

GEN NEWSLETTER

The University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus



International Women's Day 2017

Gender Equality in Nottingham (GEN) had been officially launched during the International Women's Day (IWD) 2017 event which was held on the 8th March at UNMC. **"Inspiration towards the Journey of Becoming the Best"** was the focus in this event. This day-long event had strong supports from the senior management and featured speakers from all members of its management board team, namely Provost and CEO, Professor Graham Kendall; Vice-Provost (Teaching & Learning), Professor Fon Sim Ong; Vice-Provost (Research & Knowledge Exchange), Professor Claire O'Malley; Faculty of Science Dean, Professor Andrew Morris; Faculty of Engineering Dean, Professor Andy Chan and Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences Dean, Professor Chew Ging Lee.

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Special Inaugural Address for International Women's Day and Talk on "Mentoring Models: Opportunities and Challenges" by Prof. Graham Kendall (UNMC Provost and CEO)

Plenary Talk on "Some Personal Thoughts on Leadership for Influence" by Prof. Dame Jessica Corner (UoN Pro-Vice Chancellor for Research and Knowledge Exchange)

Keynote Talk on "Gender Equality in University: Current Issues, Best Practice and New Idea" by Prof. Claire O'Malley (UNMC Vice-Provost, Research and Knowledge Exchange)

Keynote Talk on "Women in Management" by Prof. Fon Sim Ong (UNMC Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning)

GEN Programmes and the Athena SWAN Charter at UNMC by Dr. Geetha Baskaran (GEN Vice Chair)

"In-House Forum: Journey to Professorship" Moderated by Prof. Graham Kendall

Panel Speakers:

Prof. Andrew Morris, Prof. Kang Nee Ting, Prof. Andy Chan, Prof. Suyin Gan, Prof. Chew Ging Lee and Prof. Kok Wei Khong



Launch of Gender Equality in Nottingham (GEN) by Professor Graham Kendall during IWD 2017.

According to UNMC Provost and CEO, Professor Graham Kendall: “Equality and inclusiveness is at the heart of what we do. We are doing our utmost to ensure that everyone has an equal opportunity in every aspect of our operation, be that academic or professional services. Many of our colleagues are involved in advocating inclusive education, gender equality and promoting the science and engineering disciplines to both women and men as exciting career options, as well as increasingly looking at the social sciences and also focusing on those subjects as well”.

GEN Chair, Professor Sandy Loh said: “I believe the new branding of GEN would increase the numbers of members who are interested to join us. Together, let us work for gender equality and develop a feminist-friendly environment for our staff members and students to excel in their career and studies. Gender equality would guarantee a progressive future to all of us in higher education”.

The plenary talk was presented by The University of Nottingham Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Knowledge Exchange, Professor Dame Jessica Corner. She illustrated her career journey with a creative washing line. Professor Dame Corner has more than 30 years’ experience in higher education and has been active in cancer research. She holds key roles in the UK: Chair of the Council of Deans of Health and Chair of Higher Education Funding Council for England’s Health Education Advisory Committee. She was awarded a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) in 2014 for services

to Health Care Research and Education and elected a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences in 2015.

The event also witnessed the presentation of Mentor-Mentee Awards, a Mentoring Programme run by WinSET / GEN to help academic staff to achieve more opportunities for career advancement. This pioneer batch completed the training in December last year. GEN Mentoring Programme contributes to the development of their mentees’ research, teaching and soft skills, particularly with respect to career satisfaction, career management and collegial networking. At the end of the programme, an award for excellence in mentoring was presented as an acknowledgement of outstanding achievement. The Best Mentor winners were Dr. Yin Sze Lim (School of Biosciences) and Prof. IR Dr. Dominic Foo (Department of Chemical And Environmental Engineering) and the Best Mentee Winners were Dr. Chiew Lin Yap (Foundation in Science) and Dr. Lim Wee Gin (Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering).

UNMC’s gender equality initiatives bore fruit when in 2014, the Faculty of Science became the first international holder of an Athena Swan Award from the UK’s Equality Challenge Unit (ECU). The awards recognise commitment to advancing women’s careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths and Medicine (STEMM) in higher education and research.

