

BULLETIN

Monthly news and updates from JCSMHS



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

This month I would like to make two important announcements.

The first relates to some changes in the Department of Psychology. You may have heard that Associate Professor Shamsul Haque has stepped down to concentrate on his research. I can testify from my own personal experience that

heading a big unit like the Department of Psychology impacts significantly on one's ability to teach and conduct research. Associate Professor Shamsul has decided to focus on these two areas for the next few years. Associate Professor Tam has taken on the challenge of the Interim Head of Department. Both Dr Tam and myself will be keen to improve collaboration between the School and the Department. We are keen to develop joint research, and help in teaching.

Secondly, the Clinical School Johor Bahru (CSJB) conducted the Membership of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (MRCPCH) mock exam on the 8th September 2019. This was coordinated by Associate Professor Dr Jimmy Lee with the help of Associate Professor Ngim Ching Fang. MRCPCH is the specialist exams for paediatrics.

We have been trying hard to bring these examinations to our School. From all accounts, this mock exam went very well. It required coordination of activities of 13 examiners, 60 candidates, 25 children from Hospital Sultanah Aminah with their families. So you can imagine how hard our staff must have worked. Based on how well this went, the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) has initiated the process of making Monash CSJB as an additional examination centre for 2020. If this happens, it will be a massive win. I believe no private medical school in the country runs specialist exams.

Congratulations and well done!

ACHIEVEMENTS & EVENTS



▶ MRCPCH MOCK EXAM 2019

Clinical School Johor Bahru (CSJB) successfully hosted the Membership of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (MRCPCH) mock exam on 7 and 8 September 2019 with 60 candidates, 25 children from Hospital Sultan Aminah, along with their family

members, and 13 local and overseas examiners. The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) was looking for an additional exam centre in Malaysia early this year to conduct the MRCPCH exam, on top of its four exam centres in Malaysia. CSJB successfully bid to host the mock exam in preparation for the actual exam in June 2020. This mock exam was coordinated by Associate Dr Jimmy Lee with the help of Associate Professor Dr Ngim Chin Fang.

With the success of hosting the MRCPCH mock exam, the RCPCH will begin the process of establishing CSJB as an additional examination centre in 2020. A warm thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the mock exam and for putting CSJB on the map of the MRCPCH exams.



▶ DR WU LIEN-TEH SOCIETY AWARD AT 13TH MOH-AMM SCIENTIFIC MEETING 2019

Dr Ng Wei Yao, Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours) student, won the 2019 Dr Wu Lien-Teh Society Award for Best Poster (Clinical Category) at the 13th Ministry of Health – Academy of Medicine Malaysia (MOH-AMM) Scientific Meeting for his project entitled 'The association between co-morbidities with severe dengue

among adult patients: a cross-sectional study' under the supervision of Associate Professor Rafidah Atan and Associate Professor Nor'azim Mohd Yunos.

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▶ FELLOWS AND MEMBER OF ACADEMY OF MEDICINE MALAYSIA

Associate Professor Naganathan Pillai, Associate Professor Nor'azim Mohd Yunos and Associate Professor Rafidah Atan were awarded the Fellowship of the Academy of Medicine Malaysia (FAMM) at the recent 13th Ministry of Health – Academy of Medicine Malaysia (MOH-AMM) Scientific Meeting.



In the same event, alumnus of Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Dr Benjamin Sachdev, is now a Member of the Academy of Medicine Malaysia (AM).



▶ REF-UP: A CHANCE TO BE MORE

Ref-UP, a sub-committee by Monash University Medicos Society (MUMedS), organised a two-day event on 1 and 2 of August 2019 to raise awareness of the issues affecting refugees among the students of Monash University Malaysia. The event included a panel discussion, donation drive, carnival, fundraising, and tele-match as well featured distinguished speakers: Dr Susheela Balasundara (Head of Health Unit at UNHCR), Dr Foo Seay Liang (UNHCR Tzu-Chi Fo Foundation), Ms Asma (Community Health Worker on Mental Health with Health Equity Initiatives),

on Mental Health with Health Equity Initiatives), Mr Hrang Cung Hnin (Community Health Worker on Mental Health), and Monash University Malaysia student, Prince, a second-generation Rohingya refugee. The turnout for the event was a massive success and all profits go to the refugee learning centre that Ref-UP is currently providing support to.

