertaken by the staff at JCSMHS and be paired with supervisors at Brain Research Institute (BRIMS), Clinical School in Johor Bahru (CSJB) or South East Asia Community Observatory (SEACO) in Segamat. These are the projects undertaken by the staff along with the participating YSP scholars:

STUDENT	SUPERVISOR	PROJECT UNDERTAKEN
Kee Kah Wei	Dr Amutha Ramadas	Associate between eating behavior and Stress Among Overweight and Obese Young Adults
Lim Wai Kit/ Jeevan K Karuppannan	A/Prof Sivalal	Knowledge, Attitude and Practice regarding Dengue Prevention among University Students
Ruo Wen, Yennie, Rooba	BRIMS- Prof Ishwar, Dr Tomoko, Dr Satoshi, Dr Shogo & Dr Takayoshi	Molecular Mechanisms involved in Neurodegenerative and Neuropsychiatric Diseases-genomics and bio imaging
Goh Huay Ziah	Dr Suneet	Setting ethics on a Scientific Platform: creating a hierarchy for the elements of ethics
Yugendran Jegathesan Wong Wei Xiang	Prof Khalid Kadir	Determining if Quality of Life of Diabetics will Improve if their Glucose Control has Improved Compared to those that did not
Muhammad Faiz John Arief	Dr Farooq & Dr Yatinesh	Evaluating the Effect of Anti-Epileptic Drugs on Cognitive Functions in a Zebrafish Model
Lim Wai Kit/ Jeevan K Karuppannan	A/Prof Amudha Kadirvelu	Shortage or Surplus of doctors
Monisha Devi Kunasegaran	Dr Narendra	Animal Models of Type 2 Diabetes : Review of Literature
Sethu, Ooi Sheng En, Shahrul, Yap Hock Shyong	BRIMS- Prof Ishwar, Dr Tomoko, Dr Satoshi, Dr Shogo & Dr Takayoshi	Molecular Mechanisms involved in Neurodegenerative and Neuropsychiatric Diseases-neurochemistry and drug discovery
Tang Jing Ling	Dr Jayanthi & Dr Nisha	Perceived Barriers to Exercise in Patients with GDM
Yap Jia Ling	Dr Farooq & Dr Yatinesh	Evaluating the Effect of Anti-Epileptic Drugs on Cognitive Functions in a Zebrafish Model
Durga Gunasegaran	A/Prof Amudha, A/Prof Sivalal	Barriers to childhood immunization and the way forward

