

UK Malaysia University Consortium (UK-MUC)

Newsletter

November 2023

THE CONSORTIUM ACTIVITIES

UK-MUC Meet with Education Malaysia Global Service (EMGS)

Dr Maria Garraffa (University of East Anglia) and Dr Ramona Blanes (University of Glasgow) represented the Consortium at a meeting with EMGS on 27 September 2023 at the High Commission of Malaysia, London. They outlined Consortium activities to date and Dr Garraffa's presentation effectively showcased the Consortium. Thus, EMGS is now well-informed about the context and activities of the UK-MUC. EMGS Chairman, Dr Abdul Razak Ahmad, showed considerable interest in the Consortium's activities and expressed strong eagerness for collaborative opportunities. Among the proposed developments is a succinct two-page 2024 roadmap outlining potential areas of partnership that would cater to the interest of broader audiences, including the Minister of Higher Education (MoHE). Dr Ahmad also proposed a meeting with the MoHE Director General, Prof Azlinda Azman, during her UK visit for the Going Global event in Edinburgh. The meeting, expected to take place in London, will be coordinated by Education Malaysia London (EML). Dr Ahmad intends to meet with the British Council Malaysia to discuss potential collaborative possibilities with the Consortium. In addition, Dr Garraffa extended an invitation to Dr Ahmad for the UK-MUC Board meeting scheduled in November. The Consortium would like to thank Alia Alias and Education Malaysia London for facilitating this productive meeting.



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions: Research Matchmaking Workshop

This online workshop was held on 25 October 2023, led by Professor Jin Wang, LJMU with 22 attendees (17 MY / 16 UK). The aim of the workshop was to share experience of and best practice for current Horizon Europe - Work Programme 2023-24 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MCSAs), with the objective of facilitating joint funding applications between UK, Malaysia and third entities for 2024

projects. Prof Wang gave an overview of the background to and the main principles the MCSAs, with specific reference to Staff Exchanges - innovative international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration in research and innovation through exchanging staff and sharing knowledge and ideas. Two break-out sessions focussed on Health and Life Sciences, and Information Science and Engineering, with exciting discussions on potential future collaborations demonstrating tangible benefits of the UK-MUC. There was productive deliberation about finding third party European partners to collaborate with and useful recommendations made e.g. the European Commission online partner search (link to [website](#)). Finally, suggestions were made regarding the development of joint applications, possibly in mental health and/or Alzheimer's Disease. As a result, the Secretariat will collate information on current collaborations between Members in Health and Life Science, to facilitate joint bid applications potentially led by Dr Maria Garraffa (UEA) with UK MUC as the developing platform. If you are interested in this collaborative opportunity, in the first instance, please email details of your research interests and UK/MY partners to Tracy Branagan: T.D.Branagan@ljmu.ac.uk

Enhancing Partnerships between the UK and Malaysia

In October, top-ranking representatives from Malaysia's public universities made a six-day trip to Wales, with the primary objective to further cement the educational relationship between Malaysia and Wales, the initiative was a part of the Malaysia-UK Universities Enrichment (MY-UK HECEP) programme. The inaugural event took place at Cardiff University with addresses delivered by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of South Wales and Chair of Universities Wales International Network, Professor Ben Calvert, as well as the High Commissioner of Malaysia to the United Kingdom, H.E. Dato' Zakri Jaafar. During his speech, H.E., recognised the significance of the MY-UK HECEP programme and voiced hopes for a sustained relationship between Malaysia and the UK in the coming years.



Student Employability in 2023

Another successful UK-MUC Workshop was led online by Amy Carpenter, Head of Careers, Employability and Enterprise and Alanna Plaats, Placement Consultant (School of Social Sciences and Humanities), University of Suffolk on 16 November 2023.

