

# BULLETIN

Monthly news and updates from JCSMHS



## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

This is the first School's bulletin which is expected to be a monthly newsletter. We want this to be a primary communication tool to inform staff about news and achievements alongside important announcements and upcoming events. We hope that this will reduce the number of global emails from the School that we are subjected to on a daily basis.

The School has been doing well over the first half. Our research output is good. Publication numbers are on an upward trajectory. We have been successful in a number of international grants. Fundamental Research Grant Scheme (FRGS) applications, however, have been disappointing with only 4 out of 22 proposals being successful. We will be doing a post-mortem on this. A grant writing workshop has been conducted in Sunway and in Johor Bahru over last month.

In Clinical School Johor Bahru with the impending departure of Associate Professor Rafidah and Associate Professor Nor'Azim, we have been managing the transition aspects of their roles. Professor Daniel Reidpath will also be leaving the School and as the Director of South East Asia Community Observatory (SEACO). Professor Tin Tin Su has been appointed as the Interim Director of SEACO.

Whilst research output has improved, we should be concerned that teaching activities have not been given the attention it requires.

In Sunway especially, it has been a challenge to get academic staff to commit to teaching and facilitating PBL and Clinical Skills sessions. This is in spite of the relatively short teaching semesters. The Campus management, especially the PVC, places significant importance on teaching output and teaching quality. This emphasis is also reflected in the University's promotion criteria.

Our continued reliance on adjunct and fractional staff to facilitate the abovementioned sessions has increased the burden on the school budget. As we commence discussions for next year's budget, this will likely become a significant area for deliberation.

# ACHIEVEMENTS

## ▶ 3MT WINNER AT CSJB RESEARCH WEEK

Dr Khit Kar Hui, Bachelor of Medical Sciences (Honours) student, has won the 3-Minute Thesis (3MT) on 25 July 2019, during the Clinical School Johor Bahru (CSJB) Research Week 2019 with her presentation on how primary hyperhidrosis silently affects the social life and mental health of many patients.



## ▶ SESSION'S BEST PRESENTATION AT ICOPH 2019

Ajaree Rayanakorn, a PhD candidate at Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences, has won the 'Session's Best Presentation' in the Health Services Management session at the International Conference on Public Health (ICOPH) 2019, held from 10 to 12 July 2019, with her presentation on developing a simple clinical risk score in predicting the risk of hearing loss among Streptococcus suis (S.suis) infected patients.

## ▶ YOUNG SCIENTIST AWARD AT ACN 2019

Muhammad Daniel Azlan Mahadzir, Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences' doctoral candidate, bagged the Young Scientist Award for the best oral presentation in the recent Asian Congress of Nutrition (ACN) 2019 at Bali, Indonesia, from 3 to 7 August 2019. His presentation showcased the outcomes of focus groups' discussion among individuals with metabolic syndrome to contextualise their understanding of the disease, their perceived motivation and barriers of healthy nutrition, and lifestyle behavior.



## ▶ POSTER AWARD AT APA 2019

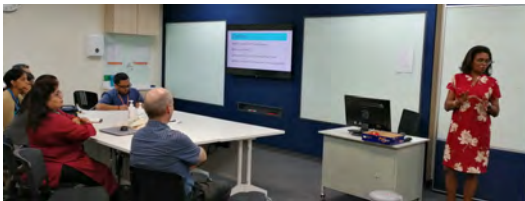
Dr Rachel Ting Sing-Kiat along with her student, Alex Tay Yan Tin, took second placing in the American Psychological Association Convention (APA) Division 52's, the Division of International Psychology, Poster Contest held at the APA Convention 2019 in early August 2019.

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## EVENTS

### ▶ **'CONNECTING THE INDIGENOUS DOTS: GENETICS' AT RFF 2019**

On 6 July 2019, Professor Maude Phipps attended the Rainforest Fringe Festival (RFF) 2019 in Sarawak and gave a talk in 'Connecting the Indigenous Dots: Genetics' forum which revealed the ways genetic mapping connect the dots of indigenous peoples, their histories and cultures in the region.



### ▶ **GRANT PROPOSAL WRITING WORKSHOP**

Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences organised a workshop at Sunway (16 July 2019) and Clinical School Johor Bahru (25 July 2019) with the aim to increase the success rate of grant applications submitted by our academics. It was well-received by the academics.

### ▶ **ASIAN MEDICAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM 2019**

Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences' students took part in Asian Medical Student Exchange Program (AMSEP), through Asian Medical Students Association (AMSA), and hosted medical students from China from 20 to 28 July 2019.