“Our Faculty of Science has already been recognised for their efforts through an Athena SWAN Award. We are very proud to have achieved this significant milestone and we are using it as a platform for many of our other initiatives.” Professor Kendall said.

“This event serves as a reminder to the Nottingham community that gender equality is important. We are supportive of the efforts of GEN and we wish them every success in their endeavours.”



Professor Dame Jessica Corner and Professor Graham Kendall.



Professor Dame Jessica Corner and her washing line of career journey.



UNMC professors shared their inspirational journeys towards achieving the professorship in the forum.



Dr. Chiew Lin Yap (left photo) and Prof. IR Dr. Dominic Foo (right photo) received the awards from Professor Dame Jessica Corner.

Ada Lovelace Celebration 2017



Key Programme of Ada Lovelace 2017

Welcome and Opening Remarks by Professor Sandy Hwei-San Loh (GEN Chair)

Plenary Talk by Professor Claire O'Malley
"Why is psychology important in technology design?"

Invited Talk by Ms Lhavanya Dharmalingam
"The Dragon"

Inspiring Postgraduate Forum: "The PhD Journey"

Quizoholic

Networking and Tea



Welcome speech by GEN chair, Professor Sandy Hwei-San Loh.



Professor Claire O'Malley presented a talk on "Why is Psychology Important in Technology Design?"



Inspiring Postgraduate Forum: "The PhD Journey"



Prize giving to the winners of Quizoholic.

Featuring

INSPIRING WOMEN'S AWARDS 2017



Dr. Weang Kee Ho (Assistant Professor of Applied Mathematics) won the L'Oréal-UNESCO for Women in Science Fellowship, which was announced at the award ceremony on 24th October 2017. Dr Ho was awarded with RM30,000 grant for her research. This annual philanthropy programme aims to honour women whose research contributes to advancement of society through science. This year, three women won the award and Dr Ho is the first researcher from a private university to win this award for her outstanding contribution to breast cancer research. The award ceremony was officiated by Minister in the Prime Minister's Department YB Datuk Sri Hajah Nancy Shukri. Also present were the French Ambassador to Malaysia HE Frédéric Laplanche and L'Oréal Malaysia Managing Director Malek Bekdache.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: PROFESSOR CLAIRE O'MALLEY, DR. WEANG KEE HO AND PROFESSOR ANDY CHAN AT THE AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY.

Professor Mei Fong Chong (Professor of Bioenergy & Wastewater Technology) was awarded with an honourable mention in the ASEAN-US Science Prize for Women and won USD 5000. She is the second Malaysian to be nominated for this award. Professor Chong's nomination was based on her research aiming at providing a safer workplace while solving the pollution problems in ASEAN countries with rapid urbanisation which involved in the research on a bioreactor. The awards were presented to key female researchers in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine, in conjunction with 7th ASEAN-US Consultation on Science and Technology (COST) meeting on the 19th October 2017.

PROFESSOR CHONG RECEIVED THE AWARD AT THE ASEAN-US CONSULTATION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MEETING.



Professor Sandy Hwei-San Loh (Professor in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology) won recognitions as Nottingham Research Leader for 2018 and Senior Fellow of Higher Education Academy, United Kingdom in December 2017.

PROFESSOR SANDY LOH FROM THE SCHOOL OF BIOSCIENCES.



Dr. Wen Li Chan (Assistant Professor of Business Law) received the Vice-Chancellor's Medal for outstanding contributions in advancing equality and diversity in her capacity as the Founding Advisor to the UNMC Gender Equality Initiative (GEI). Her work in fostering staff and student commitment in this area has also enhanced the reputation of the University in the higher education community and Malaysian civil society. Her efforts have enabled the University to build connections with Malaysian non-governmental organisations involved in women's rights and gender equality, including the Women's Aid Organisation, All Women's Action Society, Sisters in Islam and the Association of Women Lawyers.

RECIPIENTS OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S MEDAL 2017 DR HAZEL RAMOS (FAR LEFT), WEN LI CHAN (FAR RIGHT) AND PROF. FON SIM ONG REPRESENTING THE BCEDP (2ND FROM RIGHT) WITH PROF. SIR DAVID GREENAWAY.