COMPLETED HDR STUDENTS

STUDENT	THESIS TITLE	MAIN SUPERVISOR	OTHER SUPERVISOR	COMPLETION DATE
Priveena Nair	Role of Tachykinin-1 peptides in the regulation of habenular kisspeptin neurons in the zebrafish	Ishwar Parhar	Satoshi Ogawa	10-Jan-2017
Tan Min Min	Religion and healthy eating among Seventh-Day Adventists in West Malaysia	Daniel Reidpath	Carina Chan Ka Yee	10-Jan-2017
Osei Bonsu Kwadwo	Role of statins in management and outcomes of heart failure	Amudha Kadirvelu	Daniel Reidpath	24-Jan-2017
Amelia Nathania Dong Hui Min	Pharmacogenetic study of Cytochrome P450 2D6 and 2C19 (CYP2D6 and CYP2C19): determining the functional roles of the recombinant variants using in vitro kinetic assays and in silico modelling	Ong Chin Eng	Pan Yan, Uma Palanisamy	21-Feb-2017
Jasmine Elanie Khairat	Interactions of SEPT5 with host neuronal and H5N1 proteins during infection	Sharifah Syed Hassan	Iekhsan Othman	28-Mar-2017
Md Aris Safree Md Yasin	Probing life scripts for important life events in a multi-ethnic society	Shamsul Haque	Miriam Sang Ah-Park	26-Apr-2017
Usha a/p Sundralingam	Ratite oil for Transdermal Breast Cancer Treatment	Uma Palanisamy	Saravanan Muniyandy, Ammu Kutty Radhakrishnan	20-Jun-2017
Sumita a/p Elendran	Physicochemical Properties, Permeability and Bioavailability of Geraniin and Geraniin-Phospholipid Complex	Uma Palanisamy	Saravanan Muniyandy, Richard J Pranker	27-Jun-2017
Carol Yip	Provision of long-term care and payment options for elderly people living in Kuala Lumpur and Selangor, Malaysia	Phua Kai Lit	Nicole Lai Mun Sim	23-May-2017
Siti Aisyah Abdul Ahmad	Inhibitory potential of geraniin and its metabolites extracted from the rind of rambutan (Nephelium lappaceum) against dengue virus type-2	Sharifah Syed Hassan	Uma Devi Palanisamy	30-May-2017
Nor'Azim bin Mohd Yunos	The Biochemical and Clinical Outcome Effects of Restricting Chloride-Rich Fluids in Critically Ill Patients	Anuar Zaini	Rinaldo Bellomo, Michael John Bailey	25-Jul-2017
Hardip Kaur Pretam Singh Dhillon	A study of urinary incontinence amongst Malaysian women in Selangor: Prevalence, risk factors and quality of life	Rusli Nordin	Anuar Zaini, Quek Kia Fatt	23-Aug-2017
Kamini Citalingam Mudliar	Anticancer activity and Molecular mechanisms of a selected diarylpentanoid treated on androgen-independent metastatic human prostate cancer cells	Rakesh Naidu	Iekhsan Othman, Faridah Abas	23-Aug-2017
Edith Koryo Wellington	Challenges of Implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) - a case study of Ghana	Pascale Allotey	Daniel Reidpath	22-Aug-2017
Lee Soon Li	Psychosocial Predictors of Students' Use of Social Networking Sites: The Role of Culture, Self-Constructs, Psychological Well-Being and Personality	Karen Jennifer Golden	Shamsul Haque	29-Aug-2017
Chie Qiu Ting	Drug abuse, relapse, prevention education and treatment evaluation in Malaysia: A multi-perspective study using the mixed methods approach	Tam Cai Lian	Karen Jennifer Golden, Gregory Bonn	29-Aug-2017
Saraswathy Venkataraman	Exploring the physical environment in supporting older people in long-term care and shelter accommodation in the Klang Valley in Malaysia	Jennifer Oxley	Margaret Lesley, Helen Bartlett	17-Oct-2017
Nur Izyani Kamaruzman	Targeted Delivery of Small Interfering RNA (siRNA) Against Oncogenes by using pH-Sensitive Nanoparticles to Inhibit Breast Cancer Cells Proliferation and Survival	Ezharul Hoque Chowdhury	Iekhsan Othman, ANuar Zaini	17-Oct-2017
Salmi Ab Aziz	Identification, Characterization and Function of Olfactory Marker Protein in the Zebrafish Brain	Ishwar Parhar	Shogo Moriya	31-Oct-17
Kua Kok Pim	Respiratory Syncytial Virus Infection in Children: The Roles of Complementary and Alternative Medicine and Immune Globulin Prophylaxis	Shaun Lee Wen Huey	David Wu Bin-Chia, Cheah Fook Choe	10-Jan-2017
Naveenah Udaya Surian	Interaction of GPR173 with the Dopaminergic system in the Zebrafish brain	Ishwar Parhar	Shogo Moriya, Tomoko Soga	18-Jul-2017
Chew Jin Hung	Proteomic Profiling of a Selected Diarylpentanoid on Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infected Human Cervical Cancer Cells	Rakesh Naidu	Iekhsan Othman, Faridah Abas	9-Aug-2017

NEW HDR STUDENTS

STUDENT	MAIN SUPERVISOR	OTHER SUPERVISOR	ENROLLED DATE
Nur Atiqah Haizum Binti Abdullah	Iekhsan Othman	Mohmad Farooq, Yatinesh Kumari	13-Feb-17
Nurul Azwa Abd Wahab	Rakesh Naidu	Iekhsan Othman, Faridah Abas	27-Mar-17
Teh Rasyidah	Narendra Pamidi	Christina Gertrude Yap, Rakesh Naidu	31-Mar-17
Nor Isnida Ismail	Rakesh Naidu	Faridah Abas	21-Apr-17
Loheswary Arumugam	Shamsul Haque	Karen Jennifer Golden, Chong Sze Menn	08-May-17
Fathin Athirah Yusof	Iekhsan Othman	Rakesh Naidu, Ismail Ahmad Khaldun, Muhamad Rusdi	15-May-17
Chua Yumin	Amudha Kadirvelu	Miriam Sang Ah-Park, Mohamed Shajahan Yasin	03-Jul-17
Mohanambal Moorthy	Uma Palanisamy	Wee Wei Yee, Khalid Kadir	03-Jul-17
Khadeeja Munawar	Shamsul Haque	Alexandre Schaefer	10-Aug-17
Md Azharul Islam	Shamsul Haque	Vanlal Thanzami	11-Sep-17
Aimi Nadiyah Jamel	Daniel Reidpath	Devi Mohan	17-Oct-17
Yeo Li-Fang	Maude Phipps	Amreeta Dhanoa, Uma Palanisamy	30-Nov-17
Sanjida Khan	Shamsul Haque	Lee Shu Qin	04-Dec-17
Yam Nath Paudel	Mohmad Farooq Shaikh	Iekhsan Othman	15-Dec-17
Lim Chor Hong	Tomoko Soga	Ishwar Parhar	29-Sep-17
Syedeh Zeinab Taheri Mirani	Tomoko Soga	Ishwar Parhar	19-Sep-17
Siti Ayuni Hassanudin	Tomoko Soga	Ishwar Parhar, Stephen Navendran Ponnampalam	04-Dec-17
Sultana Mehbuba Hossain	Ezharul Hoque Chowdhury	Anuar Zaini, Nafees Ahemad Yunus	01-Feb-17
Md Emranul Karim	Ezharul Hoque Chowdhury	Kyi Kyi Tha, Iekhsan Othman	03-May-17
Vanessa Lee Lin Lin	Mohmad Farooq Shaikh	Yatinesh Kumari, Ahmad Farouk	21-Aug-17
Shingo Nakajima	Tomoko Soga	Ishwar Parhar	16-Jun-17