Attended by 30 participants, this dynamic and stimulating workshop highlighted key considerations that are shaping today's world and tomorrow's futures beginning with an insightful overview of changing student expectations and their (mis)alignment with industry needs. We explored the place of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in our work future, discussed the extensive influence of social media, Generation Z's distinct work attitude and the escalating importance of ethical business practice. Guest Speaker Professor Tony Graham, BluewaterPortfolio / Visiting Professor LJMU presented an industrial perspective on employability requirement in terms of Hard and Soft Skills, Core and Functional Competences, Person Specification and Job Specification, and Skills and Abilities. He also shared his version of The SQEP Model - *'Suitability, Qualified, Experienced, Passionate'* of which, he personally considers the "Passionate" quadrant the most

important. He suggested that every student should be given annual appraisal and report and concluded that academia should mimic industry by:

- Setting out Expectations
- Providing Challenge
- Coaching/Mentoring
- Offering Training to Close Skill Gaps
- Delegating
- Giving Feedback
- Annual Reports ... not just scores

This was followed by break-out discussion sessions on three questions:

1. Has AI changed the way you work with students?
2. How do you think it will impact your students future career plans?
3. How do you think it will impact your subject area?

Full details of the workshop including presentation slides will shortly be available on the website:

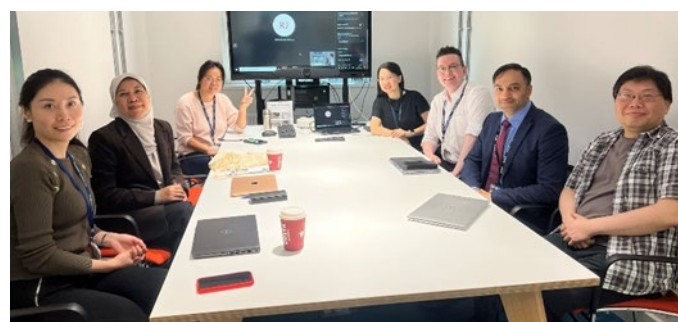
COLLABORATIVE MOBILITY ACTIVITIES

University of Suffolk / MARA University of Technology (UiTM)

Professor Gurpreet Jagpal, the University of Suffolk's Pro Vice-Chancellor for Business and Entrepreneurship and Neil Marshall, Development Director at ChangeSchool, have been appointed visiting professors at UiTM's Institute for Business Excellence - one of 13 Centres for Excellence at UiTM. Professor Jagpal's role will be as Academic Lead. He said: *"The British Council grant and Memorandum of Understanding with UiTM demonstrate the value of international partnership working to improve access to Higher Education, and will provide enriching opportunities for students and staff at our universities."* Professor Datuk Dr Hajah Roziah Mohd Janor, Vice-Chancellor at Universiti Teknologi MARA, said: *"We are delighted to be working in partnership with the University of Suffolk and ChangeSchool to establish even stronger bonds internationally, and we look forward to the upcoming projects together."*



Cardiff Metropolitan University / MARA University of Technology (UiTM)



Between 3-6 October, Professor Zuhaina Zakaria, the Dean of Graduate Institute of the largest university in Malaysia, UiTM visited EUREKA Robotics Centre, Cardiff School of Technologies for developing dual-PhD programme for postgraduate studies, co-teach at PG module, shared her stimulating research in *"Gender differences on Electricity Consumption"*. She is the founder of IEEE Malaysia Section-Women in Engineering in 2001 and also the IEEE's first committee member from Malaysia (qs-gen.com). Prof. Zuhaina was inspired by the top sustainable university, Cardiff Met. and the 100 years of Women Empowerment stories in Wales.

LJMU Professor Shares Historical Insight on Iconic Malaysian Business Takeover.

In June 2023, Professor Nick White from Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) visited Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI) in Tanjong Malim, Malaysia as a Visiting Professor. This visit was related to his upcoming monograph on Malaysianisation and British business, which he co-authored with Prof Shakila Yacob from Universiti Malaya. During his visit, Nick delivered a public lecture at UPSI and another at the Perak Museum in Taiping. Nick was visited at

IJMU in September by a team from Pixel Productions, including the famous Malaysian actor and director, Bront Palarae. Pixel Productions sought Nick's expert historical insight for their upcoming feature film on the iconic Guthrie Dawn Raid. This raid involved the takeover of the premier British plantation group in Malaysia by Malaysia's National Equity Corporation (Permodalan Nasional Berhad; PNB) through a lightning swoop on the London Stock Exchange in 1981.