Dr. Shi Hui Cheng (Assistant Professor, School of Biosciences) received the Malaysian Dietitians' Association (MDA) Postgraduate Best Thesis Award. This event served as a platform to recognise outstanding achievements and contributions of MDA members in the field of dietetics and nutrition. Dr. Cheng's PhD research entitled "Metabolic Effects of *Cosmos caudatus* Kunth (Ulam Raja) Supplementation in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Patients" was judged as the Best Thesis for the PhD category. She received a cheque and certificate from Director General of Health, Yang Berbahagia Datuk Dr Noor Hisham bin Abdullah during the opening ceremony of the 23th Malaysian Dietitians' Association (MDA) National Conference 2017.



DR. SHI HUI CHENG AT THE MALAYSIAN DIETITIANS' ASSOCIATION AWARD GIVING CEREMONY.

The 2nd International Conference on Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (ICMBB) was held on 1st – 2nd November 2017, which aimed to unite scientists with industry experts in an effort to translate basic research into practical applications to benefit humanity. Ms. Mei Kee Lee, from the Department of Biomedical Sciences, won Third Prize for the Rapid Fire Oral Presentation, with her presentation entitled "Bronchodilator effect of *Lignosus rhinocerotis* cultivar (TM02) on rat and porcine isolated airways is linked to the blockage of calcium entry". Meanwhile, Ms. Ee Leen Pang, from the School of Biosciences, won the Excellence Poster Award based on her presentation on "A plant-made consensus dengue virus envelope domain III induces antibody responses in BALB/c mice".



MS. MEI KEE LEE (LEFT PHOTO) AND MS. EE LEEN PANG (RIGHT PHOTO) RECEIVED THE AWARDS FROM THE MALAYSIAN SOCIETY FOR MOLECULAR BIOLOGY & BIOTECHNOLOGY (MSMBB) PRESIDENT, DR. KANTHIMATHI A/P M S SUBRAMANIAM.

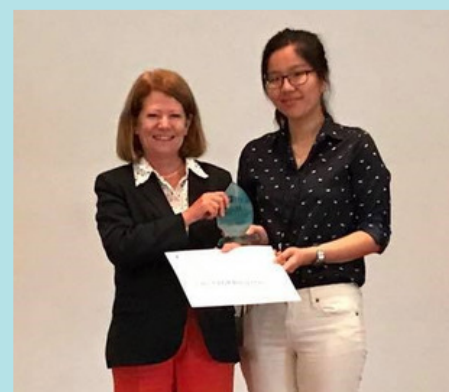


Faculty of Science (FOS) Postgraduate Research (PGR) Student Conference Support Poster Competition was held on 15th September 2017 at UNMC. This event provided a platform for FOS PGR students to create and present a poster that they would be proud to present at a reputable international conference in their research areas. Out of the four prizes, Ms. Shiau Ying Tham and Ms. Pui Yee Tan, both PhD students from the School of Biosciences won the Second and Third Prizes, respectively in this competition. The First Prize was won by Ms. Rayan Sabra from the School of Pharmacy.

MS. PUI YEE TAN (LEFT) AND MS. SHIAU YING THAM (RIGHT) RECEIVED THEIR PRIZES.

Ms. Janet Sui Ling Tan, from the School of Pharmacy won the Best PGR Presenter in UNMC LINK '17 PG Conference, with her presentation on 'Breathing new life into poorly soluble drugs'. The inaugural UNMC LINK '17 PG Conference took place on 14th September 2017 in the Great Hall. LINK is a student-led interdisciplinary research conference held by the students for the students with the goal to empower postgraduate students to share and celebrate their research in a positive, constructive and collaborative space.

MS. JANET TAN RECEIVED HER PRIZE FROM PROFESSOR CLAIRE O'MALLEY.