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# EVENTS

## RECRUITMENT EVENTS 2019



MALAYSIA



**APPLICATION DAYS**



**Open Days – Medical Program**

Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences recently took part in a series of recruitment events and the School would like to thank the staff for participating in:

### **Sureworks Higher Education Fair @ Mid Valley Exhibition Centre, 3 and 4 August 2019**

Professor Ammu Radhakrishnan, Associate Professor Quek Kia Fatt, Associate Professor Alexandra Schaefer, Dr Narendra Pamidi, Dr Vinod Balasubramaniam, Dr Christina Gertrude Yap, Dr Yatinesh Kumari, Chitra Ponnusamy and Thavamaney Vadiveloo

### **Application Day @ Monash University Malaysia, 17 August 2019**

Associate Professor Quek Kia Fatt, Dr Vidya Kushare, Dr Kyi Kyi Tha, Dato' Dr Ahmad Farouk, Dr Bharti Madanlal Kshatriya, Dr Narendra Pamidi, Dr Mohmad Farooq, Dr Amreeta Dhanoa, Dr Lee Learn Han, Dr Tam Cai Lian, Dr Goh Pei Hwa, Dr Karen Golden, Rohana binti Bahari, Chitra Ponnusamy, Thavamaney Vadiveloo, Nurul Izziani binti Ismail, Tay Suat Fui and Nur Fateha Syuhaida binti Mat Seman

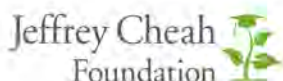
### **Application Day @ E&O Hotel, Penang, 18 August 2019**

Dr Priyia Pusparajah, Dr Lau Wee Ming and Dr Adriana Ortega

### **Medicine Preview @ The Waterfront Hotel, Kuching, 24 August 2019**

Dr Lau Wee Ming and Dr Narendra Pamidi

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[www.monash.edu.my/jcsmhs](http://www.monash.edu.my/jcsmhs)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## TRAINING ON TRAUMA AND RECOVERY

Co-organised by Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences (JCSMHS), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Health Equity Initiatives, this event will be held from **4 to 6 September 2019** with the aim to build the capacity of JCSMHS refugee health research team on using trauma-informed approaches in refugee health research. It also looks to build capacity of practitioners working with forcibly displaced populations on trauma-informed care. This event welcomes medical practitioners, clinical psychologists, counselors, social workers, researchers, and lawyers from international agencies, non-profits and academia working in the area of refugee health. **For more information, please email [gurmeet.kaur@monash.edu](mailto:gurmeet.kaur@monash.edu).**

## HEALTH AWARENESS TRAINING

Co-organised by Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences (JCSMHS), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Health Equity Initiatives, this program from **11 to 12 September 2019**, aims to build the capacity of immigration detention officers on health and to support Jabatan Imigresen Malaysia (JIM) Detention Unit in developing strategies to address health problems in immigration detention centres. The program was developed in consultation with the Director and Deputy Director of Depots, JIM, and was approved by the Director General of Immigration. The targeted audience will be commandants and deputy commandants of the immigration depots from all over Malaysia. **For more information, please email [gurmeet.kaur@monash.edu](mailto:gurmeet.kaur@monash.edu).**

## SURGICAL ANATOMY REVIEW PRACTICAL (SARP) 2019

The Surgical Anatomy Review Practical (SARP) course, on **21 and 22 September 2019**, will introduce key concepts in surgical and clinical applications of anatomy, pathology and microbiology relevant to general surgery and orthopaedics practice. This course is suitable for candidates in preparation for intercollegiate MRCS Part A Exam, Postgraduate entrance exams and Basic Sciences Examination (Orthopaedic Surgery)/OSC Part 1. **For more information, kindly contact the Organising Chair: Associate Professor Dr Sen at [arkendu.sen@monash.edu](mailto:arkendu.sen@monash.edu)**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## IBRO-APRC ADVANCED SCHOOL 2019

The Brain Research Institute Monash Sunway, Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Monash University Malaysia, is organising the IBRO-Asia Pacific Regional Schools from **7 to 20 October 2019** for postgraduate students and post-doctoral fellows in the Asia Pacific region to acquire knowledge of both theoretical and technological advances in key areas of neuroscience research. Funding from IBRO will cover travel and accommodation expenses of up to 15 postgraduate students and young scientists specialising in the field of neurosciences. **Official application to the school will be announced on the IBRO website: <https://ibro.org/>**

## BRIMS TECHNICAL WORKSHOP SERIES 2019

Brain Research Institute Monash Sunway (BRIMS) is organising intensive modules, from **8 to 11 October 2019** and **14 to 16 October 2019**, comprising of lectures and practical sessions conducted by a team of dynamic and accomplished scientists. Special technical lectures session will be scheduled on 8 October 2019 for all modules. **For more information, please visit <https://www.monash.edu.my/jcsmhs/research/brims/events/brims-technical-workshop-series-2019>**

## UPCOMING EVENTS & NEWS

If you would like to share any news (past and/or upcoming events, achievement, student events, grants, etc.) with the School via newsletter, please email to [gurmeet.kaur@monash.edu](mailto:gurmeet.kaur@monash.edu).