Changemakers Creating Real Impact In Malaysia

Congratulations to Dr Sharmini Julita Paramasivam, Founder & Project Lead / Associate Professor, Animal Neighbours Project / University of Surrey on being listed in the top 100 real changemakers in Malaysia, 2023. The Wiki Impact 100 offers a fresh take on changemakers in Malaysia doing solid impact work and changing society and the environment for the better. This is a celebration of humanity and hope for Malaysia. Changemakers are people who step up and out to solve a problem for the greater good of all. They use their ideas, talents, experience, networks, resources and platforms to affect positive change. They are constantly pushing the boundaries for better outcomes and innovating new ways to build a better future for all.



“To me making an impact means persevering till there is change. I also think making an impact means I have helped improve the welfare of both people and wildlife. Furthermore, making an impact means I have carved opportunities for other Malaysians to get involved and be skilfully trained in wildlife conservation.”

Dr Paramasivam also organises a two month Malaysia Human Animal Interaction study abroad programme with the University of Surrey organised locally by Animal Neighbours Project. The aim of the programme is to promote

intercultural sensitivity and to increase exposure and knowledge on urban human monkey interaction.



View the full list of 100 changemakers in Malaysia [here](#) and for more information about the Animal Neighbours Project, visit the [website](#).

Strengthening Bonds: A Decade of Collaboration Between Universiti Sains Malaysia and Keele University



In the past decade, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and Keele University have developed a robust partnership at both institutional and school levels. Both institutions have engaged in fruitful collaboration, including student and staff exchanges, co-operative training, and research endeavours. This collaborative effort has resulted in numerous benefits for students and staff alike. USM has been hosting undergraduate students from Keele University for summer placements and a Tropical Biology field course which has been a highlight for Life Sciences students at Keele. Staff at both universities have also been developing research links with expertise in biology, aquaculture, vector biology, dengue, molecular medicine and neuroscience. In 2023, increased staff and student mobility, funded by ERASMUS-ICM, has further strengthened the links between the institutions, opening up new avenues for teaching and research collaborations. Ten individual staff members, six undergraduate students, and one postgraduate student from Keele University visited USM for training and teaching. Conversely, Keele University hosted fifteen USM postgraduate students for two-month research placements across multiple schools.



In May 2023, Keele University welcomed a delegation of thirteen academics from USM for a dynamic weeklong programme. Representatives from various departments at USM, including the School of Biological Sciences, Institute for Molecular Medicine (INFORMM), Centre for Drug Research (CDR), School of Health Sciences, and Centre for Marine and Coastal Studies (CEMACS) participated in this event, with the aim of strengthening the partnership between the two institutions. Throughout the programme, the delegates had

the opportunity to interact with Keele academics from prominent research institutes and schools such as Life Sciences, Medicine, Chemical and Physical Sciences, and Pharmacy and Bioengineering. The main goal was to explore potential collaboration opportunities in areas such as mobility programs and research initiatives. To further support the objective of enhancing the existing partnership between USM and Keele, the delegates met with key figures at Keele University. These included Vice-Chancellor Professor Trevor McMillan, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost Professor Mark Ormerod, Pro Vice-Chancellor for International Professor Antonius Raghubsanie, and Pro Vice-Chancellor and Executive Dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences Professor Jonathan Wastling. This collaborative week-long programme marked an important step in fostering stronger ties between USM and Keele University, and both institutions look forward to building upon this successful partnership in the future.

COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP, EDI AND INNOVATIVE PEDAGOGY

Launch of the Malaysia Senior Fellows Network

Sunway University and Advance HE, successfully launched the Malaysia Senior Fellows Network (SFN) on 17 July 2023. The network is the first of its kind in Malaysia and is the outcome of Advance HE's engagement with its Malaysian partners in 2022. Feedback obtained from the engagement made it clear that having a community of practice - where experience and best practice could be shared, and solutions could be found - is seen as a way to contribute to Malaysia's HE sector progress on its pathway to being a highly reputable destination for high quality higher education.