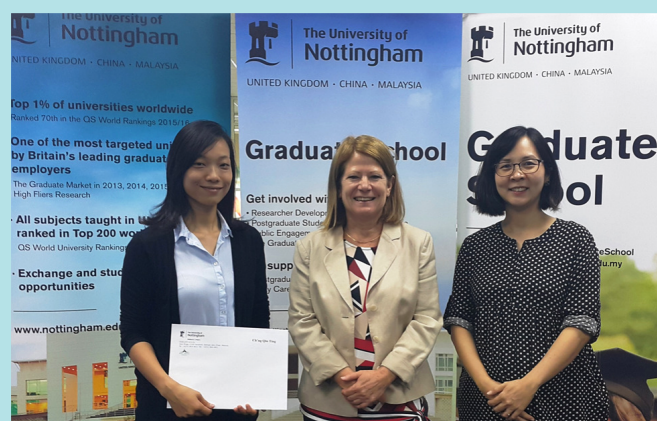


Ms. Yen Yee Chong won the biennial IEM Research paper competition 2017. She was awarded with a travel grant to attend the Asia Pacific Confederation of Chemical Engineering 2017, held in Hong Kong on 23rd – 27th August. She presented her winning paper entitled "Synergic Effect and Kinetic Mechanisms for Co-pyrolysis of Empty Fruit Bunch and Palm Oil Mill Effluent Sludge" at the conference.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: DR. NISHANTH CHEMMANGATTUVALAPPIL, TZE TINE YEOW, YEN YEE CHONG, JOON YOON TEN, AND DR. SUCHITHRA THANGALAZHY GOPAKUMAR.

Ms. Grace Qin Ting Ch'ng, from the Department of Biomedical Sciences won The University of Nottingham Tri-campus Postgraduate Prize 2017, which was given out for accomplishments in postgraduate research as well as contributions to the postgraduate community. Professor Claire O'Malley presented the award to Grace at a ceremony that took place simultaneously over three campuses via video conference.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: MS. GRACE CH'NG, PROFESSOR CLAIRE O'MALLEY AND PROJECT SUPERVISOR, DR. SUE-MIAN THEN.





The 28th Intersvarsity Biochemistry Seminar (IBS) themed “Achieve and Breakthrough: Unravelling the Biochemistry of Life” was hosted by UCSI on 13th May. Ms. Sugitra Purisothanam, from the Department of Biomedical Sciences won the Top 10 Best Poster Presenter award. Her poster was a showcase of her final year project entitled ‘An in silico analysis and Molecular Docking of Gamma-Tocotrienol to Multidrug Transporters’ supervised by Dr. Sue-Mian Then.

MS. SUGITRA PURISOCHANAM (6TH FROM THE LEFT) AT THE PRIZE GIVING CEREMONY.

Ms. Phui Mun Tan, from the Faculty of Engineering won the IEEE WIE FYP Award and IEEE WIE s-CPD Award. These awards were sponsored by Women in Engineering (WIE), Institution of Electrical & Electronic Engineers (IEEE).

MS. PHUI MUN TAN’S SISTER RECEIVED THE PRIZES ON BEHALF FROM DR ZAIPATIMAH ALI (UNITEN), EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER OF INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONIC ENGINEERS (IEEE).



UNMC undergraduates, Ms. Yit Fong Tan from the School of English and Ms. Bhavani Ponnuram from the Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, respectively, had their papers accepted for presentation at the ‘Genderworks: Dialogue and Action Across Our Differences’ undergraduate conference organised by Monash University Malaysia. The conference was organised under the umbrella of the Gender Equality Initiative (GEI), a collaboration between the Bar Council Malaysia, the Association of Women Lawyers and several leading private higher education institutions in Malaysia, which UNMC is a part of.

MS YIT FONG TAN (FAR RIGHT) AND MS BHAVANI PONNURANGAM (FAR LEFT) WITH UNMC GEI ADVISOR, MS WEN LI CHAN, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF BUSINESS LAW (CENTRE) AT THE GENDERWORKS UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE AT MONASH UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude and appreciation to UNMC's former Vice-Provost (Research & Knowledge Exchange), Professor Claire O'Malley who constantly supported our efforts and the activities we organised.

THANK
YOU



GEN TEAM MEMBERS WITH PROFESSOR CLAIRE O'MALLEY (SECOND FROM LEFT).

EDITOR: PROFESSOR SANDY LOH

ASSOCIATE EDITORS: MS. WEN LI CHAN AND MS. EE LEEN PANG

CONTACT US

Gender Equality in
Nottingham (GEN)

EMAIL:

GEN.UNMC@NOTTINGHAM.EDU.MY

WEBSITE:

[HTTPS://WWW.NOTTINGHAM.EDU.MY/GEN/HOME.ASPX](https://www.nottingham.edu.my/gen/home.aspx)