INTAKE

THE FOLLOWING
COURSES WILL
COMMENCE ON THESE
RESPECTIVE DATES:

**Psychology
MOPC
BMedSc (Hons)
Postgraduate Diploma in Biomedical Sc**

26 Feb '18

MBBS

19 Mar '18

HR BUSINESS PARTNER

The HR Business Partner will be at JCSMHS on **7th February, 21st March and 18th April 2018** from 9AM to 12PM.

2018 SCHOOL RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING

February 26 (Monday)
10am – 11:30am

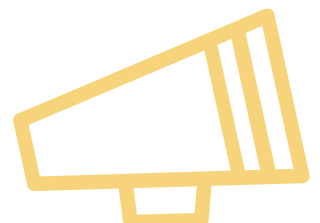
April 26 (Thursday)
10am – 11:30am

GRADUATE RESEARCH CAREER EVENING

March 15 (Thursday)
3:30pm – 6:30pm

June 27 (Wednesday)
3:30pm – 6:30pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Upcoming Events



CURE EPILEPSY SEMINAR

DATE: 28 FEBRUARY 2018

TIME: 9:15AM - 4:30PM

Coordinated by Dr Mohd Farooq Shaikh and first in Malaysia, the CURE (Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy) program is to expose young researchers, clinicians and tertiary students to exciting epilepsy research and provide opportunities for young investigators to interact with prominent emissaries of epilepsy research. This will also help to bridge the gap between Basic & Clinical Research in Epilepsy. Guest speakers Professor Ley Sander (MD, PhD, FRCP) and Professor Dato' Raymond Azman Ali (MD, FRCP) will be giving their insights at this event, focusing on preventing SUDEP (Sudden & Unexpected Death in Epilepsy) and how to build research around SUDEP.

This event represents the latest iteration of the Frontiers in Research Seminar Series. CURE typically only supports around 8 seminars a year, all of which are chosen from applicants around the globe. Since the inception of CURE in 2013, most seminars are typically held in the United States where CURE was founded. Malaysia is the first country in the region to host the CURE seminar series.

BRIMS OPEN DAY 2018

DATE: MAY 2018 (TO BE ANNOUNCED)

This event aims to enhance awareness of BRIMS research capability and research infrastructure including the two campus infrastructure platforms (bioimaging and drug discovery) among researchers from local institutions and industries. This event would also be beneficial to enhance our network with local institutions and potential industrial partners for future research collaborations.

Recently, we have been receiving a number of requests and enquiries on BRIMS research capability and research infrastructure from internal (Monash) as well as external users. We aim to advertise our research activities and available services to engage with potential service users and industrial partners.

The event will be a half-day event comprising 1) presentation on BRIMS research activities and infrastructure, 2) laboratory tour with brief demo-session and 3) Q&A and discussion session with the participants.

CONGRATULATIONS

TO ALL THE RECIPIENTS OF LONG SERVICE AWARD 2017

Associate Professor Ab Razak Bin Samsudin

Dr Ahmad Farouk Bin Musa

Associate Professor Arkendu Sen

Ms Asmah Binti Siran

Associate Professor Cheah Sin Hing

Dr Kamarudin Bin Ahmad

Ms Camelia Marsha Minjoot

Ms Chandra A/P Nadrajah

Dr Ling Kah Hing

Associate Professor Md Shahrom Bin Ujang

Associate Professor Ngim Chin Fang

Mr Paul Kiramathypathy Jambunathan

Associate Professor Rakesh Naidu A/L Kuppusamy Naidu

Mr Khairul Nizam Bin Ahmad

Professor Rusli Bin Nordin

Associate Professor Shanon Bin Abdullah@Shanmugam Subbiah

Ms Nurulhudda Binti Zainal

Ms Umavathy A/P Sevesankaran

Associate Professor Singaraveloo A/L Muthusamy

Dr Sukimi Bin Bani

Dr Tan Chow Wei @ Chan Kee Fong

Mr Nooramli Bin Md Taha

Associate Professor Toh Keng Kiat

Associate Professor Wong Yin Onn