The Senior Fellow recognition is awarded by Advance HE to academics who have an enduring track record of leadership or influence in promoting effective, inclusive, and integrated high-quality teaching and learning practices, extending well beyond direct teaching and support roles. The launch event also marked a significant milestone for Sunway University. It is the first Malaysian institution with an accredited programme by Advance HE, i.e. the Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education Practice (PCHEP). With 35 Fellows across all categories, including 13 Senior Fellows, Sunway University remains dedicated to teaching excellence and academic development. Malaysia Senior Fellows Network and Working Group (SFWG)

Prior to the SFN launch, the Senior Fellows Working Group (SFWG) held its first meeting. The group comprise of 10 Senior Fellows who represent their universities and 2 from Advance HE. The SFWG provides a platform for the members to advocate institutional priorities, disseminate information, collaborate on sector challenges with other members of the Senior Fellows Network in Malaysia. Congratulations to Annyza Tumar from Sunway University who was elected as the Chair and Jaya Kumar Karunagharan from Nottingham University, Malaysia, as the Deputy Chair of the SFWG.



PIE II: UMP STEM Lab and EUREKA Robotics Centre Partnership Certified STEM Programme

An innovative workshop titled *"Empowering the Future: Digital Making Skill Sets in STEM Education"* was held in Pahang, Malaysia between 15-18 August. This collaborative initiative brought together the UMP STEM Lab, the faculty of Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technology Universiti Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdullah, Pahang State Education Department, Eureka Robotics Centre, Cardiff Metropolitan University, and the British Council.



With a robust attendance of 72 teachers representing various educational institutions in Pahang, the workshop stood as a catalyst for promoting innovative teaching practices within the STEM domain. Prior to the seminar, a series of preparatory workshops delivered by the UMP STEM Lab. These workshops around mBlock and Python programming were thoughtfully tailored to cater to primary, secondary school children, and vocational college students, especially B40 pupils. Further details of the workshops can be found here: [Pekan](#) and [Cardiff](#).



PIE II programme: UM STEM Centre & EUREKA Robotics Centre Partnership in May & August 2023



UM STEM Centre with Malaysian Congkak at Cardiff Museum, Wales: a cross cultural certified STEM programme for Welsh girls learning Mathematics.

The concept of learning STEM through Game Based Learning (GBL) has been used by the delegates of Universiti Malaya in a collaborative PIE2 program with Cardiff School of Technologies, EUREKA Robotics Centre, Cardiff Metropolitan University on the 18th of May 2023. A total of 28 girls aged 10-12 years old from Cardiff have been involved in the programme. They were introduced to learning STEM through the traditional Congkak game. At first, Congkak may seem to be an unlikely tool to introduce Universiti Malaya STEM education. However, it is an interactive tool for honing mathematical skills such as addition and subtraction while strategizing the game to ensure the player wins by having more seeds in their 'rumah' (house). Overall, just a game of Congkak can emphasize many STEM attributes such as critical thinking and problem-solving skills which are essential in

solving real world problems. The activity session was carried out at Cardiff Museum and led by Ir. Dr. Mas Sahidayana Mokhtar, Director of UM STEM Centre together with Dr. Zati Hakim Azizul Hasan, UM Program Leader for the PIE Program, Prof. Dr. Siti Nursheena Mohd Zain, UM, Ms. Chia Jing Hui, UM and Dr. Devi Fitriannah, Bina Nusantara University, Indonesia. A guidebook prepared by UM STEM Centre "STEM Through Traditional Congkak Game" and plastic Congkak with marbles were distributed to the groups of students.