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LAUNCH OF PALM OIL FAMILIARISATION PROGRAMME

On 23 September 2019, Dato' Dr Ahmad Farouk Musa was invited to the launch of the 39th Palm Oil Familiarisation Programme by Primary Industries Minister YB Teresa Kok at Le Meridien, Putrajaya. The Health PLUS, a newly launched magazine during the event, also featured an interview with Dr Ahmad Farouk on the health benefits of palm oil's tocotrienol for patients with atrial fibrillation.



VISIT BY UMBI 2019

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia's Medical Molecular Biology Institute (UMBI) visited Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences on 4 September 2019 to discuss about research opportunities and potential collaboration.

INTRODUCTION TO MASS SPECTROMETRY WORKSHOP

Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry (LCMS) Platform at Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences (JCSMHS) successfully organised 'Introduction to Mass Spectrometry' workshop for intermediate users in the field of liquid chromatography and mass spectrometry on 21 and

22 August 2019. During the workshop, 28 participants saw experienced speakers – Professor Iekhsan Othman (JCSMHS), Robin Philp (Agilent), Dr Erhan Simsek (Agilent), Dr Syafiq Asnawi (JCSMHS), Dr Farrah Shafeera Ibrahim (UiTM Puncak Alam), Associate Professor Quek Kia Fatt (JCSMHS) – sharing their expertise.





▶ JCSMHS GRADUATE RESEARCH FORUM 2019

Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences (JCSMHS) hosted Graduate Research (GR) Forum on 5 September 2019 to discuss matters related to GR students and to foster greater interaction among GR students, supervisors and JCSMHS. For the first time in GR forum, a Slido session was incorporated to boost the interaction and discussion.

Best Student Publication Awards were also presented to Dr Yew Mei Yeng (Biomedical Science), Jamuna Rani Appalasamy (Clinical Science) and Dr Wong Kah Peng (Psychology). Recommendations and awards are based on the merit of social impact.

▶ ‘ANATOMY: ITS ROLE IN INTERNATIONALISATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY’ AT IFAA 2019

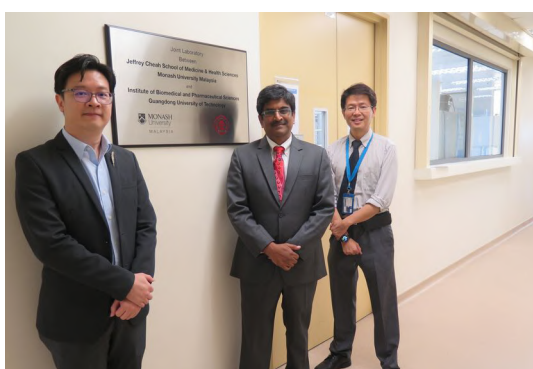
Dr Laskhsmi Selvaratnam was recently invited as a symposium speaker at the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA) 2019. She spoke in a session entitled ‘Anatomy: its role in internationalisation of higher education and contributions to the knowledge society’ on 9 August 2019 about the internationalisation of medical education with a focus on anatomy education and highlighted the Malaysian perspective. The talk generated a lot of interest and the symposium organisers were very pleased.



▶ MATCVS, ASM 2019

Dr Khit Kar Hui, a double graduate of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) and Bachelor of Medical Science (Honours), presented at the 20th Malaysian Association of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery (MATCVS), Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) 2019 on 21 September 2019. She was one of the five finalists to compete

for Young Investigator's Award. Under the supervision of Dr Ahmad Farouk, Dr Khit's research looks into how primary hyperhidrosis silently affects the social life and mental health of many patients, and the effectiveness of Endoscopic Thoracic Sympathectomy (ETS) as a surgical treatment for primary hyperhidrosis.



▶ JOINT LAB WITH GUANGDONG UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences has established a joint laboratory with Institute of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Guangdong University of Technology. The laboratory is located at Room 4504.

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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://tinyurl.com/y5xj2o7o>**

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 **14 to 16 October 2019** at **Room 2103** 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 Dr Sharuna Verghis (sharuna.verghis@monash.edu).

ROUNDTABLE ON MIGRANT HEALTH CARE

Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Health Equity Initiatives (HEI) and the People's Health Forum are co-organising a seminar entitled 'Roundtable on Migrant Health Care' to bring together researchers and practitioners on the frontline of migrant health care in order to strengthen the understanding of the problems related to migrant healthcare financing and to examine policy options for solutions. The seminar will take place at **Room 2103**, Monash University Malaysia on **31 October 2019**. For more information, please email Dr Sharuna Verghis (sharuna.verghis@monash.edu).

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.

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