A total of 28 girls aged 10-12 years old from Cardiff have been involved in the programme. The activity session was carried out at Cardiff Museum and led by Ir. Dr. Mas Sahidayana Mokhtar, Director of UM STEM Centre together with Dr. Zati Hakim Azizul Hasan, UM Program Leader for the PIE Program, Prof. Dr. Siti Nursheena Mohd Zain, UM, Ms. Chia Jing Hui, UM and Dr. Devi Fitriannah, Bina Nusantara University, Indonesia. Overall, just a game of Congkak can emphasize many STEM attributes such as critical thinking and problem-solving skills which are essential in solving real world problems.

PIE II Programme: UiTM Certified STEM Workshop with EUREKA Robotics Centre at Putrajaya



PIE-STEM : DroBotics

DATE : 8 JULY 2023 (SATURDAY)
 TIME: 8.00 AM – 5.00 PM
 LOCATION: PUTRAJAYA OPEN INNOVATION CENTER (POINT)

FREE PARTICIPATION

To register please scan this QR code or use below url link: <https://tinyurl.com/...>

Contact UTM 016-335...

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES



UK Re-joins Horizon Europe Programme

From Thursday 7 September 2023, UK researchers can again apply for grants and bid to take part in projects under the Horizon programme, with certainty that the UK will be participating as a fully associated member from 1 January 2024 for the remaining life of the programme to 2027. Once adopted, the UK will also be able to join the governance of EU programmes – which the UK has been excluded from over the last three years – ensuring we can shape collaboration taking place next year. And UK researchers will be able to lead consortia in the next work programme of Horizon Europe projects. Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation with a budget of €95.5 billion. It tackles climate change, helps to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and boosts the EU's competitiveness and growth. The programme facilitates collaboration and strengthens the impact of research and innovation in developing, supporting and implementing EU policies while tackling global challenges. It supports creating and better dispersing of excellent knowledge and technologies. It creates jobs, fully engages the EU's talent pool, boosts economic growth, promotes industrial competitiveness and optimises investment impact within a strengthened European Research Area.

The Horizon Europe programme is open to the world and legal entities from the EU and associated countries can participate. Institutions from third countries (including ASEAN countries) can join most of Horizon Europe calls under Pillar 2 as part of a research consortium comprised of:

- at least 1 partner from an EU member state and
- at least 2 additional partners from 2 other different countries coming either from EU member states and/or countries associated to Horizon Europe.

Malaysia HE leadership visit PIE EUREKA Robotics Centre, Cardiff Metropolitan University



representatives from seven prestigious universities in Malaysia visited Cardiff Metropolitan University on 3 October 2023 to strengthen the connection between academic institutions in Malaysia and Wales. Upon arrival, the delegation was greeted by Professor Cara Aitchison, President and Vice-Chancellor of Cardiff Met. The visit focused on enhancing academic mobility and expanding the international research network, with the goal of promoting academic excellence and advancing the field of research. As part of their visit to Cardiff Met, two themes have been showcased via School tours, namely Creative Industries and Media (Fovography) and digital transformation (Eureka Robotics Centre). The visit concluded with discussions about the future course of action, led by Pro Vice Chancellor for Research & Innovation Professor Sheldon Hanton, demonstrating the University's proactive approach to collaboration and progress. This visit provided a remarkable opportunity for both parties to share ideas and gain a better understanding of each other's academic practices.

On 12 October, it was an honour for EUREKA Robotics Centre to receive distinguished guests from Malaysia - Prof. Dr. Nazirah, Director of Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC), Prof. Dr. Julia from UMMC, and Prof. Dr. Fatimah from University Malaysia Sabah (UMS). Delighted for the visit of the top women who manage the best Malaysia public university hospital and to build safe AI enabled hospitals. Cardiff Met. is proud to be part of partnerships between universities in Wales and Malaysia and looks forward to the promising collaborative research and public engagement in 2024 in Wales-Malaysia.



GOING GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS CATALYST PROJECTS

Partnership for Innovation in Employability (PIE) Programme for Women in STEM / PIE II Programme for Women in STEAM-H (Partnership in Employability for Women II in Science, Technology, Aquaculture, Engineering, Mathematics and Healthcare)

The PIE I programme for women in STEM and PIE II programme for women in STEAM-H (inserted Agriculture & Healthcare) have capitalised 15 partners from UK, Malaysia and Indonesia, comprising forward-thinking universities, prominent hospitals and the best Malaysian-Wales robotics companies (Cardiff Met, York, Oxford, UM, UiTM, UMP, USIM, UPSI, UMK, UTHM, UMS and ALTY, UMMC, Robopreneur Ltd., API Robotics Ltd. and BINUS).

The aim to enhance women in STEAM-H employability and education with safe and ethical AI-robotics with a long-term public impact, to design shared branding of micro-credential or certified courses, STEM & public health workshops for underprivileged communities. The catalyst grants have vastly accelerated the capacity building by short-term strategic insight placement of women in the UK and Malaysia, to collaboratively deliver STEM for women workshops across Wales and Malaysia and to develop dual-MSc/MPhil and Dual-PhD programmes between UK and Malaysia Higher Educational Institutions, which prioritise the following target groups:



1. Girls in the final two years of primary school to Key stage 4 (equivalent to Malaysia's standard 4 to secondary school), especially B40 students, OKU (special needs) and Orang Asli communities.
2. Female healthcare staff and leaders in all age groups.

As a result, the PIE programme has supported **10 academics, 9 female healthcare leaders and junior medical researchers** and **9 Malaysian students** for inward placement and / visit to the UK: a total of **53 incoming mobilities** and **27 UK to Malaysia outward mobilities**, co-funded by Taith with **over 70% are female** between 2021 - early 2024. In addition, EUREKA Robotics Centre and partners have applied for over **£1.4M grants applications**, and developing **2+1 EUREKA Nexus Labs** in Malaysia partnering institutions, as the No.1 University in the UK for Sustainability and one of the 11 research group to access robotics facilities, Cardiff Metropolitan University / EUREKA Robotics Centre hope to support partners in Malaysia in SDGs 3-5 & 11.

Network4Training&Research - Sustainable Innovation and skills development across the rail & seaports infrastructure industry' agenda aligned with the UN SDGs.



- Three focus group meetings were organised between Liverpool freeport, Peel ports, some other ports and rail industry in Malaysia (Mar 2023, Jun 2023, Aug 2023)
- Workshops in Malaysia on Green materials with autonomous behaviour for the carbon neutral seaport and rail infrastructures UK-Malaysia
- Introduction of Inclusive Leadership for Sustainable Infrastructure Network (ILSIN): *"How does gender impact the design, planning, and operation of seaports and rail infrastructures - approaches and stakeholders"*. Monthly meetings planned, establishing research collaborations.
- Dual PhD agreements with UniMAP, UM & UTeM.
- Set up a Green Jobs & Innovation Task Force - to gather data on existing workforce and job availability in the Liverpool freeport region, Penang and Johor ports and map requirements for skills towards net zero.



- Launch of the doctoral and master UK-Malaysia summer school Network4Training&Research Online school for MSc & PhD students on Sustainable Innovation and skills development across the rail & seaports infrastructure industry' agenda aligned with the UN SDGs. The online school was successfully delivered 10-14 July 2023, providing lectures on a range of topics on sustainable rail & seaport infrastructure industry.

Empowering Women Academic Researchers with Innovation Process Strategies

The University of Suffolk is set to play an influential role in Higher Education in Malaysia, with the signing of a formal agreement and the confirmation of grant funding to bolster partnerships. The University is part of a consortium which also includes London-based ChangeSchool and Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) in Malaysia, which has secured a grant worth £55,000. The grant, funded by the British Council in collaboration with the Malaysian Ministry of Higher Education, has been awarded to support Malaysian and UK

universities to work together on shared concerns and promote access to HE in Malaysia.

In addition, the University of Suffolk and UiTM have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to further increase partnership working, which includes institutional exchange opportunities between staff at the two universities, and acceptance of undergraduate and graduate students for periods of study and research. It will also see the two universities exchange information and best practice on developments in teaching, research and student developments, as well as organising short courses, conferences and meetings on research issues.

i-Digitics: An International Partnership for Graduate Digital Future Work Skills in Data Analytics



Dr Frances Tracy, Dr Graham Downes, Dr Matt McLain and Phil Rothwell visited Universiti Teknologi Malaysia in Johor Bahru in October 2023 to develop an online course in ‘*Data Analytics for Educators*’ with research colleagues Dr Nurbiha Shukor, Dr Norah Noor and Dr Noor Dayana Halim. They worked in their hybrid classroom and computer room to negotiate the structure, content and resources for the course and used their multimedia video recording room with developed imagery and structure guidelines for the production of teaching videos. They also met with the Director and other senior academics from the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Department of Teaching and Learning to present information about the research culture at LJMU and to compare policy on learning analytics in Higher Education. The team also enjoyed a tour of the extensive campus and facilities available at UTM.

Digital Catalyst for Graduate Employability



The project has been successful in establishing a setting stone (basis) for a series of learning material regarding ‘*AI for everyone everywhere*’. The project was completed last September with the

end of the funding period. Yet sustainability of the project was maintained in the following ways:

1. The conference that was established as part of this project is still continuing. *Data Science and Emerging Technologies* (DaSET) is an international conference established among the partners of this project that has been maintained beyond the initial funding period.
2. The postdoctoral fellow that has been involved in the project has gained skills in teaching and learning as well as research and has now taken on a lecturer job at LJMU.
3. Another UK-MUC grant application has been submitted this September as a continuation of the project.
4. Publications are still being drafted between partners of the project and submitted to IEEE or Springer publishers.

The 2nd International Conference on Data Science and Emerging Technologies (DaSET 2023) will be held from 4-5 December 2023 on the theme ‘*Towards Green Artificial Intelligence and Sustainable Computing*’. DaSET2023 aims to bring together leading industry practitioners, academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results on all aspects of Data Science and Emerging Technologies. Click the [link](#) to find out more.

Promoting Global Health in a Linguistically Diverse Population: Connecting Health Professionals, Education, and Society

Last month, a fruitful scope for collaboration event was organised at Education Malaysia London (EML) to promote collaborations with industrial partners around Global Health. This has led to the development of a new application for another round of Catalyst grant and for several research outcomes.



UEA has hosted a visit from USM Director of Program of the SLP unit, Dr Khairy Anuar Mohd Khairuddin and current project collaborator Dr Mohd Azmarul A Aziz to develop project proposal in research and innovation. USM has now joined the activities of the Catalyst grant with plans for Malaysian students in the SLP program to come in spring for a research visit.

Health professionals/STEM graduates without borders: engineering employability and career mobility into academic programmes through capacity building



Embedding Entrepreneurship and Accelerating Innovation through Partnership

King's College London (KCL) are hosting a UK-Malaysia University Partnerships Catalyst Grant Symposium on a hybrid basis at the Science Gallery, Guy's Campus, KCL on Friday 1 December 2023 from 09:00-15:30 GMT with lunch provided. This symposium will provide a platform for the UK and Malaysian universities to share their experiences and best practice in relation to forming the partnership in the respective area with the support of the catalyst grant. It is also an opportunity for the participants to engage face-to-face and online with broad stakeholders to explore further collaboration prospects. Presentations will be made by other Catalyst Projects, there will be a roundtable discussion in the afternoon and the final agenda will be circulated close to the event. For further information, please contact Dr Lian Liu, Global Business Development Manager, KCL. Email: lian.liu@kcl.ac.uk



COLLABORATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Flexible Talent Mobility Accounts (FTMA)

Flexible Talent Mobility Accounts (FTMAs) will commit £3 million over three years to support placements and exchanges for bioscience research staff from and to universities, BBSRC institutes, businesses, policy, or other settings, in the UK and overseas. Applications must be from partnerships or consortia of eligible ROs with an interest in the bioscience research. These must consist of a minimum of two partners with no maximum limit on the number of partners. The partnership shall have a lead partner, who will be in charge of submitting the application. Mobility placements and exchanges can be delivered with collaborators from organisations such as businesses, academia, the public sector and the third sector to support international and interdisciplinary knowledge exchange.

Funders: [Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council \(BBSRC\)](#)

Funding type: Grant

Total fund: £3,000,000

Award range: £337,500 - £412,500

Deadline: 28 November 2023 4:00pm UK time

<https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/flexible-talent-mobility-accounts-ftma/>

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA): COFUND 2023

Co-funding of regional, national and international programmes (COFUND) supports new or existing doctoral programmes and postdoctoral fellowship schemes. The aim of the action is to spread the best practices of the MSCA including international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary research training, as well as international and cross-sectoral mobility of researchers at all stages of their career. COFUND takes the form of Doctoral Programmes or Postdoctoral Programmes.

Deadline: 8 February 2024

<https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/actions/cofund>

MSCA Staff Exchanges 2023

MSCA Staff Exchanges involve organisations from the academic and non-academic sectors (including SMEs) from across the globe. Support is provided for international, inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary mobility of R&I staff, leading to knowledge transfer between participating organisations. Exchanges between organisations within EU Member States and Horizon Europe Associated Countries, including Malaysia, should mainly be inter-sectoral. However, same-sector exchanges are also possible under the condition that they are interdisciplinary. The collaborative approach of MSCA Staff Exchanges should exploit complementary competences of the participating organisations and create synergies between them.

Deadline: 28 February 2024

<https://marie-skłodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/calls/msca-staff-exchanges-2023>

The European Commission's webpage for international cooperation has just been revamped with a new and easy-to-navigate interface that provides access to information on the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation's main activities: implementation of the Global Approach to Research and Innovation, the latest information on the EU's bilateral and regional cooperation with international partners, Association to Horizon Europe and more. Click [link](#) to visit website.



FORTHCOMING UK-MUC ACTIVITIES

WORKSHOPS

29 November 2023: Applied Robotics Live Webinar

Led by Dr Frederic Bezombes, LJMU

Delivery: Microsoft Teams

30 November 2023: Global Mobility and Employability for Health Professionals: Train the Trainer Workshop

Led by Professor Kamalan Jeevaratnam, University of Surrey

Delivery: In-person (Kuala Lumpur)

[Click to register interest](#)

1 December 2023: SBARC | SPARK Workshop

Led by Anne Morgan, Cardiff University

Delivery: Hybrid

23 January 2024: Experiential Learning and Competency-Based Education Landscape (EXCEL) Workshop

Led by Dr. Wan Zuhainis, Universiti Putra Malaysia

Delivery: Microsoft Teams

EVENTS

UK-Malaysia University Partnerships Catalyst Grant Symposium

1 December 2023

Led by King's College London

Delivery: Hybrid

Think TNE

28 February 2024

Led by British Council Malaysia

Catalyst Grant Showcase

29 February 2024

Led by British Council Malaysia

UK-MUC Annual Celebratory Event

March 2024 (TBC)

UK-MUC SECRETARIAT CONTACTS

Professor Jin Wang

Coordinator of UK-MUC, Associate Dean (Research and Knowledge Exchange), LJMU

Email: j.wang@ljmu.ac.uk

Dr Julia Wang

Co-coordinator of UK-MUC, Deputy Director of International Relations, LJMU

Email: Y.Wang@ljmu.ac.uk

Dr Elaine Hemers

Co-coordinator of UK-MUC, Associate Dean (Global Engagement), Faculty of Engineering and Technology, LJMU,

Email: e.m.hemers@ljmu.ac.uk

Lucy Lamb

Project Manager, UK-MUC, Global Opportunities Manager, International Relations Team, LJMU

Email: L.E.Lamb@ljmu.ac.uk

Tracy D. Branagan

Marketing and Administrative Officer UK-MUC, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, LJMU

Email: t.d.branagan@ljmu.ac.uk

[Website](#)

[Linked In](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Facebook](#)